

Christ the King Church

199 Brandon Road, Pleasant Hill, CA 925-682-2486

First Sunday

OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 2, 2018

*There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars.
When these signs begin to happen,
stand erect and raise your heads
because your redemption is at hand.*

Luke 21:25, 28

Week At A Glance	Upcoming Mass Intentions	Schedule of Masses
<p>Sunday, 12/2 - First Sunday of Advent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RE 3yr., Pre-K, K sessions 9:15 am • No Clow • Confirmation, 6 pm <p>Monday, 12/3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RE Grades 1-5, Older Sacraments • Children's Liturgy Mtg, RE 6 pm <p>Tuesday, 12/4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RE Grades 1-5 & Grades 7/8 • Perpetual Help/Rosary, Church 7 pm <p>Wednesday, 12/5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sewing Ministry, Hall 9 am • RE Grades 1-5/RE Grade 6 <p>Thursday, 12/6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Group, St. Stephen 7 pm <p>Friday, 12/7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Friday Mass/Vigil 6 pm <p>Saturday, 12/8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immaculate Conception, Mass 8 am • Parish Reconciliation, 3:30 PM <p>Sunday, 12/9 - 3rd Sunday of Advent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RE 3yr., Pre-K, K sessions 9:15 am • No Clow 	<p>12/3 8 am - Jeremias Romana †</p> <p>12/4 8 am - Paul Sbragia † J.P. Sbragia-Zorici †</p> <p>12/5 8 am - Trudy Brown †</p> <p>12/6 8 am - Venus Rivaler-Salvago</p> <p>12/7 8 am - David & John Macaluso † 6 pm -</p> <p>Saturday, 12/8</p> <p>8 am - Orlando Villanueva † 5 pm - Salud Vallejo Mendoza †</p> <p>Sunday, 12/9</p> <p>7 am - Jose & Tina Navarro † 8 am - Vickie Menzhuber † 9:15 am - M. A. Paz Payawal † 10:45 am - Gerald McGhee † 12:15 pm - Ana Katana † 6 pm - CTK Parishioners</p>	<p>Monday - Friday, 8:00 am</p> <p>Saturday - 8:00 am, 5:00 pm</p> <p>Sunday Masses: 7 am, 8 am, 9:15 am, 10:45 am, 12:15 pm, 6 pm</p> <p>Confessions: Saturday, 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm</p> <hr/> <p>Parish Office: 682-2486 www.ctkph.org</p> <p>Religious Education: 686-1017 www.ctkreligiouseducation.org</p> <p>Youth Ministry: 676-0979 www.ctkym.org</p> <p>CTK School: 685-1109 www.ctkschool.org</p> <p>Facebook: Christ the King Catholic Community of Pleasant Hill</p> <hr/> <p>St. Stephen Catholic Church 1108 Keaveny Ct, Walnut Creek 925-274-1341</p>

Dear Friends,

We are commencing the season of Advent this Sunday. From Thanksgiving, which is centered on our family, we now move towards the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Advent is a time of preparing ourselves for the incarnation, God becoming one of us.



Advent and the Christian Life: It is only in the shadow of Advent that the miracle of Christmas can be fully understood and appreciated; and it is only in the light of Christmas that the Christian life makes any sense. We can find in Advent a solution to the age-old problem of secular Christmas vs. spiritual Christmas. We recognize that Christmas is, most of all, a time to celebrate the birth of Jesus. It's a holiday that focuses on the meaning of the Incarnation. Yet, given the secular traditions of Christmas, we spend most of our time preparing, not for a celebration of the birth of Jesus, but for fulfilling the demands of the season. We have to buy lots of presents for lots of people and make sure they are all wrapped and delivered. We have parties to attend and parties to host. We have relatives who come to visit or, alternatively, we are the relatives who go elsewhere to visit. Remember, God came to usher in the Kingdom of God with all of its blessings. His peace and justice will fill the earth. We can be part of Jesus' mission this advent when we reach out to share our life with and care for people in need, for the hungry and homeless, for victims of injustice and oppression, for those who suffer from sickness or sadness. Advent can be a time to touch those in need, not only so that we might share God's love with them, but also so that our yearning for the kingdom might be renewed within us.

Flu Season is here: As we are already into the flu season, we will be discontinuing the Cup starting the First Sunday of Advent until Easter. And if you are uncomfortable with shaking of hands, you could just say, "Peace be with you" to your neighbor without shaking of hands, and I am sure everyone will understand.

Does one receive the whole Christ if one receives Holy Communion under a single form? Yes! Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior, is wholly present under the appearance either of bread or of wine in the Eucharist. Furthermore, Christ is wholly present in any fragment of the consecrated Host or in any drop of the Precious Blood. Nevertheless, it is especially fitting to receive Christ in both forms during the celebration of the Eucharist. This allows the Eucharist to appear more perfectly as a banquet, a banquet that is a foretaste of the banquet that will be celebrated with Christ at the end of time when the Kingdom of God is established in its fullness (cf. *Eucharisticum Mysterium*, no. 32).

Second Collection for Paradise, CA: Bishop Soto celebrated Mass Nov. 18 at St. John the Baptist Church in downtown Chico for all those affected by the Camp Fire. He especially invited the community of St. Thomas More Parish in Paradise; their church was in the direct line of fire. Many of St. Thomas' parishioners have lost their homes. The Sacramento Diocese confirmed that the church and school buildings survived the fire. The new rectory, old rectory and parish hall were destroyed.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul and Northern Valley Catholic Social Service are working with partner organizations on local relief and recovery efforts. We will be having a second collection the weekend of December 15 & 16 to support our sisters and brothers affected by the fire. We shall restrict ourselves to a collection for now. We will be in touch with the parish in Paradise and Chico in the coming weeks to ascertain what we can do for them more substantially. I thank you for your generosity as always.

Paulson

First Sunday of Advent December 2, 2018

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The prophet Jeremiah lived at a difficult time in Jewish history. Jerusalem, the beloved capitol city, had been destroyed, and most of the people taken captive to far-off Babylon, which is in present-day Iraq. Despite this gloomy setting, Jeremiah expresses the conviction that the Lord will raise up a new leader from the line of David to restore and rebuild their native land.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

The date was some 30 years after Christ's death and resurrection. The place was a city in northeast Greece called Thessalonica, where Christians were being persecuted. Paul, who had brought the Gospel there, heard positive reports about them and sent a letter of encouragement.

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Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception, Holy Day of Obligation.

Vigil Mass Friday, Dec 7 at 6 pm and Saturday, Dec. 8 at 8:00 am.

“Let the little children come to Me.” First Friday Mass, December 7, 2018 at 6 pm. **Children’s Holy Hour** will be from **4 pm to 5 pm** in the main church, right before the regular First Friday adoration from 5 pm to 6 pm. Prayer, song and silence in front of the Blessed Sacrament will be led in a **Holy Hour designed for kids**. All are welcome!

Do you have young children?

Are you hoping to grow in your faith as a family? Are you looking to connect with other families and serve your community? If so, join us for **Young Families Ministry** - small groups that meet once a month to promote social connection, faith development, family support and service within CTK. Email us at **YoungFamiliesCTK@gmail.com**.



Looking for a way to celebrate Advent? Magnificat SOTI, a Ministry for Catholic women invite all to join them at their **Prayer Breakfast**. December 8, 9:30 - 1:30 - **The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated at 9:30, followed by breakfast and speaker, Fr. Spencer. Crowne Plaza, 45 John Glenn Drive, Concord. Call Kim at 683-8220 for questions. **Join us for a morning of Praise, Prayer and Inspiration.**

The Light for Others Catholic Group sponsors the movie, **“The Christmas Blessing”**, December 8 at 10 am. This heartwarming film will touch viewers of all ages with a message of hope, healing, sacrifice, love and that God is a God of loving kindness. Rossmoor Peacock Hall Theater, 1001 Golden Rain Rd, WC. Call Nel at 925-984-5552 for more info.

CTK Parish Reconciliation Service:

Join us on Saturday, December 8 at 3:30 pm for our Communal Penance Service. Our next Reconciliation Service will be on Monday, December 10 at 7 pm. Be sure to join us for one of these special services.

SIMBANG GABI -- The Filipino Society of Christ the King invites you to join in the celebration of "Simbang Gabi", a nine-day novena in preparation for the birth of Jesus, at Christ the King Church from December 15th to the 23rd. Mass begins at 6:30 p.m. every night (**except** Sunday, Dec. 16, and Sunday, Dec. 23, when mass begins at 6 p.m.). Mass on Tuesday, Dec. 18, will be held in the gym. Light refreshments in the parish hall will be served after each mass. Then join us for a nice celebration and dinner after the conclusion of mass on the 23rd. For additional information, please contact Imelda Santos (623-7340) or Maritess Baula (899-9078).

Save the Date!

The Knights of Columbus 2019 Basketball Free Throw/ 3 Point Competition will be held on January 27, 2019. More information soon!



It’s that time of year! **Wreaths** are here for the Christmas holidays! Boy Scouts will be selling **fresh Christmas wreaths** outside of church after all masses. There is not much time left, so get yours today. Cash and checks accepted. Be sure to support the local Scouts while adorning your home for the holidays.

A big thank you for your generosity in our recent **Hungry and Homeless** collection. The collection brought in \$18,663 in plate collections and \$2,845 online for a total of **\$21,508.00** which will be equally distributed to Shelter, Inc.; Monument Crisis Ctr.; and WhatIf? Foundation. **Thank you, thank you!**

Thank you to all who purchased Fr. Joyce’s new book, **“The Baltimore Catechism Revisited.”** It sold out at the 10:45 Mass last Sunday. Additional copies have been ordered and will be available soon. Copies are also available on Amazon.com. Questions? animo3@pacbell.com.

Why not get involved in **CTK Festival Planning Committee** this year? You will have fun, meet a terrific group of CTK Parents and Parishioners, and help create a memorable and meaningful event for our kids and our community. Meetings are held in the Media room from 7 pm to 8 pm on the second Monday of each month. The next meeting is Dec. 10. **christthekingfestival@gmail.com** for more information.

Spirit of Giving 2018: CCIH is prepping for another successful season of Spirit of Giving! Contact Gloria at Gloria@ccinterfaithhousing.org if you can help in making this coming holiday season a memorable occasion for the vulnerable people Contra Costa Interfaith Housing serves.

Sign up now for **Spirituality and Conscious Aging Retreat**. This retreat explores the benefits and joys as well as the challenges and concerns around retirement and aging. San Damiano Retreat Center, Dec. 7 and 8. Presented by Jim Briggs. Phone 925-837-9141 to reserve your spot.

This weekend our second collection **supports Catholic Education** here at Christ the King. Thank you for your continued support. Next weekend we have a second collection for the **Retirement Fund for Religious**. This fund distributes direct care, planning and implementation assistance from the fund to religious institutes. Thank you for your support.

Forgot your cash, check-book or donation envelope? Scan this QR code to connect with our donation site.



Support our Food Drives!

Food Drive



St. Vincent de Paul Annual Food Collection

To support St. Vincent de Paul, please bring bags of groceries! Below are the requested items. Please only bring groceries from this list!

(normal sizes only—no giant sizes, no glass)

Any kind of canned vegetables
Any kind of canned beans
Pasta, rice, dried beans
Canned fruit, tuna, soups,
tomato sauce, peanut butter
and cereal

****We need grocery bags also****

**Drop off bags in front of church
through December 16th.**

Thank you for your generosity!



Pick up your box this weekend!!

The boxes will have a list of food and directions for delivery. This program offers families the opportunity to enjoy the holidays without the worry of food insecurity.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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