

Christ Child Catholic Church
***Dedicated to Growth in Christ and to the
Challenges of Loving Service***

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TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
September 15, 2019

“Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep...because I have found the coins that I lost...because your brother was lost and has been found.”

Luke 15: 1-32

The Hiding Place

In her book *The Hiding Place*, Corrie Ten Boom tells the story of her family's efforts to hide Jews in Holland from the Nazis and their later suffering in a Nazi death camp.

Following the liberation of Ravensbruck where her sister Betsie perished, Corrie lectured and preached throughout Europe on the need for forgiveness and reconciliation. After one of her talks, a man came up to her. He does not recognize her, but she recognizes him immediately – he was the SS guard at the shower room at Ravensbruck.

She writes of their meeting:

“How grateful I am for your message, Fraulein,” he said. “To think that, as you say, (Christ) has washed my sins away!” And suddenly, it was all there – the roomful of mocking men, the heaps of clothing, Betsie's pain-blanching face.

His hand was thrust out to shake mine. And I, who had preached so often to the people in Bloemendaal the need to forgive, kept my hand at my side.

Even as the angry, vengeful thoughts boiled through me, I saw the sin of them. Jesus Christ had died for this man; was I going to ask for more? Lord Jesus, I prayed, forgive me, help me to forgive him.

I tried to smile. I struggled to raise my hand. I could not. I felt nothing, not the slightest warmth or charity. And so again I breathed a silent prayer. Jesus, I cannot forgive him.

Give me Your forgiveness.

As I took his hand a most incredible thing happened. From my shoulder along my arm and through my hand a current seemed to pass from me to him, while into my heart sprang a love for this stranger that almost overwhelmed me.

And so I discovered that it is not on our forgiveness any more than on our goodness that the world's healing hinges, but on (God's). When He tells us to love our enemies, He gives along with the command, the love itself.

To forgive as Christ forgives is impossible to do on our own. It calls for humility, a generosity, a spirit of compassion that is beyond most of us. But we are not called by Christ to create forgiveness on our own. We are asked to join in what has already been given as a gift. God has already forgiven – we are being asked to participate in the forgiveness that surrounds us. While we haltingly offer strained attempts at forgiveness, the promise of the Gospel is already in place. As Corrie Ten Boom discovers and the father of the prodigal already knows, forgiveness is possible when we don't try to forgive on our own but trust

in God's promise to bring healing to this broken relationship. As God is never satisfied with division and estrangement, neither should we; as God constantly searches out the lost, so should we; as God always welcomes back the prodigal, so should we.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By request or appointment

Anointing of the Sick

Celebrated biannually at Mass or individually call for an appointment

For Pregnancy Support:

Birthright 241-8444 or 800-550-4900

Prayer Group in the Parish

Every Tuesday at 8:15 am. All Women and All Men.

MASS INTENTIONS September 14 - 20

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Thomas & Saisamaun Ferris

Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Lola Schaefer

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Martina Durham

Thursday 9:00 a.m. + Rebecca Blumhard

Friday 8:00 a.m. Don & Gail Hanley

Report SUNDAY Collections

September 7 & 8, 2019

Total Collection was \$ 1,387.00

Second Collection Catholic Charity was \$416.00

Thank you! God bless you and reward you!

Save Saturday, December 14 for Greenfield!

Sign up for a family after church Nov 2 - 17

Questions? Contact Karen @ 408 375-0984

Thanks, Karen

We pray the ROSARY together every Saturday at 4:30 PM. Please come to pray for the family & Country!

If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious; talk to your pastor and contact...

Fr. Ommar Solis Vocation Director 831 373-4345

Email MRVocation@gmail.com

Religion Education starts soon – October!

Important news for all the Parents of the Children of the Catechism Program: Meeting for the parents of our children of the catechism next Sunday September 22 after the 10 am. Mass.
Nanette Thomas & Chris & Herb Curran

Christ Child Men's Club

Our next meeting and dinner will be at 6:30 PM. on Wednesday, **October 9, 2019**

“Together, supporting each other, we can do great things.”

Women's Club/Prayer Group

We meet the 4th Wednesday of each month from 1 to 2:30 PM. **September 25th our focus is social and spiritual at the same time.**

Please contact Ruth McCormick

ruthmcc@flash.net

PRAYER REQUESTS Can be sent to christchildchurchprayerline@gmail.com or written and placed in the box provided in the Church foyer.

Father Propst is back at St. Clare's Retreat House.

This year's title is “Living with Grace.”

The dates are Sept. 20-22 Couples (non-silent), and Sept. 27-29th Women's Silent Retreat. Hope you can enjoy a special weekend at St. Clare's

For reservations & more information, call directly 831 423-8093

Meet Young Catholic Families the Second Sunday of the Month at 10 am is Pre-school GOSPEL; 11 am Young Family Social!

Kids Club is looking for help on Wednesday afternoons from 1-3pm to play with kids, teach them the Bible, and connect thru stories, songs and sharing love. Thank you for your consideration! It's an awesome program, focused on fun ways to share our faith. **Feel free to reach out to Pastor John from Mtn. Bible, for more details. 408 691-2372.**
Hugs, Kim Avoy