

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

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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
March 1, 2020

Lent's Reward

“Your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you” (Matt 6:16)

Christians enter the season of Lent with ashes on their foreheads and the Jewish practices of prayer, almsgiving and fasting.

These disciplines are intended to make us attentive to our own mortality, our dependence on God and our responsibility for the poor.

The Gospel of Ash Wednesday passage promises a “reward” to those who do not make a show of their piety, because God, “**who is hidden, sees what is done in secret will reward you.**”

Because this phrase is repeated three times, it warrants our attention. Jesus proposes the three practices common to many religions, including Islam, but adds a reminder that the deeper mystery and the profound “reward” of observing them is that we come to know God in a more intimate way as the One who sees us, who is waiting for us in that interior room of the secret self where our deepest

thoughts and motives originate. In prayer we encounter God as the cause of our existence. We exist because God sees us. To pray is to be present to the authenticating moment when God chose us and called us out into being out of nothing, named us and sent us on a trajectory toward eternity. To pray is to acknowledge God as Creator and our own lives as gifts.

To reacquaint ourselves with God in this purest of ways is the reward of prayer. To be with God in our secret place is to renew the love that made us and gave us life. We “go to our room,” as parents sometimes send their children, to reflect on who we really are. We emerge again more focused and energized to be our true selves. Intimacy with God is the purpose of prayer, and it takes us to the wellspring of love that sustains us to re-enter that outer world of noise and the need for approval. Without this face-to-face encounter with our Creator, we will have nothing authentic, true and beautiful to offer others. Lent frees us from false selves to be real in our relationship to others, making God present. The Pharisees publicly paraded their temple prayers, philanthropy and long-faced piety, but it was all about them, so they had their reward. A disciple turns inward to God and outward to those in need, moving quietly and graciously through their communities, loving God and neighbor without being noticed. But God sees and comes closer, flowing through us like alms to the needy, multiplying goodness.

Thus, Lent is the time to renew the contemplative and active balance in our lives, resting in God, rising to serve.

Faith urges us to trust that our hidden life in Christ is transforming us as we journey with him toward Holy Week and Easter. As Paul reminded the Corinthians: “**Behold, now is**

the acceptable time and now is the day of salvation” (2 Cor 6:2).

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By request or appointment

Sacrament of Baptism and Marriages

Call the office for an appointment

Anointing of the Sick

Saturday & Sunday March 7 & 8 in the
Mass at 5 pm. and 10 am.

For Pregnancy Support

Birthright 241 -8444 or 800 550 4900

Prayer Group in the Parish

Every Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. all Women and all Men!

MASS INTENTIONS February 29 – March 6

Saturday 5:00 p.m. + Calvin Andrew Stafford

Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Leslie R. Olsen

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Jesus Plaza Montero

Thursday 9:00 a.m. For all the sick

Friday 8:00 a.m. + Isidro Gonzalez

Every Friday of Lent

Soup and Pray the Stations of the Cross, meet at 6:30 for Soup and then join your fellow parishioners to pray the Stations of the Cross together.

THANK YOU MEN'S CLUB

Thank you for the wonderful celebration of the Mardi Gras Parish Party, last Fat Tuesday, you worked very hard and thanks to all of you for your presence. We enjoyed the party!!!

Stewardship of Treasury

Report Sunday February 22 & 23, 2020

Total \$ 1,741.00

Second Collection for Maintenance was

\$ 524.00

Thank You and May God bless you!

Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day with us!

Sunday, March 22nd from 11am – 2pm.

We will have appetizers, corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, fruit, and something for vegetarians as well. Also included are fabulous desserts, beer and wine. There will be music and 50/50 raffle. As this a fundraiser for the young families group we are asking for a donation of \$15 per persons or \$30 per family. Sometimes money is tight so even if you cannot afford that amount, any amount or nothing is also fine, just come and enjoy!

More than money we want to raise our children in a community, the more the merrier! If you wish to donate you can pay at the door or see Ann, Chiara or Jocelyn after Mass on Sunday.

Women's Club/Prayer Group

We meet the 4th Wednesday of each month.

March 25th from 1 to 2:30 PM.

Our focus is social and spiritual at the same time.

Meet Young Catholic Families

Second SUNDAY every Month

10 am Pre-school GOSPEL

11 am Young Family Social

MountainCatholicwordpress.org

We pray the ROSARY together every

Saturday at 4:30 PM.

Please come to pray for the families and our Country

Sunday, March 15, 2020 at 10:00 am.

Youth CONFIRMATION Presider

Most Rev. Daniel E. Garcia, D.D.

Spanish Meditations on Lent

Saturday March 14 from 9 AM. To 3:00 PM.
Here in the Parish!!!

Meditaciones de Cuaresma aqui en nuestra parroquia próximo sábado 14 de Marzo de las 9 de la mañana a las tres de la tarde. Traer su almuerzo para compartir!