

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

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**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**March 15, 2020**

*A woman of Samaria came to draw water at  
the well, Jesus said to her, "Give me a  
drink."*

*How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan  
woman, for a drink?"*

**John 4: 5-42**

**Christ at 50<sup>th</sup> Street**

Sometimes the Gospel is played out in  
surprising ways and in unexpected places.

From *The New York Times*:

As theatregoers and commuters boarded the  
subway car at 50<sup>th</sup> Street, they saw a 40-ish  
woman, fighting back tears, standing silently  
in the middle of the car. She was holding a  
sign, colorful and legible but not always  
understandable, written mostly in English,  
with some Spanish. It explained that she was  
destitute and asked for help or money. When  
the car started moving, she walked slowly  
down the center, holding out a paper cup for  
money.

Most ignored her—except for a young,  
bespectacled man in a red parka who was a  
reading a book in Spanish. As the woman  
passed, he called her over and, after some

difficulty maneuvering her backpack, she sat  
down next to him. He put his arm around her  
and started speaking to her in Spanish.  
They prayed together briefly, and then he  
arranged his parka around her shoulders and  
continued talking to her. As he spoke, she  
ceased being a panhandler—a “nonperson”—and  
became a person, and a very needy one.

A man who witnessed the scene with his wife  
remembers: “When we left the car on 14<sup>th</sup>  
Street, they were still conversing. We had  
entered the subway mildly depressed (having  
spent an afternoon at a terrible play). We left  
exhilarated, the afternoon redeemed: how  
often does one see a genuine saint in action?”

(From “Metropolitan Diary,” The New York  
Times, December 29, 2003.)

**On that subway train, Christ was as alive  
and present as he is in today’s Gospel.**

**The young man in the red parka possesses  
the Spirit of God that sees beyond labels  
and rumors and appearances and lifts the  
poor woman up to dignity and hope – just  
as Jesus does for the Samaritan woman.**

**All of us who have encountered Jesus are  
called to be reconcilers, not judges; we are  
called to lift people up, not drive them to  
their knees. To be disciples of Jesus is to  
reach out and bring forth from one  
another the good each one of us possesses  
as a son and daughter of God. In so many  
ordinary ways we can help one another  
realize new life and hope in Christ if we  
are willing to tear down the walls that  
divide us, to reach over the distance  
between us, to build bridges over chasms  
of mistrust and prejudice.**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

By request or appointment

**Sacrament of Baptism and Marriage**

Call the office for an appointment

**Anointing of the Sick**

Celebrated biannually at Mass or individually by  
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!

**Stations of the Cross Friday’s  
Soup and Pray the Station of the Cross.**  
**As of now it is CANCELLED until further  
notice. PRAY in our homes!**

**MASS INTENTIONS March 14 - 20**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. + John Parker  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Calvin Andrew Stafford  
Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Ruth McCormick  
Thursday 9:00 a.m. + Ruth McCormick  
Friday 8:00 a.m. + Martin Shore

**Prayers requests: can be emailed to  
[christchildchurchprayerline@gmail.com](mailto:christchildchurchprayerline@gmail.com) OR  
written and placed in the box provided in the  
Church foyer!**

**Women Club/Prayer Group**

**We meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month  
from 1 to 2:30- pm.**

**Our focus is social and spiritual at the same  
time; get to know our faith and each other  
better so that we can better serve the needs of  
our community.**

***Lord, let your mercy be on us as  
we place our trust in you.***

**As we have more spread of the Coronavirus  
and hear from federal, state and local officials  
about taking action personally and collectively  
to stop the spread of the disease, and after**

**conferring with several members of our  
Presbyterian Council and my Administrative  
team, we are announcing some changes and  
temporary measures to do our part to keep  
our people and our communities safe...**

The following measures are being taken: **These  
are effective March 13, 2020 through March**

**31, 2020**

**Mass:**

Suspend sharing the Precious Blood; Strongly  
encourage the faithful to refrain from receiving  
the Eucharist on the tongue; No hand holding  
during the Lord’s Prayer; No touching during the  
Kiss of Peace and Maintain empty the  
receptacles of Holy Water.

**Those who feel uncomfortable or fearful in  
attending mass are not obligated to go to  
participate in mass. I am dispensing them  
from Sunday obligation.**

**Those over 60 years of age are not obligated  
to participate in Mass. I am dispensing them  
from the obligation.**

**+Most Reverend Daniel E. Garcia**

**By decision of our Bishop Daniel Garcia, the  
Confirmations are postponed, until the Bishop  
gives us new date!**

**So also with sorrow the Dinner of the  
celebration of Saint Patrick is cancelled!**

**Annual Ministry Appeal - 2020 DIOCESE OF  
MONTEREY GROWING IN FAITH ROOTED AND  
GROUNDED IN LOVE!**

**By sharing your gift of treasure in this Appeal,  
you enable our Diocese church to participate in  
Jesus’ invitation to assist others in growing in  
their faith in ways that an individual parish  
cannot do on its own. I ask you to pray about  
the gift that you might be able to share in  
making our Annual Ministry Appeal a success.  
Be assured of my prayers for you and your  
family. May God bless you always! Sincerely in  
Christ, Most Reverend Daniel E. Garcia.**