

Christ Child Catholic Church

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

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Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 22, 2020

*The healing of the man born blind:
“Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so
that the works of God might be made visible
through him.”
(John 9: 1-41)*

Hotel Rwanda

Hotel Rwanda is one of the most emotionally wrenching films of recent memory. It is the true story of Paul Rusesabagina, the stubbornly humane manager of the Mile Collines, the European-owned four-star luxury hotel in the city of Kigali, the capital of Rwanda. Competent, deferential and discreet, Paul understands how power works and how things get done. He has learned what his powerful clientele expects and manages the hotel accordingly. He expertly works the black market for gourmet food and wine. He has built up a reservoir of good will among the powerful with such favors as a well-placed bottle of Scotch or a few American dollars. As a result, Paul runs a hotel that guests call “an oasis of civility in a desert.”

But then the nightmare begins. In 1994, the Hutu tribe comes to power in Rwanda and

begins the massacre of the Tutsi minority. Paul watches the savagery first in disbelief, then in anguish. Though a Hutu himself, his wife is a Tutsi – but Paul is far beyond thinking in tribal terms. His basic humanity and moral grounding refuse to allow him to abandon his family and neighbors, so Paul goes to work.

It is fascinating to watch this unspectacular, mild-mannered hotel manager outwit some of the worst thugs and profiteers who ever managed to plunge a country into disaster. **Calm and compassionate**, Paul works his finely-honed system of payoffs, insider information and strategic friendships to keep up the hotel’s façade of “**dignity**” and decorum, while quietly transforming the Milles Collines into a haven of safety for fugitives fleeing the bloodbath. By his wit and pluck, he and his own wife and children narrowly escape death several times.

In the end, Paul Rusesabagina saved the lives of more than 1,200 Rwandans by being both a good hotel manager and a good human being.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus cures a man born blind – but the greater miracle is Jesus’ opening the eyes of the “**seeing**” around **him to the presence of God in their midst**.

Amid the horror around him, Paul Rusesabagina sees beyond tribal identity and old hatreds to create a refuge for all men, women and children fleeing Rwanda’s murderous orgy; he sees beyond his own plight to reach out to those desperately seeking refuge from the madness.

This season of Lent calls us to open our eyes and see beyond labels and stereotypes, self-interest and old scores to recognize the love of God present to us in everyone and everything that is good.

For Pregnancy Support

Birthright 241-8444 or 800-550-4900

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By request or by appointment

Baptism & Weddings

Call the office for an appointment

TREASURY REPORT SUNDAY

March 7 & 8, 2020

Total Plate Collection \$1,248.00

March 14 & 15, 2020

Total Plate Collection \$ 946.00

Thank you and May God bless you!

March 17, 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

After consultation with our presbyterate council and listening to our government and public health officials regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19), effective today, **March 17, 2020 through April 12, 2020 (Easter Sunday)**, I am suspending the celebration of all public (Sunday and daily) masses in all counties of the Diocese of Monterey.

I make these changes for the sake not only of the health and safety of our parishioners, but for the sake of the common good of all society. Please keep in mind these changes are temporary and **I invite you to embrace this sacrifice of our treasured Eucharistic celebrations as a Lenten penitential sacrifice of the Catholic people for the sake of all**, in charity, to slow and eliminate this virus, as a threat to the life of all our people...

St Junípero Serra and Our Lady of Bethlehem, pray for us!

Your brother in Christ,

+Most Reverend Daniel E. Garcia
Bishop of Monterey

Please pray the ROSARY in your homes!!!

**Pray the STATIONS OF THE CROSS in
your homes!**

An Exuberant Declaration of Faith:

*The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?
For in the times of trouble
He shall hide me in His pavilion;
In the secret place of his tabernacle
He shall hide me;
He shall set me high upon a rock.*

Psalm 27: 1, 5

“We keep our distance not because we see our brother or sister as a potential virus-carrier, or we are afraid of getting sick; but because we want to help break the chain of viral transmission.”

**It is painful for us not to publicly celebrate the Eucharist, the sacrament of communion, at a time when the people need it most because of isolation. And yet we have to endure this suffering in the spirit of human solidarity and communion, for “If one part of the body suffers, all the parts suffer with it.”
(1 Cor. 12: 26)**