SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining, and also as much of the fish as they wanted.

JOHN 6:11

SCHEDULE OF MASSES
Daily Masses:
Monday-Friday, 8:00 am

Saturday Masses:
8:00 am & 5:00 pm

Sunday Masses:
7 am, 8 am, 9:15 am,
10:45 am, 12:15 pm,
6:00 pm

CONFessions:
Saturday: 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm

July 26, 2015

CHRIST THE KING COMMUNITY

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Parish Office: 925-682-2486

Sunday, 7/26
• CYO Basketball Camp

Monday, 7/27
• Drama Camp, Rms A & B, 9 am

Tuesday, 7/28
• Drama Camp, Rms A & B, 9 am
• Rosary & Perpetual Help, Church 7pm
• Spanish Prayer, Church, 7:30pm

Tuesday, 7/28 (cont.)
• Drama Camp, Rms A & B, 9 am

Wednesday 7/29
• Drama Camp, Rms A & B, 9 am
• High Sch BBQ, Youth House 6 pm

Thursday, 7/30
• Drama Camp, Rms A & B, 9 am
• Centering Prayer, Min Ctr 10:00 am

Friday, 7/31
• Drama Camp, Rms A & B, 9 am

Saturday, 08/01
• Men’s Fellowship, Chapel 7:30am

Sunday, 08/02
• CYO Basketball Camp

To Hear the Gospel and Make a Difference
Dear Friends,

I have been attending a Men’s Bible Study group every Wednesday for the last 10 years and we have embarked on a study of Pope Francis’ encyclical on Climate Change. We are now into week four and a number of the group are still struggling with the Pope’s message. But as members read the encyclical, there is a better understanding and acceptance of the teachings of the Pope on climate change. The realization is that the Pope is first and foremost asking every citizen of the world for a new outlook on creation. According to Emma Green, “What this encyclical is not is a love letter to Greenpeace—although Francis is embracing the idea of environmental stewardship, he’s doing so as a Catholic theologian, not a liberal activist.”

According to New York Times, Pope Francis may have emphasized the urgency of his appeal on climate change after the release of a much-anticipated encyclical on the subject but it’s not clear that this message has been echoing from pulpits in churches across the world just yet. I would like to schedule a study of the encyclical in September. Over a period of six weeks, we can cover the entire encyclical with the Presider at Mass or the Preacher of the day introducing the encyclical at Sunday Mass followed by a group study in the Church or Parish Hall on Mondays from 7.00 pm to 8.30 pm. The encyclical can be downloaded for free on https://laudatosi.com. If you have problems downloading, please call the Church Office and we can make copies for you.

James Martin, S.J., who is editor at large of America Magazine and author of Jesus: A Pilgrimage states that “At this heart, this document, addressed to “every person on the planet” is a call for a new way of looking at things, a “bold cultural revolution” (No. 3, 114). We face an urgent crisis, when, thanks to our actions, the earth has begun to look more and more like, in Francis’ vivid language, “an immense pile of filth” (No. 21). Still, the document is hopeful, reminding us that because God is with us, we can strive both individually and corporately to change course. We can awaken our hearts and move towards an “ecological conversion” in which we see the intimate connection between God and all beings, and more readily listen to the “cry of the earth and the cry of the poor” (No. 49). To use religious language, what the pope is calling for is conversion.”

I would like to share some other news from the Office.
- We are in compliance of the State policy on water usage. Tom Sweeney has been working hard to help us reduce water usage and I am grateful to him for his efforts.
- Starting in September, our Children’s choir will start singing at the 9.15 am Mass twice a month (1st and 3rd Sundays). The children just finished a music camp and they sounded so awesome.
- We are currently at $2.15 million with over 500 families pledging towards the capital campaign. Every dollar pledged now will go to Christ the King Parish. Thank you for your generosity.
- Diocesan Policy calls for an internal control review to be completed at the parish every three years or at the change of administration. Our Finance Committee is currently working with the diocese to get our parish ready for this review. I have asked the Committee to be transparent and keep the parish informed before, during and after the review.

Let me conclude with a quote from Pope Francis. "Faith is not a light which scatters all our darkness, but a lamp which guides our steps in the night and suffices for the journey. To those who suffer, God does not provide arguments which explain everything; rather, his response is that of an accompanying presence, a history of goodness which touches every story of suffering and opens up a ray of light."

Fr. Paulson
Searching for a spiritual home?
We welcome you to join us, beginning Thursday, Sept. 3rd. For information, go to ctkph.org/adult-sacraments-rcia or contact Al Garrotto at algarrotto@comcast.net.

Don’t miss Thirsty Thursday, August 6th at 7pm. Open to anyone in their 20’s or 30’s, Thirsty Thursday is held the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm. We begin the evening with a prayer service in the outdoor amphitheater, followed by a community building, potluck BBQ. We provide drinks, burgers, and hot dogs. You bring a side or dessert to share. Hope to see you on August 6th and September 3rd!

The Fish, the Fish, Who’s Got the Fish?
Our offertory or gift table in the center aisle always has a fish on it in addition to the bread and wine for mass. Any parishioners are welcome to pick up the fish before mass as a sign that they will bring up the gifts during the mass. Just return the fish and bring the gifts forward at the end of the collection time when the presiding priest moves to the main aisle.

Join us at Lawrence Livermore Nuclear Weapons Lab on August 6, at 8:00 am - Vasco Rd at Patterson Pass Road. 70 years ago, the “Enola Gay” a USA bomber, dropped an atomic bomb on the city of Hiroshima. 3 days later, a second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki. Today, nearly 16,000 nuclear weapons - 94% of them held by the United States and Russia - continue to pose an intolerable threat to humanity. We gather to remember and to work to assure this travesty never happens again. Program will feature Daniel Ellsberg, Country Joe McDonald, Taiko drummers and more. Followed by a short march to the lab gate, a traditional Japanese Bon dance, nonviolent direct action and legal witness.

Listen Up!! We have NEW assisted listening devices available in the church for those who are hard of hearing. See a sacristan before mass starts and check one out. They are very simple to use and so far the feedback is that they work great. If you are struggling to hear at mass, please try one of these new devices. You may be amazed at what you hear!

San Damiano Retreat Presents Late Nite Catechism! Sunday, August 30, St. Isidore Parish Hall, 440 La Gonda Way, Danville. Come and join the fun at 2:00 pm. Show tickets: $35; $45 (premier seating, reception). For information and tickets call Kateri at 925-837-9141 ext. 315 or email: katerik@sandamiano.org.

Sunday Night Youth Mass - Join us at our new 6:00 pm mass time. The mass is led and inspired by the young people of our community. All are welcome and you can sleep in Sunday mornings!

Reminder: The parish offices are now closed nightly at 5:00 pm. The office will still be open Saturdays 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Make sure to make arrangements to pick up keys!

Ministry to traveling Catholics – For nationwide Mass times and locations: www.masstimes.org

PRAYER FOR SUMMER
Father, Creator of all, thank you for summer! Thank you for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight. Thank you for the beauty I see all around me and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy your creation. Thank you for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family, and for the more casual pace of the summer season. Draw me closer to you this summer. Teach me how I can pray no matter where I am or what I am doing. Warm my soul with the awareness of your presence and light my path with your work and counsel. As I enjoy your creation, create in me a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for you. Amen.

Amen.

Anon.
It’s no coincidence that the first reading shows the prophet Elisha feeding a crowd of people like Jesus in the gospel. If you want to compare miracles, Elisha did his first, but Jesus did it better. Elisha had a hundred people to feed with twenty barley loaves and a handful of fresh grain. Jesus had five thousand people and only five loaves and a couple fish. So was Jesus trying to show up Elisha?

Neither Jesus nor Elisha ever did a miracle for their own benefit. The very next story in 2 Kings about Elisha is the one where he cured Naaman, the king’s servant, of leprosy. (2 Kgs 5:1-19) When Naaman realized he was cured, he came back to Elisha and offered him a gift in thanksgiving. Elisha refused the gift, because it would imply that Elisha did the miracle, while the prophet knew that God had cured him. Jesus also refused to benefit from feeding the crowds. They came to take him away and make him king, but he went up to his place of prayer on the mountain.

Jesus’ miracle of feeding the five thousand was not done just for the crowd. He was using it to teach the disciples something important. He knew there would be times when they felt they were not holy enough or good enough preachers, to spread the gospel over the world. So he showed them what God can do with our meager abilities.

There are millions of people hungry for the good news that Jesus brings to the world. Remember the miracle of the loaves when you only have a few dollars to give to the missions, when you’re not sure you know enough to teach someone about Jesus, when you don’t know how to invite someone to come back to church. And remember that you do those things, not to make you look holy, but to let God show his loving power.

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