CHRIST THE KING COMMUNITY
September 6, 2015

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, 9/6
- Basketball Camp
- ChristLight Mtg
- Rosary & Perpetual Help, Church 7pm
- Spanish Prayer, Church 7:30 pm

Monday, 9/7
- Basketball Camp

Tuesday, 9/8
- Rosary & Perpetual Help, Church 7pm
- Spanish Prayer, Church 7:30 pm

Wednesday 9/9
- Donuts after 8 am Mass, Min. Ctr
- Sewing Ministry 9 am A/B/C
- Rosary Makers, Min. Ctr 7 pm

Thursday, 9/10
- Centering Prayer, Min Ctr 10:00 am
- RCIA Min. Ctr Chapel 7 pm
- Faith in Action, Parish hall 7 pm

Friday, 9/11
- Men's Fellowship, Chapel 7:30 am
- Just Faith Retreat, Min. Ctr

Saturday, 9/12
- Just Faith Retreat, Min. Ctr

Sunday, 9/13
- Basketball Camp

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

Parish Office: 682-2486
www.ctkph.org

Religious Ed: 686-1017
www.ctkreligiousseducation.org

Youth Ministry: 676-0979
www.ctky.org

CTK School: 685-1109
www.ctkschool.org

Facebook: Christ the King Catholic Community of Pleasant Hill

Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs to the kingdom? — James 2:5
Dear Friends,

On September 12-13 weekend, we shall begin a series of lectures on the Pope’s encyclical, “Laudato si.” I was amazed to read about one of the dioceses in India that has begun to implement the encyclical in their diocese. Bishop George from the diocese of Miao was here preaching at all the masses two months ago creating awareness on the tragedy in Nepal.

The diocese of Miao, India sits in rich, mountainous forest terrain on the edge of the Himalayas. Most of its residents are tribal artisans whose livelihood is solely dependent on the local natural resources and the forest’s produce. So the release of the Pope’s recent encyclical on the environment, Laudato si, hit particularly close to home for the diocese, which falls in India’s furthest northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh. In recent years, the diocese has already been promoting eco-initiatives focused on raising awareness and protecting forests. One part of the effort encourages gifting plant saplings instead of flower bouquets during celebrations. Other efforts emphasize preserving cultural heritage and customs, or fighting the exploitation of the forest that sometimes comes with development. Now, the people of Miao are looking at other ways to put the Pope’s words into practice.

The Vatican recently added the voice of self-described “secular Jewish feminist” Naomi Klein to their discussion on the climate, signaling a wider collaboration in the push for environmental protection. “A new kind of climate movement is fast emerging” – one based on the “courageous truth” proclaimed in the encyclical that “our current economic system is both fueling the climate crisis and actively preventing us from taking the necessary actions to avert it,” Klein said. She pointed out how the encyclical places attention on the world’s most vulnerable regions, which have often been disregarded by international politics.

But there are also voices of dissent in the Church’s hierarchy when it comes to the encyclical. In an interview with the “Financial Times”, the Prefect for the Secretariat for the Economy says: “the church has got no mandate from the Lord to pronounce on scientific matters”. But he added “there are parts of it which are beautiful” However, straight after making those statements, which may have given the impression that the Australian cardinal was distancing himself from the contents of Francis’ encyclical, he acknowledged that the “Laudato Si” was “very well received” and the Pope had “beautifully set out our obligations to future generations and our obligations to the environment.”

On September 12-13 weekend, I will be introducing Laudato si at all the masses. On Monday September 14th, Rev. Will McGarvey who is the Executive Director of Interfaith Council of Contra Costa will join me in the discussion. The pope begins the encyclical by summarizing his presentation and citing earlier popes and other religious leaders who have spoken about the environment. He says Sister Earth "cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her." I would like to give you the following Questions as you prepare for the first session.

Where have you seen harm inflicted on Sister Earth (Paragraph 2)?
Why do you think few people knew that Paul VI, John Paul II, and Benedict XVI spoke out on environmental issues (4-6)?
St. Francis of Assisi has been called the patron saint of the environment. What is attractive about him (10-12)?
4. Pope Francis concludes his introduction with an appeal (13-16). What is your response?

Fr. Paulson
High School Youth Group Registration - Youth group is for all high school teens 9th - 12th grade. We meet every other Sunday night in the parish hall from 7 pm to 9 pm. We will kick off our new year after our youth mass on Sunday, September 27th. Registration forms and calendars can be found in the back of the church or you can download a form at ctkym.org. Youth Group fulfills our Confirmation prerequisite hours. Become a fan on our Facebook page or follow ctkym on Instagram. If you have any questions, please call the Youth Ministry Office at 676-0979.

R.E. 3 year old registration:
Registration for Sunday’s 3 year old programs will be on September 13th only, after the 9:15 am mass in the RE office (facing Gregory Lane). Children must be 3 years old by September 1st and potty trained. Parents will be assigned as assistants. Space is limited. Maximum enrollment is 16 children. Classes are weekly. Questions? Call 925-686-1017.

Become a Volunteer Tutor: Would you like to change the life of a formerly homeless or low income student? We are looking for compassionate individuals to help in our afterschool Homework Club. Volunteers are needed at our Pleasant Hill, Concord, Bay Point and Pittsburg sites. Commitment is for one afternoon per week. High school juniors and seniors encouraged to apply. Contact Gloria at Gloria @ccinterfaithhousing.org.

Confirmation Registration - If you are a Sophomore or Junior in high school and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, please download a registration form at ctkym.org. You can also find registration forms and calendars in the back of the church. Registration ends September 18th. Parent Meeting Sunday Sept. 20 at 7 pm in Church (after youth mass).

Lifeworks: New Family Info Meeting: Is your young family looking for community? A way to walk in faith with other parish families? Lifeworks is a ministry for parents and their children ages infant to school-age. An info meeting will be held in the Ministry Center on Sunday, 9/20 at 4 pm. Please join us! RSVP to Kristin at lifeworksctk@gmail.com.

New Listening Devices are available for those who have difficulty hearing. Contact Sr. Dominic if you would like to try one out.

Take a big step to stop hunger! Sunday, October 4th at 1 pm is the annual Crop Walk in Walnut Creek. This charity walk raises money to end hunger at home and abroad. 25% of the funds raised at this walk will support Winter Nights shelter. If you want to walk with Fr. Paulson and our CTK team, please contact Kate at katedoherty.ctk@gmail.com. CTK walkers will have a table outside the mass the week before the walk, so meeting your goal will be easy! If you can't walk, but want to support Winter Nights, there is also a Dine Out on September 9th. Email Kate for a flyer with all the details!

Children’s Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) will resume again during the 9:15 mass on September 13th. All parish children in grades 1-5 may participate. No registration required. Children and adult leaders should be in the church by 9:10 am. After celebrating their own Liturgy of the Word together, they return to the assembly for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Questions, please call 686-1017.

Wednesday Coffee & Donuts! Join us on Wednesdays for coffee, donuts and great fellowship. All are welcome at the ministry center each Wednesday morning after the 8:00 am mass. Come join us!

Save the Date for Flu Shots! Sutter Health will hold a flu shot clinic at Christ the King on September 27 from 9 am to noon and October 4th from 9 am to noon. More details to follow.

Children’s Choir (grades 1st - 6th) will begin singing the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday of each month. Our start date is September 20th at the 9:15 mass. We will have rehearsal at 8 am in Room D to rehearse the songs for the mass. Parents interested, please email Phyllis at pgurnett6@aol.com to get your child registered for the Children’s Choir. You don’t want to miss this opportunity!

Contra Costa Blue Star Moms will be coming to Christ the King September 19th and 20th to collect items for Christmas care packages which will be mailed to the US Armed Forces, as well as care packages to our veterans at the VA Hospital. Look for the list of items in next week's bulletin flap, and please support them on September 19th and 20th.

Coffee and donuts after mass will be starting soon! But, we can’t do it without you. Please call Sr. Joanne at 682-2486 if you can help outside at the donut tables.

USHERS NEEDED AT THE 9:15 MASS! We are in need of new ushers at the 9:15 am mass. If you think you’d like to become an usher at this mass, or any of the masses, please contact Jack Murphy at 925-933-8072 or email me at jmurph818@aol.com providing your name, phone number and email address (and mass preference).

Stewardship envelopes are available in the parish office. If you haven't picked up your set, please stop by the office and do so as soon as possible!

Total Church Support 8/30/15 $24,448 (Plate Collection $19,124 + Online Giving $3,712) SVDP $13,760 (Plate: $13,285 + $475.00)
A letter from Bishop Michael Barber, S.J.

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At the recommendation of the Priests’ Retirement Board and after consultation with other leadership groups in our diocese, Archbishop Emeritus Brunett, then the Apostolic Administrator of Oakland, established a second collection for the Priest Retirement Benefits Trust in 2013. This was done to provide a “cash infusion” into this fund which was necessitated by an increasing number of retired clergy living longer, and the substantial increase in retired clergy over the next decade. This was also why we included the Priests Retirement Benefits Trust as a case component in the capital campaign.

Though most priests retire at 75, many of them continue their pastoral and spiritual work for many years after their official retirement. They assist in our parishes, hospitals, retirement centers, schools and other ministries. A priest’s salary, including mine, is a little over $32,000.00 a year and our diocesan pension is based upon this amount.

It is my sincere hope that you will remember our diocesan priests during this second collection. No doubt, many of you were baptized by one of our retired priests, received your first communion from them, and they probably even married you. They have baptized your children and were probably with you when your parents passed. It is my hope that you will remember them now and thank them for the years of service to our Church and to you. Thank you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Michael Barber, S.J.
The Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, S.J.
Bishop of Oakland

The Second Collection for Retired Priests will be taken up September 20th. Thank you for your continued support.

PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH:

Laura Najar Brown, Laura Bartron, Robert Renteria. God of love, ever caring, ever strong, stand by your children in their time of need. Look after them and grant them Your healing and Your peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.