To Hear the Gospel and Make a Difference
Dear Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you from my heart for celebrating my 25 years of priesthood. It meant so much to me to have my fellow priests, religious sisters, family and Christ the King parishioners as well as friends joining in prayer with me. I am deeply indebted to Fr. Vince and the Staff for their hard work and generosity with me. I am privileged to work with a group of wonderful people who love the Church and deeply cherish its traditions and ministries.

Let me share with you some Church news from Rome. The Vatican has arrested two members of a commission set up by Pope Francis to advise him on economic reforms on suspicion of leaking secret documents. Monsignor Lucio Ángel Vallejo Balda, a high-ranking Spanish clergyman, and Francesca Chaouqui, an Italian laywoman and public relations expert, were arrested after a months-long investigation into the dissemination of “news and confidential documents” to two writers of forthcoming books, the Vatican said. No further information about the nature of the documents was released. The Vatican described the leaks as a “serious betrayal of the trust bestowed by the pope”.

One of the two books due to be released on Wednesday is “Merchants in the Temple”, by the Italian journalist Gianluigi Nuzzi, whose 2012 book, “His Holiness” was based on leaked documents he received from Gabriele. Gabriele was convicted and served several months in the Vatican jail before Benedict pardoned him and he was released. He is now working in a Vatican-run hospital. The other book, Avarice, is by another Italian journalist, Emiliano Fittipaldi.

It is the third time this year that the Vatican has had to deal with leaks. In June the pope’s landmark encyclical on the environment was leaked before publication, and last month a private letter from 13 conservative cardinals complaining about a meeting of bishops on family issues was published by an Italian magazine. I am sure you may have read more in the news. The fact is Pope Francis faces a tough challenge of reforming the Church.

On the local side, I have some good news to share. I found this blurb in the Contra Costa Inter Faith Housing news bulletin in the Impact and Opportunities section. I thought you would love it. At a time when we are back to our annual Food Drive for St. Vincent de Paul, it is good to know that they are doing a terrific job. I thank each and everyone in the Ministry for reaching out with love and compassion to the poor and needy.

“Thanks to Steve Paris and Duane Rustad of the St. Vincent DePaul ministry of Christ the King Catholic Church, 49 formerly homeless residents in CCIH’s Scattered Site Housing program will receive fluffy blankets to help keep warm this winter. CCIH’s scattered site housing launched this past June serving formerly chronically homeless residents living with disabilities. We are grateful for the warm blankets and accompanying $25 gift cards for our newest residents, helping them have a happy holiday season. Thank you! “

(Contra Costa Inter Faith bulletin)

More News….

I would like to wish Christ Light Retreat attendees as well as the members of our prayers and blessings this weekend. It is so wonderful we have this ministry of renewal.

Next weekend, we have a day of recollection for women. I would like to send them our greetings and prayers as well.

Fr. Brian Joyce is doing better and better. As long as the Raiders keep winning, Brian keeps improving. Please continue to pray for him.

Fr. Paulson
Women’s Day of Recollection directed by Sr. Molly Neville, SNJM will be held November 14 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm in the parish hall. The theme will be “Holistic Spirituality and Balance in Life”. Tickets are for sale at the Parish Office for just $5.00.

Hospitality for Funerals: If you are available occasionally on weekday mornings (9:30 - 11:30 am), we are looking for ushers to assist at funerals. You would serve by welcoming people, handing out programs, assisting with seating and clearing up afterwards. If you can join our team, please contact Sr. Dominic Marie.

Turkey Drive - Thursday, Nov. 12 from 7-9 pm in the parish hall! The Faith in Action group will be collecting frozen turkeys and $10 gift cards from 7 to 9 pm in the parish hall. During this event, they will also be screening the film, “A Place at the Table”, which will begin at 7:15 pm. You are welcome to join us for the film when you bring your turkey, or drop off your donation and go!

Don’t forget next weekend is our Hunger and Homeless 2nd collection. We will be taking up this collection to benefit three organizations: Monument Crisis Center (food bank and organization for the poor); Shelter Inc (runs shelters for both families and singles in Contra Costa); What If? Foundation (food & education for impoverished children in Haiti). These groups will be outside Mass next weekend with information on how to connect with them. Monument Crisis will also have empty holiday food boxes with instructions for individuals or groups.

Ushers needed at the 9:15 am mass! We are in need of new ushers at the 9:15 am mass. If you think you’d like to become an usher, please contact Jack Murphy at 933-8072 or email at jmurphy818@aol.com.

We Need Your Help! The Altar Society needs donations of Christmas items and any saleable used items, including jewelry. We will take gift cards and any knitted or crocheted works and quilts. Receipts available upon request. Proceeds from the boutique go to CTK church needs. For questions or donations please call Violet at 925-934-7832 or Aurea at 925-451-3943 or emails: violet.deborja@yahoo.com or juniorbbs@yahoo.com. Boutique will be held Nov. 21st and 22nd.

A great event with the Bishop! Bishop Barber has invited the Community of Sant’Egidio, a lay community dedicated to communicating the gospel through prayer, a dedication to peace and solidarity with the poor, to present their ministry. Come to pray and be inspired on Friday, Nov. 13th, Mon., Nov. 16th and Tue., Nov. 17th at St. Joseph the Worker in Berkeley. Bishop Barber will attend on Friday.

Are you in 5th through 8th grade? If so, would you like to try your hand at being an altar server? We are looking for interested students and we will provide significant training. You will serve about once a month at the mass of your choice. Talk it over with your parents and give Mary Jo Robinson a call or email at 925-285-4337 or maryjorobinson1941@gmail.com.

The holiday season is quickly approaching and so is the season to buy your Christmas Wreath. Boy Scouts will be outside of church after all masses beginning 11/21-11/22, selling fresh Oregon Christmas wreaths. Be sure to support the local Scouts while adorning your home for the holidays.

Taize Prayer Around the Cross will be held next Sunday, November 15th at Hillerest Congregational Church at 404 Gregory Lane. Prayer starts at 7:30 pm. Come join us!

Kick off your holiday season by enjoying one of five holiday teas, a fashion show, a community open house, and breakfast with Santa. All events feature a beautiful boutique and silent auction. Don’t miss your chance to win one of five extravagant, spectacularly themed Christmas trees, with fabulous prizes. For more information and to register, visit www.carondelet.net/visions.

Christ Light 2015 is in full swing! Please keep the 28 participants in your prayers as they journey through this faith filled weekend. They will be enjoying gourmet meals, faith sharing and many surprises. Think about making a commitment to your own spirituality next year!

PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH: Helen Libert, Linda Theuriet, Anita Sare, baby Tomas Lomeli, Lennie Mariazeta, Eric Scott
Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. May these special people find lasting health and deliverance. We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed. Amen

Total Church Support 11/1/15 $27,178 (Plate Collection $23,630 + Online Giving $3548.00)
Annual Food Collection
List of items to bring for St. Vincent de Paul:
(normal sizes only—no giant sizes)

All kinds of canned vegetables
All kinds of canned beans
Pasta, rice, dried beans
Canned fruit, tuna, soups, tomato sauce, peanut butter and cereal

Monument Crisis Boxes
In addition, we ask you to especially support the Monument Crisis Center next weekend, November 14th and 15th. On that weekend, there will be boxes made available that have a very specific list of items. You can help us by taking a box home, filling it with the shopping list provided (about $40 of food items), decorating the box and including a holiday card. We then ask you to drop the box off at Monument Crisis Center the first week of December. Drop off locations and times will be listed on the instruction list that comes with each box. Thank you for your generous help.

Turkey Drive
Don’t forget this Thursday, November 12th, our Faith in Action group is collecting frozen turkeys in the parish hall from 7 - 9 pm. You are welcome to join them for the movie, “A Place At The Table”, or simply drop off your turkey. Thanks for your support!!