The Baptism of the Lord

John said, “I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.”

Luke 3:16

JANUARY 10, 2016

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, 01/10
- RE 3 yr old prgm, Rm D 9:15 am
- RE Classes, Hall/School 9:15 am
- CLOW
- Older Sac, Rm D 11:00 am
- Confirmation 6 pm - 9 pm
- Free throw competition, Gym 7:30 am
- Pancake Breakfast, Gym 7:30 am
- Centering Prayer, Min. Ctr 2:30 pm

Monday, 1/11
- Indian Meditation, Chapel 8:45 am
- RE Older Sac, Parish Hall 4 pm
- Aaron Bianci, Parish hall 7 pm
- Indian Meditation, Vestibule 7 pm

Tuesday, 1/12
- Indian Meditation, Chapel 8:45 am

Tuesday, 1/12 cont.
- RE Grds 1-3, School 3:40 - 5 pm
- RE Grds 4-5, Parish Hall 3:40 - 5 pm
- RE Grds 7-8, Parish Hall 7 - 8:15 pm
- Knights of Columbus, Min. Ctr 7 pm
- Indian Meditation, Vestibule 7 pm

Wednesday 1/13
- Indian Meditation, Chapel 8:45 am
- RE Grds 1-3, School 3:40 - 5 pm
- RE Grds 4-5, Parish Hall 3:40 - 5 pm
- RE Grd 6, Parish Hall 7 - 8:15 pm
- Rosary Makers, Min. Ctr Chapel 7 pm
- Indian Meditation, Vestibule 7 pm

Thursday, 1/14
- Indian Meditation, Chapel 8:45 am
- Centering Prayer, Min. Ctr 9 am
- RE Grds 1-3, School 3:40 - 5 pm

Thursday, 1/14 cont.
- RE Grds 4-5, Parish Hall 3:40 - 5 pm
- RE Baptismal mtg, Church 6 pm
- RCIA, Min. Ctr 7 pm
- Indian Meditation, Vestibule 7 pm

Friday, 1/15
- Indian Meditation, Chapel 8:45 am
- Adult Ed Speaker, Parish Hall 7 pm
- Indian Meditation, Vestibule 7 pm

Saturday, 01/16
- Men’s Fellowship, Min. Ctr 7:30 am
- Secular Franciscans, Min. Ctr 9 am

Sunday, 01/17
- No Clow
- Youth Group, Parish hall 7 pm
- Taize Prayer, Church 7:30 pm
Happy New Year Christ the King,

Every Year around this time we take up a collection called the “January Justice” collection. As we begin this Year of Mercy, it feels particularly important to honor and support organizations such as the ones we are honoring this weekend for their deep commitment to both the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. Every year in December our partner organizations apply for the opportunity to share their work with you as well as receive a portion of this week’s second collection. Just before Christmas a committee of 7 parishioners met to research and review the applications and chose whom to feature during our liturgy and donate to through your generosity. This year we have chosen 4 projects to feature and they are all marvelous. Normally, we take in around $20,000 dollars in a second collection which would result in each organization receiving a 5,000 gift from us. That’s pretty amazing, but I got to thinking, in this year of Mercy what it would take to be able to reach a goal of 10,000 for each organization?

Let me tell you about our 4 organizations and what $10,000 could mean to them.

1. **Catholic Charities Safe House for Victims of Human Trafficking.** Steve Mullin from Catholic Charities will be our homilist today and telling you all about this important project, so I won’t spend too much time here except to say this project is so important. The atrocities happening in our own backyard urgently need our attention. Catholic Charities is stepping up to be a leader not just in the Diocese of Oakland but in the Nation when it comes to human trafficking and by supporting this project today we will make Christ the King a leader in parish support. We can help model for other parishes how to be there for Catholic Charities as they begin this important new venture.

2. **Habitat for Humanity’s Muir Ridge development in Martinez.** Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley partners with local families with limited incomes to build and repair affordable homes and revitalize neighborhoods. There are 20 new, affordable homes in south Martinez. The single-family homes are sold to homeowners with limited incomes, with no down payment at a price adjusted to their monthly income. Future homeowners participate in financial and homeownership training to put them on a path to success. In 2013, Christ the King donated to the “All Faiths House” in Walnut Creek, a home sponsored by the local faith community. Ten partner families now call Walnut Creek their permanent home, thanks to your support. The project was such a success that now there are two “All Faiths Build’ homes in Martinez. Currently, the Faith Partners of Habitat East Bay/Silicon Valley are raising funds and giving of their time and sweat to sponsor two homes at the Muir Ridge development in Martinez. Approximately 40 congregations are already involved through giving and volunteer efforts. A donation of $10,000 will help close the gap of $17,000 in the fundraising efforts to finish the second home sponsorship.

3. **Contra Costa Interfaith Housing.** CCIH provides permanent, affordable housing and on-site support services to more than 1,000 homeless and working poor families and individuals in Contra Costa County. Those of you familiar with CCIH may already know about CCIH’s first program, Garden Park Apartments in Pleasant Hill which provides housing and on-site services to 27 formerly homeless families (82 residents), all with special needs. In 2015, CCIH launched a Scattered Site Supportive Housing program to offer supportive housing to 48 chronically homeless adults with disabilities. CCIH helps rebuild lives by providing eviction prevention, case management, after school academic support, employment services, and more. Christ the King Catholic Church is one of the founding faith communities of CCIH and an important partner in helping to end homelessness in our local community.

4. **SnehaCares Inc.** Sneha Cares is a not-for-profit registered in the state of California for the purpose of raising funds and supporting Sneha Charitable Trust (“SCT”), an organization based in Bangalore, India that cares for mainly children with HIV. SCT was formed in 1997 by Camillian priests, a Roman Catholic order dedicated to caring for the sick. Their main focus is on Snehacare Home and Shining Star School in Bangalore. It’s a home for 107 orphans between the ages of 4-12 with HIV. Until 2012, the government of India supported the organization with funds for nutrition and ART (Antiretroviral Therapy), the medication vital for their survival. In 2012, as a result of budget cuts, the government of India began providing medication only, leaving care to be provided by the children’s extended families. In response a few well-wishers of SCT registered SnehaCare as a not for profit in the United States to raise awareness of HIV infection in children in India and to raise funds to help them continue their mission. SnehaCare currently has 10 officers and directors in the U.S, including five of our very own CTK parishioners, and two Camillian priests from India. Through Christ the King’s involvement in this project, our parish is raising awareness of the HIV infection in children, providing a means to ensure quality life for these children and leaving a better world for the future generations. Thank you in advance for your generosity and please be sure to visit the organizations tables outside of Mass today to learn more about them and how you can support their work. If you are interested in learning more about Social Justice work at Christ the King and how to be more involved, our Faith in Action ministry is having a new-comers meeting on Thursday January 14th from 7-8:30pm in the parish hall.

Many Blessings in this New Year,
Kate
Make a Difference this Year! Thursday, January 14th at 7 pm in the parish hall. CTK’s Faith in Action ministry invites you to learn about our ministry. This new-comers meeting will give you the chance to connect with us and learn how you can get involved in the amazing work being done in our community to promote justice and give to those in need.

Centering Prayer Workshop, Sundays: Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31 from 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm. Join us for our introductory workshop which familiarizes participants with the method of Centering Prayer. The workshop consists of four presentations led by Eileen Halliburton: 1. Prayer as Relationship; 2. The Method of Centering Prayer; 3. Thoughts and the Use of the Sacred Word; 4. Deepening our Relationship with God. Register at: 2sail621@gmail.com or call Sharon at 925-943-3190. Suggested donation $50.00. All workshops in the ministry center.

Please Help! Projectionists are desperately needed at Sat. 5:00 pm and Sunday 8:00 am and 10:45 am masses. You will be given training and support to help our parish pray and sing more fully with the power point presentations used at mass. It’s very easy and you would be a great help. Please contact MaryAnn Spicer at 935-5306 or marod61@att.net for information.

 Come, Hear, and Discuss: “The Culture of Encounter, Pope Francis and the Synod on the Family,” a talk by Aaron Bianchi. One of Pope Francis’ core messages is the need for a “culture of encounter.” Reflecting on Aaron’s time in Rome at the Synod on the Family and conversations with Bishops, we will spend time discussing how Pope Francis’ vision of the Church is being put into reality. Monday, Jan. 11 at 7:00 pm in the parish hall.

The Year of Mercy Film Series continues this Friday:
All films will be shown in the parish hall. Doors open at 6:45 pm, film/presentation at 7 pm.

Friday, January 15th: “The Big Fix” (2012) Presented by the National Equal Justice Association. Pope Francis’ Encyclical, “Our Common Home”, raised concerns to a moral plane for how we treat God’s creation: the world, or fellow creatures. This film will bring an opportunity to ask questions, raise concerns and consider our role in making a difference in the struggle for environmental and equal justice.

Friday, January 22nd: “In Plain Sight: Stories of Hope and Freedom” Presented by CTK’s Faith in Action. You may have heard the term “sex trafficking” and thought that it was just an international issue. While the term trafficking may conjure images of desperate illegal immigrants being forced into prostitution by human smugglers, over 80% of victims in 2011 were American citizens. It’s happening in plain sight and you probably don’t even realize it.

Indian Meditations: Realize who you are, become what you are: This is the refrain that vibrates at the heart of mystical traditions of all religions. The path that leads to this realization is the path of contemplative silence. This workshop takes you along this inner path and makes you feel the power of contemplative silence. The mediation take you step by step to the diving space within you besides relieving stress and supporting emotional healing. January 11-15th, 8:45-9:45 am in the ministry center chapel and a repeat from 7:00 - 8:00 pm in the crying room (church vestibule). A second workshop, January 19-22, 8:45 am - 9:45 am in the chapel, repeating 7:00 - 8:00 pm in the crying room. Please bring a blanket and cushion with you. There is no fee for these workshops. Please contact Fr. K.C. with any questions at 682-2486.

Our spring grief workshop will be led by Sr. Joanne Gallagher and a team of peer ministers who will facilitate a 7 week workshop to help you begin the healing process of losing a loved one, whether the loss was recent or years ago. Dates are Monday evenings, Feb. 1 - March 13, 2016. Please call 925-682-2486 to register.

CYO Crab Feed will be held Saturday, January 30th from 6:30 pm - 11:30 pm in the CTK gym. Tickets are $55 each and will be available after mass this weekend. New to the menu - tri-tip! Crab feed is open to all parishioners, not only CYO families. For more information, contact Allen Brezac at allen.brezac@comcast.com.

Save the Date! The 2016 Men’s Retreat will be held Feb. 26-28 at San Damiano Retreat Center. Don’t miss out on this great retreat! For more information or to register, call Blaine Carter at 925-963-6168 or Heinz Weirich at 925-930-6548.

Donate your car, truck, RV or boat! Christ the King has teamed up with Car Donations Services, Inc. to provide you with an easy way to donate a vehicle whether it is running or not! Car Donations Services, located in Martinez, has been helping local charities since 1990 and will take care of every aspect of your car donation, allowing you peace of mind that the transaction will be completed efficiently and properly. CDS uses multiple methods to sell the vehicles, so your vehicle will sell for more which means a larger tax deduction. Proceeds from all vehicle donations will go to the CTK Capital Campaign unless you tell us otherwise. For more information, contact our finance committee chair, Greg Thornbury at gmthorn@ix.netcom.com.
To start the car donation process, go to www.cardonationservices.com/205/donate-a-car-Christ-the-King-Parish/ or call 1-888-686-4483.
New Year’s resolutions:
the pope Francis list:

1. Don’t gossip.
2. Finish your meals.
3. Make time for others.
4. Choose the ‘more humble’ purchase
5. Meet the poor ‘in the flesh’
6. Stop judging others.
8. Make commitments, such as marriage.
9. Make it a habit to ‘ask the Lord.’

A blissful New Year to all...

PRAY FOR THE SICK
IN OUR PARISH:

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence. Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits. May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts. We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed. Amen.