To Hear the Gospel and Make a Difference
What a lovely day is Mother's Day! All sorts of thoughts come to me as we honor our mothers today...

In my ministry here at CTK I am blessed to meet with couples who are requesting the sacrament of Baptism for their infants. Over the years I have met - literally - with hundreds of couples who are preparing for their baby's baptism. What a joy to talk with new parents ~ as well as those with some experience! The excitement and the happiness that these mothers (and fathers) exude is beautiful to behold. All focus and attention is on the baby. Mother forgets herself and just focuses on the needs of her child. She knows instinctively (or is learning) what each cry or whimper means. Day and night the mother is attentive to her baby and she responds generously without hesitation ... to do, to give, to be present ... with so much love!

On the other end of life ~ I meet with so many families who come to prepare for the funeral of their beloved mother. Have I ever met with a family who did not think that their mother was the best mother in the world? Individuals speak of how their mother did so much for them and made all the difference in their lives. Often only in looking back do people realize how much their mother loved them, and how much she meant to them. It is especially beautiful for me to hear the stories of adult children and how they cared for their aging/dying mother – just as she had cared for them. What is the saying? One reaps what one sows.

There are many qualities that are characteristic of a good mother ~ but I think what most stands out for me is the 'selflessness' of mothers, the quality of endless unconditional giving ... focusing on the needs of children and grandchildren - always putting others first. How does a mother do this? By providing a home and a gathering place for family, cooking meals, providing clothes/doing laundry, caring for children when they are sick, counseling, instructing, admonishing, comforting, forgiving. Does this list sound familiar? It seems that perhaps a 'mother' is the first person to really fulfill naturally – by her vocation - the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy that Pope Francis has encouraged us to -- in this Year of Mercy.

See how you are fulfilling the call to make Christ more present in our world and Happy Mother’s Day!

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<tr>
<th>Corporal Works of Mercy</th>
<th>Spiritual Works of Mercy</th>
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<td>counsel the doubtful</td>
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<td>give drink to the thirsty</td>
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<td>clothe the naked</td>
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<td>shelter the homeless</td>
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<td>visit the imprisoned</td>
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<td>bury the dead</td>
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Sr. Dominic-Marie

The Ascension of the Lord
First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Today's passage takes us back to the beginning verses of the Acts of the Apostles and sets forth the themes that Luke is going to develop throughout this, the longest book of the New Testament. His major theme is the role of the Holy Spirit, who enables the apostles to be effective witnesses to Jesus. (The Holy Spirit is mentioned 57 times in the Acts of the Apostles.)

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

Ephesus is located on the western coast of what is today Turkey, and Paul visited there several times. Today’s passage, which is near the beginning of the letter to the Ephesians, is a prayer asking God’s blessings upon that community. Many thoughts in this prayer are connected to today’s feast of the Ascension.
Mother’s Day Diaper Collection for Monument Crisis Center is happening this weekend. There are bins labeled Monument Crisis Ctr in the vestibule to collect diapers and wipes. Monument is in most need of sizes 5-6, but all sizes are welcome.


Calling All Women! Magnificat, A Ministry to Catholic Women would like to invite all Catholic Women to our upcoming Prayer Breakfast. June 18th 9:30-12:30 at St. Mary’s Church Gymnasium 2039 Mt. Diablo Blvd. WC. We are excited to welcome Cheryl Ward-Kaiser as she shares her inspirational journey from tragedy to forgiveness. In this Year of Mercy, Cheryl has so much to teach us. Reservations are $21/$25 after June 11th. Please go to www.magnificatsoti.org for info or call Maribel at (925) 788-7762.

Hope Walk, sponsored by Kaiser Permanente. Saturday, May 21 at Heather Farm Park, WC. Register to walk and start fundraising to benefit the Cancer Support Community, providing cancer services and support for cancer patients and their families. Hope Walk is a 5k around Heather Farm Park to celebrate and honor those living or passed, who have been touched by cancer. Registration opens at 8:30 am, walk begins at 10:00 am. Registration + Hope Walk Shirt is $25.00. Visit hopewalk-bayarea.net for more information.

Next weekend we have a second collection to support Catholic Charities of the East Bay. Catholic Charities is one of the largest providers of social services in the East Bay. Thank you for your support.

CTK Festival is almost here!! Next weekend, May 13-15, come join the fun. Find all the schedule details on the flap of this bulletin. T-shirt sales and discounted Ticket and Wristband preorders will be on sale after masses today.

Asking for Your Generosity:

Religious Education is sponsoring the wine toss booth for festival. Please help us by donating bottles of wine. You may drop the wine off at the RE office (facing Gregory Ln) Mon-Thurs. 9:30 am - 5:30 pm or you may leave the wine at the parish house. We will collect wine before and after all the masses May 7/8. Thanks for your help and support. Questions: call 686-1017. I am grateful for all.

Sr. Maureen

Day at the Races Fundraiser For Three Bay Area Catholic Schools:
The 9th annual Day at the Races, sponsored by the Dominican Sisters Vision of Hope will be held Saturday, May 21 at Golden Gate Fields, 1100 Eastshore Hwy, Berkeley. The event benefits 3 Catholic elementary schools: St. Anthony-Immaculate and St. James both in SF, and St. Elizabeth in Oakland. Tickets include admission to the Turf Club, breakfast and prime rib buffets as well as valet parking and a racing program. Tickets may be purchased at 51-533-5768 or at visionofhope.org.

Searching for a spiritual home? Our “no strings” inquiry series begins Thursday, May 26 at 7 pm. Ideal for learning about Catholicism and for Catholics who have not yet received Eucharist and/or confirmation. Contact Al Garrotto at 925-849-6319 or algarrotto@comcast.net.

Last chance to bid on the CTK Altar Society quilt. Starting bid is $200.00. The quilt will be on display until May 8, 2016 - Mother’s Day.

Jubilee Year of Mercy

May 8, 2016

The Ascension of the Lord

As the liturgical year—and this Jubilee Year of Mercy—unfold, we reflect on what Jesus’ ascension meant for the first disciples and means now for us. Stay in Jerusalem, Jesus had instructed, awaiting “the promise of the Father. In a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:4–5, 8). Despite Jesus’ absence, they wait “with great joy . . . continually in the temple praising God” (Luke 24:52–53). But as we join them, waiting and worshiping, the enduring challenge—theirs and ours—is delivered by “two men in white” (Acts 1:10). In every age, disciples must stop looking at the sky, head down the mountain, and go back into the world, “commissioned,” says Pope Francis, “to announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel,” inviting everyone to find “in our parishes, communities, associations and movements. . . wherever there are Christians . . . an oasis of mercy” (Misericordiae Vultus, 12).

Taize Prayer Around the Cross is next Sunday, May 15 at Hillcrest Congregational Church. Join us at 7:30 pm, 404 Gregory Ln, PH.

Do you know what this is?

PRAY FOR THE SICK MEMBERS IN OUR COMMUNITY:

Byron Morris, Jr., Lisa Kurtz

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed. Amen.
Grab your Bon Jovi cassette tapes, throw on your parachute pants, and jelly bracelets and hurry down to the
totally awesome
Christ the King Parish Festival!

Friday, May 13, 6:00pm – 10:00pm
Saturday, May 14, 12:00pm – 10:00pm
Sunday, May 15, 10:00am – 2:00pm

Schedule of Events and Performances:
Friday: Live 80’s Cover Band Par Four
6-10pm, Casino 6-10pm
Saturday: Interactive Musical Adventures with Anna Gaspari 1pm,
In Motion Dancers 1:30pm, Talent Show 2-4pm, Studio A Dancers 4-4:45pm, Tat Wong
Kung Fu Academy 4:45-5:30pm, Par Four DJ and Band 6-10pm, Movie Night: “ET” with
popcorn and candy 8pm, Casino 6-10pm.
Sunday: Pancake and Mimosa Breakfast 8:45-10:45am, live acoustic performance by
Mike Morley 10am-12pm.

80’s Arcade Games, Nerf Dart Tag
Great Local food vendors, Beer and Wine, Bingo
Live 80’s Cover Band, Talent Show, Raffle
Fine Craft Art, Book Sale
Casino, Karaoke