As the test of what the potter molds is in the furnace, so in tribulation is the test of the just.
Sirach 27:5

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Schedule of Masses

Mon - Fri: 7:30 am  Chapel, Room 1
Saturday:  5 pm
Sunday:  9:30 am
Confessions: Saturday, 4:30 pm

Week At A Glance

Mon, Mar 4
• 9:30 am-1:30 pm, Office Open
• 7 pm, Lector's Practice

Tues, Mar 5
• 10 am-2 pm, Office Open

Wed, Mar 6 - Ash Wednesday
• 9:30 am, Scripture Study, Rm 6
• 11 am-3 pm, Office Open

Thurs, Mar 7
• 9:30 am, Enrichment, Rm 6
• 11 am-3 pm, Office Open
• 2:30 pm, St Vincent de Paul, Rm 6
• 7 pm, Choir Rehearsal

Fri, Mar 8
• Noon, Stations of the Cross
• 6-9 pm, Women’s Retreat

Sat, Mar 9
• 9 am-5 pm, Women’s Retreat

Upcoming Mass Intentions

Sat 3/2 5:00 pm - Frank Gomes †
Sun 3/3 9:30 am - Katherine & Dick DuBeau †
Sun 3/10 9:30 am - Santo Tavormina †

Ministers Schedule:  Mar. 9 - 10

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<th>Ministers Schedule</th>
<th>Ash Wed. 3/6</th>
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<td>Mass</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Sat. 5 pm</td>
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<td>Sun. 9:30 am</td>
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<td>LEKTOR</td>
<td>B. Rusca</td>
<td>R. Minister</td>
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<td>C.L.O.W.</td>
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<td>MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST</td>
<td>F. McCormick</td>
<td>D. Derby</td>
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<td>E. Hites</td>
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<td>ALTAR SERVERS</td>
<td>R. Kuca</td>
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<td>COUNTERS: 3/4</td>
<td>J. Stark, M. Peare</td>
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<td>COUNTERS: 3/11</td>
<td>W. Lang, J. Brady</td>
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Dear Parishioners,

Pope Francis tells us that “Lent is a time of renewal for the whole Church, for each community and every believer. It is a favorable time to become more like Christ. This happens whenever we hear the word of God and receive the sacraments, especially the Eucharist. There we become what we receive: the Body of Christ. In this body there is no room for the indifference which so often seems to possess our hearts. For whoever is of Christ, belongs to one body, and in him we cannot be indifferent to one another.”

This week we celebrate Ash Wednesday which ushers in the Season of Lent. Come to Mass and receive ashes on your forehead. Why the ashes? Pope John Paul II reminds us that this is “a very ancient tradition. This act is ... an important sign of conversion and inner renewal... very profound because of its penitential meaning.”

The 40 days of Lent are a time to open our hearts for change, for conversion ... for a deepening of our love for the Lord. The season of Lent – especially Holy week – focuses us on the “passion” of Christ. I share with you a powerful insight by Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI:

“Passion comes from the latin, PASSIO, meaning passiveness, non-activity, absorbing something more than actively doing anything. The “Passion” of Jesus refers to that time in his life where his meaning for us is not defined by what he was doing but rather by what was being done to him. What is being said here?

The public life and ministry of Jesus can be divided into two distinct parts: Scholars estimate that Jesus spent about three years preaching and teaching before being put to death. For most of that time ... he was very much the do-er, in command, the active one, teaching, healing, performing miracles, giving counsel, eating with sinners, debating with church authorities, and generally, by activity of every sort, inviting his contemporaries into the life of God. And he was busy...

However, from the time he walked out of the last supper room and began to pray in Gethsemane, that activity stops. He is no longer the one who is doing things for others, but the one who is having things done to him. In the garden, they arrest him, bind his hands, lead him to the high priest, then to Pilate. He is beaten, humiliated, stripped of his clothes, and eventually nailed to a cross where he dies. This constitutes his “passion”, that time in his life and ministry where he ceases to be the do-er and becomes the one who has things done to him.

What is so remarkable about this is that our faith teaches us that we are saved more through his passion (his death and suffering) than through all of his activity of preaching and doing miracles. ”

Sr. Dominic Marie, OP

ASH WEDNESDAY: For those 18 to 59 years of age:

* Fasting on Ash Wednesday means a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. Liquids are allowed at any time; but no solid food eaten between meals.
* Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent we abstain from eating meat.

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**Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

March 3, 2019

**First Reading: Sirach 27:4-7**

The book of Sirach was written by a wise teacher who lived 200 years before Christ. It is a loose collection of thoughts on various concerns in the life of a believer. In today’s section, we hear Sirach’s thoughts about how speech is the measure of a person.

**Second Reading:**

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

This is the last of our seven weeks of readings from first Corinthians. In recent weeks, we have heard Paul addressing the Corinthian converts’ questions about life after death. Paul ends his teaching on the resurrection with this hymn of triumph over death.

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**PARISH STAFF CONTACTS**

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Rick Lejano, Youth Minister  676-0979

CTK Parish Office    682-2486
Religious Education    686-1017
Youth Ministry    676-0979
Join us after the 9:30 am Mass this weekend for **coffee and donuts** in the hall. There will be no coffee and donuts next Sunday, Mar. 10, because of outside use of the hall.

**Women’s Retreat March 8/9:** Friday evening and all day Saturday. Will be held at St. Stephen Parish Hall. It will not be an overnight stay ... in the hopes that more will join us! See the poster board at the doors of the church today and take home a flyer which you will find there. **All women are welcome.**

**ctkAlive!** Lenten sign-ups are here! This 6 week series invites us to engage more fully with our Catholic **FAITH**, explore new approaches to **PRAYER**, and consider ways to **ACTION**. Morning and evening sessions, beginning in March. Email algarrotto@comcast.net for more information.

**CTK’s Italian Catholic Federation** is offering a **scholarship** to 8th grade students wishing to attend a Catholic high school in the fall of 2019. Applications are in the vestibule of the church. Deadline to apply is March 29. Contact Teri Hurlbut at 256-9649 for more information.

**Bingo Fundraiser** - The Filipino Society of Christ the King (FSCTK) will sponsor a **Bingo Fundraiser on Saturday, March 23** in the CTK Parish Hall from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Game tickets are $25 for 12 plays. We are also selling raffle tickets at $10 each for a chance to win great prizes. Proceeds will go to the CTK Building Fund. Call Abe at 925-381-5898 or Efrain at 698-6530 for more information and to buy tickets.

**Diablo Choral Artists**, originally founded in 1998 as Voices of Musica Sacra by Kathleen Flemming, then Music Director here at St. Stephen, will be returning here to their birthplace to present “Sing Joyfully,” a concert featuring five centuries of British sacred music, on Friday, March 15, 2019 at 8:00 P.M. If you are unable to attend here, a repeat performance will be presented at Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church, Walnut Creek, on Sunday, March 17, 2019 at 3:00 PM. Tickets are available through Brown Paper Tickets at 800-838-3006, on-line at brownpapertickets.com, or at the door. Adult admission is $25, Seniors 60+ $15, Students $5, and Children 5-12 free.

**St. Vincent de Paul** is having their monthly meeting on Thursday, March 7 at 2:30 PM in Room #6.

**Save the Date - Men’s Retreat** April 12-14: “Welcome Back Cotter”. Fr. Vince will be our retreat master. San Damiano, Danville. Contact peteobrien7@gmail.com for more information.


**Christ the King Parish Prayer Line** - We have a team of parishioners available to pray for you. Send confidential prayer requests to prayer-line@ctkph.org. Then, please let us know when to begin thank you’s to our God for answered prayers.

**Lent Begins Ash Wednesday**

This week is the beginning of Lent with Ash Wednesday March 6. Ashes will be distributed during the 7:30 am Mass and the 7:00 PM Mass. As a reminder, Ash Wednesday is a day of Fast and Abstinence.

Fridays during Lent will have Stations of the Cross at Noon in the Church.

Starting Mar. 13, we will have our Lenten Wednesday Night Soup Suppers. More details to come.

The Lenten Black Books are available in the back of the Church and in the Chapel for your prayerful meditations.

Rice Bowls are also available in the back of the Church and in the Chapel. Included in the Rice Bowl is a pamphlet with more information, including simple meal ideas, and a calendar of weekly and daily reflections. As in past years, we look forward to your generosity with the Rice Bowls.

Join Fr. Bonacci, C.P., for the St. Bonaventure parish mission on “Hospitality and Discipleship: The Greatest Among You Serves.” Fr. Tom is the Director of the Interfaith Peace Project. March 18-20, at both 10 am and 7 pm. St. Bonaventure Catholic Community, 5562 Clayton Rd, Concord. Contact Gina at gcatatalini@stbonaventure.net or 925-672-5800 for more information.

**Mission Statement: To Live and to Love in Christ**

**Parish Stewardship Feb. 23/24**

Regular Collections: $2793.00
Marriage Prep.: $218.25
Thank you for your continued support.