Mon, July 22
- 9:30 am-1 pm, Office Open
- 7 pm, Lector Practice

Tues, July 23
- 10 am-1 pm, Office Open

Wed, July 24
- 11 am-2 pm, Office Open

Thurs, July 25
- 11 am-2 pm, Office Open

Upcoming Mass Intentions
Sat 7/20 5:00 pm - Buz & Phyllis Lee †
Sun 7/21 9:30 am - St. Stephen Parishioners
Wed 7/24 7:30 am - Teresa Poirier, Birthday Blessings
Thu 7/25 7:30 am - Lynn Amaral, Birthday Blessings
Fri 7/26 7:30 am - Ray & Violet Deborja, Wedding Anniversary
Sat 7/27 5:00 pm - St. Stephen Parishioners
Sun 7/28 9:30 am - Theresa Burn †

Schedule of Masses

Mon - Fri: 7:30 am (Chapel, Rm 1)
Saturday: 5 pm
Sunday: 9:30 am

Confessions: Saturday, 4:30 pm

Ministers Schedule: July 27 - 28

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<td>THE EUCHARIST</td>
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<td>COUNTERS:</td>
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Christ the King Catholic Church (sister parish)
195A Brandon Road, Pleasant Hill
925-682-2486
Brothers and Sisters,

At the conclusion of every Mass (if we do not leave early) we hear some form of the familiar words: “go in peace.” In Latin, the dismissal is Ite, missa est, which means, “go, you are sent.” The word “Mass” itself comes from that word, missa. This is an interesting notion, is it not? We come to Mass in order to be sent on mission.

And what is our mission? At the end of the Gospel of Matthew Jesus sent his apostles to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them, and teaching them to observe all He had commanded them (Mt 28:16-20). This is our mission. In a word, it is to evangelize. Jesus sends us to evangelize, to share the Gospel, the good news, and so gather all peoples into the Church, the Body of Christ, the kingdom of God on earth.

How is this seemingly monumental task accomplished? We could speak of programs that the Church is implementing, but at it’s most fundamental level, evangelization is about individual encounters; it is about recognizing a need in our brothers and sisters, and generously sharing what we ourselves have first received from God. Evangelization begins with invitation, often unspoken, offered simply by the manner in which we live our lives, with joy, gratitude, and mercy. Yet, there are times when a spoken invitation is warranted, when the seed of faith seems to have taken hold in our brothers and sisters who do not yet know God, or have fallen away from him. In cases like these, the Church offers us a means to accompany those individuals who are seeking the One who called them, and that is the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, or RCIA.

RCIA is the process of formally entering into the Church, and completing the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. What this means is that it is the process of conversion, and of deepening faith and friendship with Christ. And this process is beginning again in September.

I am writing to you to consider the people in your life who are in need of evangelization. Who in your life is in need of hearing Good News? Maybe you could invite them to consider RCIA. After all, that is our mission. If they are willing, have them contact me: frmario@ctkph.org, and I and the RCIA team will gladly walk this journey with them. I know that the RCIA process is a scary one; my mom went through it about 13 years ago. But it is an experience that changes lives, since it is God who walks with us. But don’t just take my word for it, here are some words of encouragement from the most recent RCIA class:

“I feel a lot closer with my wife since I took the steps to get baptized and walk this path of life with her. I think every day is a constant preparation. Through sharing feelings of past traumas, though rare, I gained a feeling of acceptance from people I would have called strangers just a year before, but now call friends.”

“I have a bigger and more comprehensive understanding of my faith and the sacraments and love introducing my son to this wonderful community.”

“RCIA was my first activity outside of mass at CTK. It really helped me feel closer to the community. Being around a group of people who wanted to learn more about God and strengthen their faith was encouraging to my own desire to do so.”

“My overall experience was wonderful. It gave me hope and a new beginning on my catholic journey.”

God bless you,
Father Mario
Join us for Coffee and Donuts after the 9:30 am Mass this Sunday.

We will be scheduling a training for altar servers – both returning and new, sometime in September – date to be determined. If you are not currently an altar server but would like to become one, please let the office know. This includes all youth, 4th grade and older, as well as adults.

Scripture Study is taking a break for the summer. It will start up again on October 2 with a study of Ezekiel.

Save the dates!
Saturday, August 10 – Wine & Cheese after the 5 pm Mass; Wednesday, August 14th, 7 pm, Movie Night.

Grief Support at St. Bonaventure: The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Whether the death was unexpected and tragic, or one with warning and preparation, the reality of death leaves most of us in a state of shock, confusion and sadness. Grieving people need time and space to honor their grief. “Healing the Heart” is a 6-week program that will meet on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 until 9:00 pm from September 10th to October 15th. The Grief Companions will share their experiences and there is time for small group sharing. We invite you to join us and let us accompany you on your healing journey. For more information and to register, call Helene at (925) 681-8105 by September 5th.

Knitters Workshop! Please join other knitters in an effort to knit blanket squares for the Welcome Blanket Project (welcomeblanket.org), a gesture of hand knit love and welcoming for refugees and other immigrants.

Next workshop is July 28 at 3:00 pm. Contact Mary Timoney, Celebrant, Sharon Spiller, Reflection. All are welcome, no charge.

Prayer line: Our sister parish, Christ the King also has a prayer line - send your confidential prayer requests to prayerline@ctkph.org and we will pray for you.

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