### Week At A Glance

**Sun, Nov 24**
- 5:00 pm, Lector’s Potluck

**Mon, Nov 25**
- 9:30 am-1:30 pm, Office Open
- 7 pm, Lector Practice

**Tues, Nov 26**
- 10 am-2 pm, Office Open

**Wed, Nov 27**
- 11 am-3 pm, Office Open

**Thurs, Nov 28**
- 9:30 am, Thanksgiving Day Mass

### Schedule of Masses

**Monday - Friday 7:30 am (Chapel, Room 1)**
- Saturday: 5 pm
- Sunday: 9:30 am

Confessions: Saturday - 4:30 pm

### Upcoming Mass Intentions

- Sat Nov 23, 5:00 pm - Saint Stephen Parishioners
- Sun Nov 24, 9:30 am - Siuta Moala †
- Thur Nov 28, 9:30 am - Saint Stephen Parishioners
- Fri Nov 29, 7:30 am - Bob Potrier
- Sat Nov 30, 5:00 pm - Bob Walton †
- Sun Dec 1, 9:30 am - Tony Spagnolo †

### Ministers Schedule:

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<th>Thanksgiving Day</th>
<th>November 30 – December 1</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mass</strong></td>
<td><strong>Thurs. 9:30 am</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>LECTOR</td>
<td>J. Gotelli</td>
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<tr>
<td>C.I.O.W.</td>
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<td>MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST</td>
<td>J. Jury</td>
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<td></td>
<td>P. Dempsey</td>
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<td>M. Mammòla</td>
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<td>ALTAR SERVERS</td>
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<td>SACRISTAN</td>
<td>J. Jury</td>
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<td>COUNTERS: Nov 25</td>
<td>M. Peare, R. Gigoux</td>
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<td>COUNTERS: Dec 2</td>
<td>J. Schnur, M. Lenahan</td>
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Dear Friends,

Today we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. Happy Feast to all of you. Jesus is our King. What is amazing is that for Jesus, Kingship or leadership is about sacrifice, not earthly authority. Jesus never exhibited royal traits, in the earthly sense. “His strategic vision was not a plan of invasion but rather the conquest of death itself. His tactics, shared in his Gospel preaching, were generosity, forgiveness, care for the poor, healing the sick and calling sinners to repentance. His overall doctrine was love.” (Michael Simone)

It is fascinating that as we celebrate the feast of Christ the King, our own nation is engaged in the process of impeachment of our President. Those of you who join me for weekday masses, know that I pray for our President and congress every day. And my prayer always centers on our leaders doing what is right for our nation especially for the most vulnerable in our midst, that they be people of integrity. These days I pray as I watch news that truth may triumph, and that our people may converge around what is true, what is beautiful and what unites.

In his conversation with Pilate, Jesus declared himself as the King. He said, “You say that I am a King. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” Jesus equates his Kingship with truth. Later on, He will say that He is the truth. Pilate beheld the truth in that moment, but he did not have eyes to see nor ears to hear the truth crying out to him. He will ultimately exchange his soul for what was politically expedient for him, and would condemn Jesus to be crucified. He knew Jesus was innocent and still sent Him to death.

Timothy Leary coined the phrase “Reality Tunnel” which basically means that truth is in the eye of the beholder. It does not mean that there is no objective reality, but that all reality is being interpreted through our senses, conditioning, belief system and personality types. Anais Nin stated it correctly, “We don’t see things as they are; we see them as we are.” In a polarized society, where we see everything through political lens or bias including faith and religion, it is a challenge for many of us to confront the truth of what is going on in Washington DC. We are the modern-day version of Pilate. Something is true because it is politically expedient. And we will respond to the current political realities probably in the same way as Pilate. And that would be our worst sin, because as Christians we are called to witness to truth in the midst of lies and distortions that abound. And worst still, if we serve falsehood by lies and distortions.

Hannah Arendt wrote, “No one has ever doubted that truth and politics are on rather bad terms with each other, and no one, as far as I know, has ever counted truthfulness among political virtues.” Serving the God of Truth requires purposeful choices. A deep commitment to honesty and integrity is necessary if you wish to make a positive change in our nation. May we like Joshua declare, “But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” – of Truth.

Fr. Paulson
Join us for fellowship and Coffee & Donuts after Mass this Sunday. There will be no coffee and donuts next Sunday, Dec. 1, as no volunteer has stepped forward yet.

LECTOR NEWS! St. Stephen will host a Lector’s Potluck Dinner this Sunday evening, November 24 at 5:00 pm. It will begin with a meeting and commissioning followed by a potluck dinner. Spouses are welcome to attend. Anyone interested in becoming a lector is welcome to attend and find out more about this important ministry. Weekday morning lectors are invited to share this evening with our weekend lectors. Contact Chris Lang if you plan to attend.

In today’s mobile society, families are often separated during the holidays. If you find yourself alone on Thanksgiving, or you are grieving the loss of a loved one and need support on this day, Queen of Heaven Cemetery will welcome you with open arms as we gather together as one community on Thanksgiving Day for coffee and fellowship. Please join us on Thursday, November 28th from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in the St Cecilia Chapel, 1965 Reliez Valley Road, Lafayette. For information please call: 925 932-0900.

Please join us on Saturday, December 7th at 9:30 a.m. for our ongoing Grief Workshop at Christ the King. We will gather in the Fr. Joyce Room of the Ministry Center. CTK provides on-going peer ministry for all grieving people. All are welcome. Please call Donna @ 510 381-3615 for information.

Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9:30am. All are invited to join us and celebrate the great feast of Thanksgiving! There will be a special blessing over bread and wine...so bring the bread and wine that you will share at your table on that day.

Thank You, LORD!

New parishioner? We welcome those of you that are new to our parish. Be sure to fill out a registration form found on the tables in the back of the church. You can drop it in a collection basket or bring it to the office in Room 2.

Are you an adult who is interested in being baptized? Were you baptized in a non-Catholic Christian denomination and are thinking about becoming Catholic? Are you a Catholic who has not received the Sacrament of Confirmation? Contact Father Mario for more information frmario@ctkph.org.

Calling all Women! Magnificat Society, a Ministry for Catholic Women invite all to join them at their Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, December 7 at 9:30 am. Please join us for a morning of Praise, Prayer and Inspiration as we celebrate Advent and prepare for the coming birth of our Lord. 45 John Glenn Drive, Concord. Call Kim Sullivan at 925 -683-8220 for tickets or more information.

Thank you to those that returned their borrowed PYX. If you still have one at home that needs to be returned, please do so.

The Little Blue Book full of six-minute reflections for Advent and Christmas will be available again this year on the tables in the back of the church starting this weekend. This year consider a donation of $1 to help cover the cost of these books.

This weekend’s 2nd collection is for the Campaign for Human Development. When you participate in this collection, you help groups of low-income people in your diocese and across the country in their efforts to provide access to affordable housing, health care, jobs, employee-owned businesses, and rights for immigrants. By supporting CCHD, you help out your own neighbors, because 25 percent of your contribution stays within your own diocese! Please be generous.

Parish Stewardship Nov. 16/17

Regular Collection: $2,730.27
Archdiocese/Military: $120.00
Maintenance: $180.00
All Saint’s Day: $5.00
Donuts: $47.00

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