

St. Stephen Catholic Church

Walnut Creek . California . March 4, 2018 . Third Sunday of Lent



PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday--Thursday 8:30 AM--4:30 PM

Office closes daily for lunch. Office closed on Friday.

Parish Office, Rectory
and Mailing Address: 525 Madonna Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Church Location: 1101 Keaveny Ct, Walnut Creek

Telephone: 925-939-3826
Fax: 925-988-0417
Website: www.saintstephenparish.org
Email: SaintStephenWC@gmail.com

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR:

FR. MARK C. AMARAL

PARISH STAFF:

FR. HELMUT RICHTER
Assisting Clergy

MARY COOK
Office Manager

MARIA CALDERAZZO
Director of Music Ministry



ANNETTE ROUX
Pastoral Associate

NANCY GIZDICH
Bookkeeper

PETER RENO
Pastoral Council Chair

LITURGY SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 9:30 AM

Weekdays:* 7:30 AM

*Note: Monday is a Communion Service
Holy Days: As Announced. Usually 7:30 AM and 7:00 PM



RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 3:30 PM

BAPTISMS: Registration is mandatory two months prior to Baptism. Parents and Godparents are required to attend a mandatory preparation class before Baptism.

MARRIAGES: A minimum of six (6) months advance notice is required. The parish must be contacted before any specific arrangement are made or dates are set.

FUNERALS: We recommend using Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services / Queen of Heaven Cemetery at 925-932-0900. A representative from CFCS will contact the parish office to make your arrangements.

REGISTRATION: New parishioners may contact the office or ask an usher for a registration form. Welcome.

MISSION STATEMENT: To Live and to Love in Christ

WELCOME visitors and friends. We open our hearts and offer our hands to you in Christian fellowship worshipping with our community. We invite you to join our parish membership.



MASS INTENTIONS

SAT 3/3	5:00	Donald Du Beau †
SUN 3/4	9:30	Siuta Moala †
TUE 3/6	7:30	Int. Paige Minister—Birthday Blessings
WED 3/7	7:30	Int. Genny Martinez
THU 3/8	7:30	Bill Kevil †
FRI 3/9	7:30	Doug Prouty †
SAT 3/10	5:00	Santo J. Tavormina †
SUN 3/11	9:30	Baby John Michael Christian †



For Mass intentions, please contact the Parish Office @ 925-939-3826

WHEN WE TRY TO MAKE AN IMPRESSION, THAT'S THE IMPRESSION WE MAKE. —ANONYMOUS

TODAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING — God gives the law through Moses (Exodus 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]) or *Exodus 17:3-7*.

PSALM — Lord, you have the words of everlasting life (Psalm 19) or *Psalm 95*.

SECOND READING — We proclaim Christ crucified (1 Corinthians 1:22-25) or *Romans 5:1-2, 5-8*.

GOSPEL — Many began to believe in Jesus' name when they saw the signs he was doing (John 2:13-25) or *John 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]*.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9; Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Lk 11:14-23

Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11ab, 14, 17; Mk 12:28-34

Saturday: Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab; Lk 18:9-14

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Ps 137:1-6; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

Alternate readings (Year A):

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-6;

Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

FEBRUARY 25, 2018 CONTRIBUTIONS

Sunday Offering

\$2,956.35

Weekly Offering

Thank you! Your contributions are greatly appreciated.
REMEMBER ST. STEPHEN PARISH IN YOUR WILL & LIVING TRUST
Consider a pledge to the 2018 Diocesan Bishop's Appeal



**Diocese of
Oakland
For more
information:**

www.oakdiocese.org/giving

2018 Bishop's Appeal SSP Goal Summary:

Parish Goal:	\$15,500.00
Funds Raised:	\$.00
Remained:	\$.00
% of Goal Raised:	0%

MINISTERS MAR 10/11, 2018

MASS: 5 PM 9:30 AM

LECTORS: M. Milani R. Gigoux

C.L.O.W.: T. Nguyen

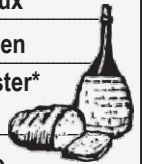
MINISTERS OF COMMUNION S. Kuca* D. Minister*

ALTAR SERVERS: J. Kurpinsky M. Reno

COUNTERS:

MON 3/5 D. Mammola M. Peare

MON 3/12 J. Stark P. Dempsey



JOIN US IN THE PARISH HALL ON WEDNESDAYS LENTEN REFLECTION & SIMPLE SOUP SUPPER

Mar 07 @ 6 pm Prayer & Reflection Part 1:

TOPIC: Spiritual Works of Mercy

Followed by Soup Supper @ 6:30 pm

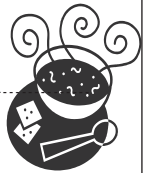
Mar 14 @ 6 pm Prayer & Reflection Part 2:

TOPIC: Corporal Works of Mercy

Followed by Soup Supper @ 6:30 pm

Mar 21: @ 6 pm Soup Supper followed by

Contemporary Stations of the Cross @ 7 pm



There is no love without forgiveness, and there is no forgiveness without love. Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturdays @ 3:30



"Don't be mad at them, they can only love you to the capacity that they are able to love themselves. Don't be mad at them. Pray for them." —Lisa Nichols



OPERATION RICE BOWL

ENCOUNTER SAFIATA: In Burkina Faso, we a mother, grandmother and farmer who relies on the money she makes from her crops to put her children through school. How can our purchases this Lent support farmers and artisans? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? For more, visit csrricebowl.org

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Sunday 3/4	Third Sunday of Lent
8:45 AM	R5 Faith Formation
9:30 AM	R6 Children's Liturgy of the Word
Monday 3/5	St. John of the Cross, pray for us.
Tuesday 3/6	St. Basil, pray for us.
8:00 AM	CH Rosary Group
8:00 AM	PH Contra Costa Realtors in Motion
7:00 PM	R6 Pastoral Council Meeting
Wednesday 3/7	Sts. Perpetua & Felicity, pray for us.
8:00 AM	CH Rosary Group
10:00 AM	R5 Bible Study
6:00 PM	PH Lenten Prayer & Reflection
7:00 PM	PH Lenten Soup Supper
Thursday 3/8	St. John of God, pray for us.
8:00 AM	CH Rosary Group
7:00 PM	CH Choir Rehearsal
7:00 PM	PH Tongan Gathering & Reception
Friday 3/9	St. Frances of Rome, pray for us.
8:00 AM	CH Rosary Group
12:00 PM	CH Stations of the Cross
7:00 PM	PH Tongan Gathering & Reception
	<i>Parish Office Closed</i>
Saturday 3/10	St. Victor, pray for us.
12:00 PM	PH Tongan Gathering & Reception
3:30 PM	CH Sacrament of Reconciliation
	<i>Catholic Relief Services Collection</i>
Sunday 3/11	Fourth Sunday of Lent
8:45 AM	R5 Faith Formation
9:30 AM	R6 Children's Liturgy of the Word
11:00 AM	R5 Confirmation Prep Class
3:00 PM	CH Tongan Mass
	<i>Catholic Relief Services Collection</i>
	<i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i>

CH = Church . PH = Parish Hall . RC = Rectory . R# = Room



"Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the LORD looks into the heart." Let our eyes be opened to the love of God in our marriages by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend on May 18-20 or September 7-9. Space is limited!

Early registration is recommended. For info call Mike & Jeanne @ 672.2016 or Joe & Sue @ 680.7767 or oaklandwwme.org

Forgiveness: If a bad person wrongs you, forgive the person, lest there be two bad people.

KEEP HOLY THE SABBATH

There's no better way to deepen our Lenten practice than to review the Ten Commandments. The first three, having to do with our right relationship to God, get the most ink. The one we busy people probably have the most problem with is keeping holy the Sabbath. If we take this commandment literally, babies will go undiapered and dishes will stay on the table, or perhaps meals will not be served. The sick will go unattended and nothing that has anything to do with physical labor will be done. Is mental labor really work? How about changing that dirty diaper (poor baby!)?

We need to depend on God to discern how to observe real Sabbath time in our lives. The point of this commandment is that God has given us a great gift: one whole day per week when we are free to rest, worship God, sing, feast, love, and rejoice. As Psalm 19 proclaims: "The law of the LORD is perfect, / refreshing the soul" (19:8). Our Sabbath rest is a great gift, to be received from God with joy, not with nitpicking.

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OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

"Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and of people." - Proverbs 3:3-4

Many of the companies we do business with, such as on-line retailers, airlines, and hotel chains, have "loyalty programs." They offer "rewards" to customers who are loyal to their brand. This use of loyalty is shifting the very meaning of the word into a commodity, something that can be bought and sold. This is just one example of how our consumer society tends to see all transactions as commodities. Another arena in our common life where the idea of loyalty has been corrupted is in politics, where political loyalty is also viewed as a commodity, not so much to be bought and sold, but as the currency for a quid quo pro. Some politicians even require complete loyalty while offering none in return. But true loyalty is interpersonal. It is a relationship. It is not the loyalty to a brand, a political party, or a sports team, but keeping faith and trust with another. Loyalty is one of the attributes of God. The Hebrew word closest to loyalty is *hesed*, often translated into English as "loving-kindness." It describes a faithful unbroken persistent relationship. Often in the Bible the metaphor of a faithful marriage is used to describe the kind of covenant loyalty that God has for Israel. And God's loyalty is the model for our own keeping faith with those we love. If the worlds of commerce, politics and sports have debased the notion of loyalty, true loyalty remains a beautiful thing, and much to be cherished.

Prayer: Keep us ever loyal, Heavenly Father, to each other and to you.

Yours on the journey to Easter
Annette Roux, Pastoral Associate

**ST. STEPHEN
WELCOMES
NEW PARISHIONERS
ROBERT & MARISSA
BACLIG**

As people of faith, let us learn about Depression & Suicide

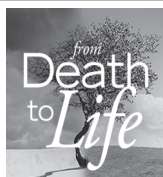
Different Presentations/Forms of Depression & Treatment/Risk Assessment/Signs & Symptoms of Depression—Identifying Risk Factors

Tuesday, April 17, 10 AM to 2 PM

@ Cathedral of Christ the Light Parish Hall—lunch included

Presented/Organized by KAIROS Psychology Group

RSVP to skkappler@kairopsychologygroup.com



Lenten Retreat: "Cross Over from Death to Life"

encounter the presence of God & hear His voice

Saturday, March 10, from 8 AM to 3:30 PM

St. John Vianney Parish, Vista Room

1650 Ignacio Valley, Walnut Creek, CA

Retreat Master: Fr. Anthony Huong Le

Parochial Administrator, St. Catherine of Siena

Register: 925-759-4488 Fee: \$20 Breakfast & Lunch Provided