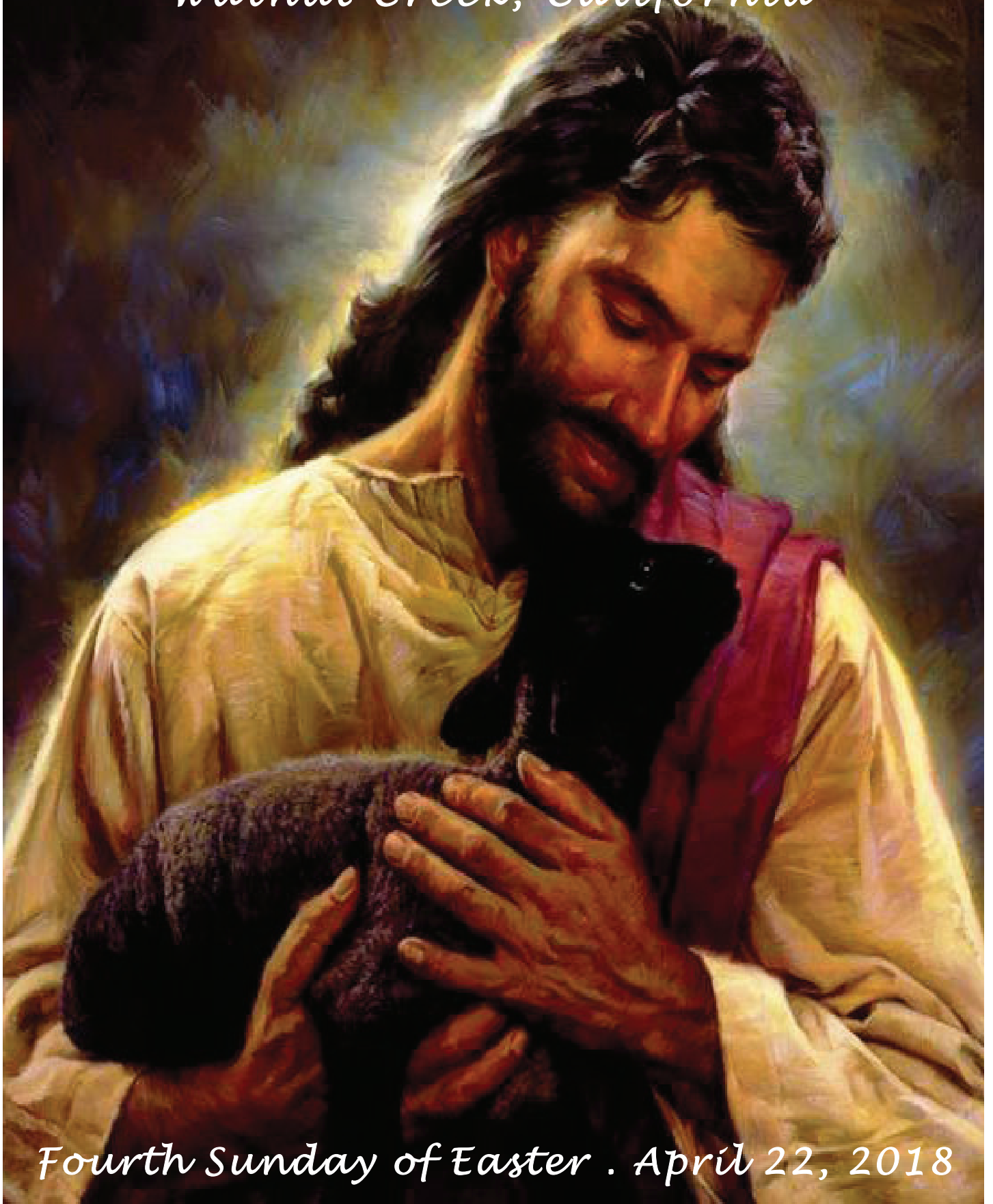


*St. Stephen Catholic Church
Walnut Creek, California*



Fourth Sunday of Easter . April 22, 2018



PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

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

FR. MARK C. AMARAL Parochial Administrator
MARY COOK Office Manager
NANCY GIZDICH Bookkeeper
HELMUT RICHTER Assisting Clergy
ANNETTE ROUX Pastoral Associate
MARIA CALDERAZZO Director of Music Ministry

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT 4/21 5:00 Int. Carol Rusca—Birthday Blessings
SUN 4/22 9:30 Johanna Pauplis †
TUE 4/24 7:30 Int. Peter Gomez
WED 4/25 7:30 Rev. Thomas Raftery †
THU 4/26 7:30 Most Rev. Floyd L. Begin †
FRI 4/27 7:30 Msgr. William J. Mullen †
SAT 4/28 5:00 Deacon Joseph Page †
SUN 4/29 9:30 Siuta Moala †



For Mass intentions, call the 925-939-3826

MINISTERS SAT/SUN APR 28/29

MASS:	5 PM	9:30 AM
LECTORS	R. Kuca	J. Gotelli
MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	F. McCormick* S. Karges J. George	D. Minister* A. Roux P. Dempsey
C.L.O.W.		F. Jacobs
SACRISTAN		A. Roux
ALTAR SERVERS:	R. Kuca	E. Schichnes
COUNTERS:		
MON 4/23	C. Ellis	P. Dempsey
MON 4/30	M. Peare	M. Lenahan



Ministers Subject to Change by Pastoral Associate

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

APRIL 15, 2018 CONTRIBUTIONS

Sunday Collection	\$3,887.98	Weekly Offering
CRS Rice Bowl	\$ 56.77	
Easter	\$ 310.00	
Good Friday/Holy Land	\$ 120.00	
Maintenance	\$ 40.00	

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: \$12,735.00
Remained: \$ 2,765.00
% of Goal Raised: 82.16%



Bishop Michael Barber announced the appointment of **FR. PAULSON MUNDANMANI** as Pastor of St. Stephen Parish effective July 1, 2018 upon the departure of Fr. Mark Amaral. Fr. Paulson, currently pastor of Christ the King Church in Pleasant Hill will assume the dual role of pastor of both parishes. St. Stephen extends a warm welcome to Fr. Paulson. Watch the bulletin for details as we plan a fond farewell celebration for Fr. Mark in June.

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

The fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever. Isaiah 32:17

Around this time of year, many people find themselves paying tax money to the government. While they may receive a refund if they've already paid in enough tax, others will be required to send a percentage of their wages to support their local and national governing bodies. Based on what you've produced, you determine the amount you have to pay. While death and taxes have been famously described as the only certainties in life, as Christians we know that God's promises are the only sure things. Many of the truths found in his Word reveal a cause-effect, action-reaction kind of observation. With righteousness, we're told that the outcome or fruit produced includes peace, confidence, and calmness. These qualities may not be as immediately tangible as tax forms, dollars, and cents, but they are much more valuable than any amount we can imagine.

Prayer: "Father, I want to follow your ways and produce the fruits you have promised in my life. Help me to follow your ways and not my own."

—Annette Roux, Pastoral Associate

SAVED BY THE ONE WHO WAS REJECTED

Some city teenagers often scorn and reject farm kids. Yet it's no exaggeration to say that humanity owes its life to farmers who care for the world's crops and livestock. This week's scriptures remind us that Jesus was as rejected as a shepherd, a farm boy, yet we owe our very lives to him.

In this Sunday's reading from the Acts of the Apostles Peter tells the people that salvation comes through Jesus Christ, the one who was rejected. In John's letter we hear that we have become God's beloved children through Jesus, whom the world did not know. Lastly, in the Gospel Jesus describes himself as the Good Shepherd who "lays down his life for the sheep" (John 10:11). Will you join Jesus in laying down your life for God's beloved flock?

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Silence is a gift of God, to let us speak more intimately with God. —St. Vincent Pallotti

TODAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING — There is no other name under heaven by which we are to be saved than the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene (Acts 4:8-12).

PSALM — The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone (Psalm 118).

SECOND READING — See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God (1 John 3:1-2).

GOSPEL — I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep (John 10:11-18).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS—APR 22

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17;
Mk 16:15-20

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27;
Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31; Ps 22:26-28, 30-32;
1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

CONFIRMATION PREP CLASS
SUNDAYS IN ROOM 5
10:45 AM — 1:15 PM
APR 29, MAY 6 & 20, JUN 3

SCRIPTURE STUDY
@ 10 AM ROOM 5
WED. MAY 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Sunday 4/22 Fourth Sunday Of Easter
8:45 AM R5 Faith Formation
9:30 AM R6 Children's Liturgy of the Word

Monday 4/23 St. George, pray for us.

Tuesday 4/24 St. Fidelis, pray for us.
8:00 AM CH Rosary Group
8:00 AM PH Contra Costa Realtors in Motion
12:00 PM PH Bridge & Game Party

Wednesday 4/25 St. Mark, Evangelist, pray for us.

8:00 AM CH Rosary Group
Thursday 4/26 St. Cletus, pray for us.
8:00 AM CH Rosary Group
7:00 PM CH Choir Rehearsal
Parish Office Closed

Friday 4/27 St. Theodore, pray for us.

8:00 AM CH Rosary Group
Parish Office Closed

Saturday 4/28 St. Peter Chanel, pray for us.

8:00 AM PH Marriage Prep Retreat
3:30 PM CH Sacrament of Reconciliation
St. Vincent de Paul Collection

Sunday 4/29 Fifth Sunday Of Easter

8:00 AM PH Marriage Prep Retreat
8:45 AM R5 Faith Formation
9:30 AM R6 Children's Liturgy of the Word
11:00 AM R6 Confirmation Prep Class
4:00 PM CH Marriage Prep Retreat Mass

St. Vincent de Paul Collection
NO HOSPITALITY

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



St. Stephen annual "April Showers" drive will run through May 13. Our donations this year will support the Newborn Infant Project at the Contra Costa Regional Medical Center. A new and complete layette is provided to each mother as she takes her newborn home. The average number of babies per month is 130 but can go as high as 200! Your help will really make a difference. Questions? Call Rennett MacIntyre at 925-937-9243. Thank you for your participation.

Q: Is it proper to hold hands during the Lord's Prayer?

A: The practice of holding hands during the Our Father/The Lord's Prayer at Mass is neither allowed nor forbidden.

In the rubrics, *only* the priest and any concelebrants are to pray the Our Father with hands extended, thus *not holding hands* because the priest's hands extended is a posture that expresses the prayer directed to God by His children. In addition, the United State Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) comments that "no position is prescribed in the Roman Missal for an assembly gesture during the Lord's Prayer." However, there is no official document that explicitly forbids this practice. Thus, we should neither encourage, force, nor judge others if they do so at Mass.