

St. Stephen Catholic Church Walnut Creek, California

Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 26, 2018



PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday--Thursday 8:30 AM--4:30 PM
Office closed daily for lunch. Office closed on Friday.

Parish Office
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
Office Email: SaintStephenWC@gmail.com
Administrator Email: paulson.ctk@gmail.com

PARISH CLERGY:

FR. PAULSON MUNDANMANI Parochial Administrator
FR. MARIO RIZZO Parochial Vicar

DEACON JOHN ASHMORE Permanent Diocesan Deacon
FR. BRIAN TIMONEY Assisting Clergy

PARISH OFFICE STAFF:

ANNETTE ROUX Pastoral Associate
MARY COOK Office Manager

MARIA CALDERAZZO Director of Music Ministry
NANCY GIZDICH Bookkeeper

TODAY'S READINGS:

First Reading — The LORD, our God, protected us along our entire journey (Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b).

Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34).

Second Reading — Christ nourishes and cherishes the church because we are members of his body (Ephesians 5:21-32 [5:2a, 25-32]).

Gospel — We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God (John 6:60-69).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12; Ps 96:1-5; Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Ps 96:10-13; Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18; Ps 128:1-2, 4-5;
Mk 6:17-29

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-7; Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11;
Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13, 18-21; Mt 25:14-30

Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Ps 15:2-5; Jas 1:17-18,
21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



LITURGY SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 5:00 PM
 Sunday: 9:30 AM
 Weekdays: 7:30 AM
 Holy Days: 7:30 AM and 7:00 PM



RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 4:30 PM

BAPTISMS: Registration is mandatory two months prior to Baptism. Parents and Godparents are required to attend mandatory preparation before Baptism. Call: 925-682-2486

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 manager to make your arrangements.

REGISTRATION: New parishioners may contact the office and complete a registration form found in church. Welcome

MISSION STATEMENT: To Live and to Love in Christ

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT 8/25 5:00 Bob Walton †
 SUN 8/26 9:30 Joe & Carolina DeSouza †
 MON 8/27 7:30 †
 TUE 8/28 7:30 †
 WED 8/29 7:30 Manuel & Prudencia Rodriguest †
 THU 8/30 7:30 Int. Kathy & Joe Tavormina
 Anniversary Blessings
 FRI 8/31 7:30 Sheila Grilli †
 SAT 9/1 5:00 Carol Thornton †
 SUN 9/2 9:30 Michael Pauplis †



MINISTERS SAT/SUN SEP 1/2

MASS:	5 PM	9:30 AM
LECTORS	M. Milani	P. Reno
MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	F. McCormick* S. Karges P. Walton	Veamatahau* J. Jury P. Dempsey
SACRISTAN		M. AhYee
ALTAR SERVERS:	R. Kuca	M. Reno
COUNTERS:		
MON 8/27	P. Walton	M. Peare
TUE 9/11	J. Stark D. Mammola	C. Ellis M. Lenahan



FROM THE DESK OF THE PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR



Dear Friends,

I would like to express my deep feelings of gratitude for your prayers and good wishes. After Ireland, I travelled to India to visit family. I returned from a family event on August 15th to Carmelites of Mary Immaculate (CMI) Public School. We drove through a number of areas on the road swamped by the Chalakudy River, which was continuing to rise. The school grounds were dry and we retired to bed thinking it would never affect us. Around 3 am, my brother, Fr. Santhosh said the water is at our doorstep. Together we moved important school files containing and other critical documents to higher floors. We worked for 3-4 hours until we could do it no more. Meanwhile, about a 100 neighbors retreated into the school for safety. The school opened its doors to these hapless victims ranging from 14 days to 80 years some of whom were sick, a couple of women in their late pregnancy and others just afraid. They could bring nothing with them, as they had to wade through 4--5 feet of water which in some areas was terrifying with its strong currents.

The school kitchen was set up to serve their 2 resident priests only. The school children had brought in 25 pounds of rice each to help the flood victims in other areas. So, we survived on rice and salt for two days. The military dropped warm meals twice. We had no electricity, very little telephone coverage, and most cell phones were dead. The fear of uncertainty—not knowing what was happening around us was probably the most devastating aspect of being marooned in a great building with 8 ft to 12 ft water all around us. After two days, we were instructed to move out quickly as the water had receded and with the fear that more water could be released from multiple reservoirs. We walked a mile together with bags on our heads wading through 3--4 ft of water to safety. The elderly and sick were allowed into rescue boats. The Municipal Chairman recognized my bother and offered us priests a ride to the heart of the town and from there we managed to get a ride to a relative 8 miles away—the only place we could safely travel to. Later, we moved to the parish house and were treated with love and care. Finally, I took a shower and felt myself again.

The full enormity of the tragedy in Kerala is yet to surface but the floodwaters appear to have calmed for the time being the raging fires that had polarized the politically conscious citizens, bringing out the best in the populace. With so much of bad coverage about Catholic Church here in the US and even in my own home state of Kerala with multiple scandals raging across the population, many of which are solidly based in facts, the good news of our Catholic Churches opening its doors to victims of floods was something that warmed my heart. The parish where I was housed for a day had over 200 victims. One of the CMI institutions housed over 3000 people providing food, medicine and shelter. My own brother's school had already collected 25 pounds of good quality rice from each student to help with the rescue programs. Heart-warming tales of hospitality and compassion could be seen and heard everywhere. A college girl who sells fish on the streets to support her family and fund her education and was recently the victim of cyber bullying is among those who have dug into their savings to help fellow flood victims. A journalist who had to cancel the engagement of his daughter because of the floods, donated the entire amount he had earmarked for the event to the chief minister's relief fund. We start to forget the prejudice of caste and religion when we find our fellow being in trauma. A parish priest, who cast religious prejudices to the wind and helped a Hindu family bury their elderly father, who died at a relief camp with all religious courtesies at the church cemetery, showed such generosity.

I am happy to be back. The pain and tragedy will take a heavy toll on the people I left behind. My own brother Fr. Santhosh estimates around \$300,000 loss and is worried about how he will get the classrooms ready for school in the coming days. That is a sentiment shared by most of his colleagues in other educational institutions. Many families will have to start from scratch to build their lives. I hope and pray that the good will and compassion that people showed across caste and religion, across various political ideologies and cultural divides will continue to prevail in the days to come.

—Fr. Paulson


WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Sunday 8/26	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Monday 8/27	St. Monica, pray for us.	
8:00 AM	CH	Rosary Group
8:30 AM	RC	Counters
Tuesday 8/28	St. Augustine, pray for us.	
8:00 AM	CH	Rosary Group
8:00 AM	PH	Contra Costa Realtors in Motion
Wednesday 8/29	St. John the Baptist, pray for us.	
8:00 AM	CH	Rosary Group
9:30 AM	R5	Scripture Study
7:00 PM	PH	Movie Night "I Can Only Imagine"
Thursday 8/30	St. Jeanne Jugan, pray for us.	
8:00 AM	CH	Rosary Group
Friday 8/31	St. Joseph of Arimathea, pray for us.	
8:00 AM	CH	Rosary Group
		<i>Parish Office Closed</i>

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

ANGER'S OFFSPRING: As long as anger lives, she continues to be the fruitful mother of many unhappy children. —St. John Climacus

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

AUGUST 19, 2018	CONTRIBUTIONS	
Sunday Collection	\$3,432.00	Weekly Offering 
Assumption	\$ 525.00	
Hospitality	\$ 61.50	
Maintenance	\$ 120.00	
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 40.00	

Thank you! Your contributions are greatly appreciated.
REMEMBER ST. STEPHEN PARISH IN YOUR WILL & LIVING TRUST

Lord, my God, when your love spilled over into creation you thought of me. —Anonymous



MOVIE NIGHT
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 7 PM
ST. STEPHEN PARISH HALL
"I CAN ONLY IMAGINE"
POPCORN & ROOT BEER
FLOATS PROVIDED

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI


SAT


SEP
2018

Annette Roux is Retiring !
Join us on Sun, Sep 30 @ 5 pm in the Parish Hall
Please bring a pot-luck dinner item to share



1
11am Queen of Heaven Cemetery Mass
4:30 pm Reconciliation-CH
St. Giles, Abbot

2 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time


3 Labor Day
8 am Rosary Group

Parish Office Closed
St. Phoebe


4
8 am Rosary Group
8 am Realtors in Motion-PH
7pm Pastoral Council
St. Rosalia

5
8 am Rosary Group
9:30 am Bible Study—R5
St. Teresa of Calcuta

6
8 am Rosary Group
9:30 am Enrichment Mtg-R5
7pm Choir Rehearsal
St. Eleutherius

7 8 am Rosary Group
4pm CTK Children's Holy Hour
5pm CTK Adoration
6pm CTK First Friday Mass
Parish Office Closed
St. Cloud

8
4:30 pm Reconciliation-CH
St. Adrian

9 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time


10
8 am Rosary Group
Perform a random act of kindness for someone
St. Finian


11
8 am Rosary Group
8 am Realtors in Motion-PH
Counters: C. Ellis/D. Mammola J. Stark/M. Lenahan
7 pm SVdP-R6
St. Daniel

12
8 am Rosary Group
9:30 am Bible Study—R5
7pm Religious Ed orientation—all children & parents grades 1-5 at CTK
St. Aibhe

13
8 am Rosary Group
7pm Choir Rehearsal
St. John Chrysotom

14
8 am Rosary Group
Parish Office Closed
St. Maximilian Kolbe

15
4:30 pm Reconciliation-CH
St. Valerian

16 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Catechetical Sunday

17
8 am Rosary Group
Counters: P. Dempsey P. Walton
3:15 pm Religious Ed Monday classes begin at CTK
St. Justin

18
8 am Rosary Group
8 am Realtors in Motion-PH
12 pm Card & Game Party-PH
3:15 pm Religious Ed Tue classes begin CTK
St. Joseph/Cupertino

19
8 am Rosary Group
9:30 am Bible Study—R5
3:15 pm Religious Ed Wed classes begin CTK
St. Januarius

20
8 am Rosary Group
9:30 am Enrichment Mtg-R5
NO Choir Rehearsal
Sts. Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang & Companions

21
8 am Rosary Group
Parish Office Closed
St. Matthew, Apostle

22
4:30 pm Reconciliation-CH
St. Thomas Villanueva

23 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time


24
8 am Rosary Group
Counters: K. Coyne C. Ellis
St. Gerard Sagredo

25
8 am Rosary Group
8 am Realtors in Motion-PH
Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral
St. Finbar

26
8 am Rosary Group
9:30 am Bible Study—R5
Sts. Cosmas & Damian

27
8 am Rosary Group
NO Choir Rehearsal
St. Vincent de Paul

28
8 am Rosary Group
thank a priest
Parish Office Closed
St. Lorenzo Ruiz

29
4:30 pm Reconciliation-CH
St. Vincent de Paul Collection
Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels

30 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time
5 pm Retirement Party for Annette Roux-PH
St. Vincent de Paul Collection

IMPORTANT: Register Your Child(ren) for Religious Ed for 2018-19 ASAP @ CTK Website
<https://www.ctrreligiouseducation.org/> Questions Call Sr. Maureen Viani 925-686-1017
for 1st through 5th grades **CHOOSE CLASSES** on MON, TUE, or WED meets 3:15—5:15 PM;
7th & 8th grades **TUESDAYS** from 7—8:15 PM; for 6th grade **WEDNESDAYS** meets 7—8:15 PM
Fees: 1 child(Gr. 1-8)=\$110; 2 children(Gr. 1-8)=\$180; 3+(Gr. 1-8)=\$240; **Snack Fee** per child (Gr. 1-5)=\$20