

*St. Stephen Catholic Church  
Walnut Creek, California  
Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 2, 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** — For what great nation is there that has gods so close to it as the LORD, our God, is to us? (Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8).

**Psalms** — The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord (Psalm 15).

**Second Reading** — Religion that is pure is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction (James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27).

**Gospel** — This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me (Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23).

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** I Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119:97-102; Lk 4:16-30, or, for Labor Day, any readings from the Mass "For the Blessings of Human Labor," nos. 907-911

**Tuesday:** I Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145:8-14; Lk 4:31-37

**Wednesday:** I Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33:12-15, 20-21; Lk 4:38-44

**Thursday:** I Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24:1bc-4ab, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11

**Friday:** I Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37:3-6, 27-28, 39-40; Lk 5:33-39

**Saturday:** Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [18-23]

**Sunday:** Is 35:4-7a; Ps 146:7-10; Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37



**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	9/1	5:00	Carol Thornton †
SUN	9/2	9:30	Michael Pauplis †
MON	9/3	7:30	John Stenson †
TUE	9/4	7:30	Int. Mary & Tom Cook Anniversary Blessings
WED	9/5	7:30	†
THU	9/6	7:30	Int. Corito Saguin-Vuletick Birthday Blessings
FRI	9/7	7:30	†
SAT	9/8	5:00	Asilee Telfer †
SUN	9/9	9:30	Doug Prouty †



**MINISTERS SAT/SUN SEP 8/9**

<b>MASS:</b>	<b>5 PM</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>
<b>LECTORS</b>	G. Pauplis	J. Gotelli
<b>MINISTERS OF COMMUNION</b>	F. McCormick* S. Karges S. Kuca	J. Patel* M. Mammola P. Dempsey
<b>SACRISTAN</b>		J. Jury
<b>ALTAR SERVERS:</b>	M. Milani	A. Roux
<b>COUNTERS:</b>		
<b>TUE 9/11</b>	J. Stark D. Mammola	C. Ellis M. Lenahan



**FROM THE DESK OF THE PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR**



Dear Friends,

I would like to thank you for your continued prayers for the victims of flood in India. My brother Fr. Santhosh has been cleaning the school campus with students and teachers for the last one week and he expects to get the school ready in a couple more weeks. Many of his teachers and more especially janitorial staff have had their homes flooded. Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has said they are working with the government and other local agencies to quickly provide emergency aid to people most in need. "People here have lost everything, including their cars, their keepsakes and their clothes. Many have even had their homes washed away by landslides. Others are coming back to find their homes in complete ruin," said Jomey Joseph, CRS' head of office in Chennai (a city in neighboring Tamil Nadu formerly known as Madras), who is leading the agency's Kerala response. "People say they've never witnessed so much rain in their lifetimes. Even those families who are better off have been devastated by this disaster," he added. According to numbers reported by the BBC, the flooding has left nearly 400 people dead, and more than one million displaced, many of whom have found shelter in makeshift camps set-up for flood victims throughout the state. Many of you have asked me how to support the people of Kerala and also the Carmelite School. We will be holding a second collection on the weekend of Sep 15-16.

I am so happy that CTK School (which now is also St. Stephen school) has commenced the 2018-2019 academic year. I am happy to report that we have the best enrolment this year in the Diocese of Oakland with 316 students. We are blessed with great teachers, faculty, and leadership. Now, we turn our attention to our faith formation ministry. Fr. Mario Rizzo will lead the RCIA. Students from St. Stephen will be attending classes with CTK. Our Youth Ministry will be held in the beautiful space here at St. Stephen on Thursdays. Rick Lejano and Helen Christian and their team have been busy with Peer Leaders, and registrations. I am grateful to Sr. Maureen and her wonderful team for working hard to register the students and empower the catechists. I am truly grateful to Jeannette Holmes from St. Stephen for inviting members of CTK to join the Bible Study program at our Church. If you are a catechist and would like to continue ministering, please contact Sr. Maureen or Rick Lejano (Youth Ministry).

I cannot underscore enough the importance of family faith for life long faith formation. One of the most significant, and to many startling, findings in the National Study on Youth and Religion (NSYR) is the impact of parental faith and religiosity on the beliefs and practices of teenagers. NSYR found: "of parents who report that their faith is *extremely* important in their daily lives, 67% of their teens report that faith is extremely or very important in their daily lives; only 8% of those parents' teens report that faith is not very or not important in their lives." The opposite is also true: parents for whom faith is somewhat or not at all important have teens who believe the same thing. The importance of parental faith and practice on the lives of children and teens is clear. Grandparents and other relatives, mentors, and youth workers can be very influential as well, but normally, parents are most important in forming their children's religious and spiritual lives. (Christian Smith and Melinda Denton, Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of Teenagers)

Let us work hard as a community to celebrate religious education in the weeks and days to come. May God bless us!

—Paulson

## WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

<b>Sunday 9/2</b>	<b>22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
<b>Monday 9/3</b> 8:00 AM	<b>St. Phoebe, pray for us.</b> CH Rosary Group <i>Parish Office Closed—Labor Day</i>
<b>Tuesday 9/4</b> 8:00 AM 8:00 AM	<b>St. Rosalia, pray for us.</b> CH Rosary Group PH Contra Costa Realtors in Motion
<b>Wednesday 9/5</b>	<b>St. Teresa of Calcuta, pray for us.</b>
8:00 AM 9:30 AM 7:00 PM	CH Rosary Group R5 Scripture Study PH Movie Night "I Can Only Imagine"
<b>Thursday 9/6</b> 8:00 AM 2:30 PM	<b>St. Eleutherius, pray for us.</b> CH Rosary Group R6 St. Vincent de Paul meeting
<b>Friday 9/7</b> 8:00 AM 4:00 PM 6:00 PM	<b>St. Cloud, pray for us.</b> CH Rosary Group CTK Adoration CTK First Friday Mass <i>Parish Office Closed</i>
<b>Saturday 9/8</b> 8:00 AM	<b>St. Adrian, pray for us.</b> CH Rosary Group
<b>Sunday 9/9</b> 8:00 AM 7:00 PM	<b>23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time.</b> CH Rosary Group CTK Parent/Teen Youth Group Meeting

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

**Join us on Sun, Sep 30 @ 5 pm in the Parish Hall to celebrate ANNETTE ROUX'S RETIREMENT**  
Please bring a pot-luck dinner item.



### White Mass—Thanksgiving Mass for Healthcare Providers



**SAT. SEP 29 @ 10 AM at the Cathedral**  
All who provide healthcare services, direct & administratively, are encouraged to attend this multicultural celebration. Reception & mental health resources fair will follow.



### Blue Mass—Special Mass for Public Servants

**SUN. OCT 7 @ 10 AM at the Cathedral**  
All who provide public services are encouraged to attend this celebration especially first responders & law enforcement.

### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Parent/Teen Meeting **SUN, SEP 9 @ 7 PM @ CTK Church**  
Youth Group Begins **THU, SEP 27 @ 7 PM @ SSP Hall**  
Meets Thursdays from 7 to 8:30 PM @ St. Stephen Hall

### CONFIRMATION PREPARATION CLASS

Parent/Teen Meeting **SUN, SEP 16 @ 7 PM CTK Church**  
Classes begin **SUN, SEP 30**. Refer to website [ctkym.org](http://ctkym.org) for requirements & expectations. Questions: Rick 676-0979 or email [rlejano@ctkph.org](mailto:rlejano@ctkph.org) or visit the website: [ctkym.org](http://ctkym.org)

**A happy marriage is a union of two good forgivers.**



### 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

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP

### AUGUST 26, 2018 CONTRIBUTIONS

Sunday Collection	\$2,573.00	
Hospitality	\$ 30.85	
Maintenance	\$ 10.00	

<b>AUG</b>	<b>AUGUST SUMMARY</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$11,774.25
<b>GOAL:</b>	\$16,000.00
<b>Overage or (Shortfall)</b>	(\$ 4,225.75)

### OTHER

Assumption	\$ 548.00
Hospitality	\$ 163.35
Maintenance	\$ 246.00
Mission Coop	\$ 947.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 485.00

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

## FROM THE PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

*Thy testimonies are very sure; holiness becomes your house, O Lord, forever." Psalm 93:*

There is a definite wisdom and power in being true to one's authentic self. The noted Christian mystic Howard Thurman said that each of us should follow the grain in our own wood. Certain things reflect the true nature of who we are and other things are artificial, no matter how appropriate or appealing they may appear. Just as young David could not fight Goliath in his life with the armor of Saul, we too cannot tackle the challenges of life with tactics that alienate us from ourselves. According to the Psalmist, holiness becomes those of us who make up the household of God. Holiness is essentially the reflection of God's love in us, and as the temples of God we are called to be true to who we are. Anything other than love does not become us. Anything other than love does not fit who God has made us. Anything other than love is artificial and alien to the Spirit of God in us. 1 John 5:7-8 says it this way: *Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.* Service. Compassion. Justice. Mercy. Forgiveness. Restoration. Patience. Courage. Liberation. Friendship. Kindness. Honesty. These are all expressions of love. We look most like the sons and daughters of God that we are when we become these things. Any of these look like you?

**Prayer:** *Dear God, We love you for who you have made us. Now help us to become your love in a world that desperately needs to see who you are. Amen.*

—Annette Roux, Pastoral Associate



### "THE BIG LA BOCCE 2016!"

**Sat, Sep 22, 11 am—3 pm**

@ Martinez Bocce Federation Courts



In partnership with Loaves & Fishes provide resources for the St. Vincent de Paul Free Dining Room register at [www.svdpc-cc.org](http://www.svdpc-cc.org) or [b.hunt@svdp-cc.org](mailto:b.hunt@svdp-cc.org)