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THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT  
March 7, 2010

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Pastor: Fr. Brian T. Joyce

**Schedule of Masses During Lent:** MONDAY-FRIDAY: 6:30 and 8:00 am

Pastoral Associates: Fr. Declan Deane, Fr. Donie O'Connor, Sr. Joanne Gallagher, CSJ

SATURDAY: 8:00 am & 5:00 pm

RCIA/Small Church Community/Bereavement: Al Garrotto

SUNDAY: 7:00, 8:00, 9:15, 10:45 am; 12:15 pm

Weekend Associates: Fr. Tom Burns, Fr. Michael Dibble, Fr. Brian Timoney

**Confessions:** SATURDAY: 3:30 to 4:30 pm

Principal: Mrs. Kathy Gannon-Briggs

PARISH HOUSE TELEPHONE: 682-2486/WEBSITE: www.ctkph.org

RE Director: Sr. Maureen Viani / Associate: Joan Smits

PARISH SCHOOL TELEPHONE: 685-1109

Youth Minister: Kate Doherty / Assistant: Helen Christian

RELIGIOUS ED: 686-1017/YOUTH MINISTRY: 676-0979

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Dear Parishioners,

**To Hear the Gospel and Make a Difference** continues as our Lenten theme and parish mission statement. With this weekend's gospel featuring Jesus crossing social and cultural boundaries to speak with a Samaritan and a woman, our question is "Does Hearing the Gospel Make Us Open to Others"? May we carry that question with us all week long.

I promised an update on the "assessment" or **investigation of our American Catholic Nuns**. There have been three noticeable but not particularly promising developments. (1) At the request of many religious communities some of the items in the original questionnaire have been deleted. The deleted questions asked for a list of properties owned, a recent financial audit, the ages of each sister and a list of the ministries involved; (2) in early January Mother Mary Clare Millae, the Vatican appointee charged with conducting the "apostolic visitation" wrote to superiors asking them to comply with the overdue questionnaire, signaling that a substantial number of communities had either refused to respond or instead of answering the detailed questions had simply forwarded their complete Vatican approved bylaws; (3) In early February Cardinal Rode, ultimately responsible for the investigation, addressed religious communities as "in modern crisis"; he stated the crisis is not one of aging or declining numbers, but due to the "adoption of a secularist mentality and to abandonment of traditional practices."

In a recent interview Mother Mary Clare Millae commented that aging and numbers are not an issue. The phenomenal number of religious vocations in the middle of the last century was a blessing but also a "passing phenomenon" and actually an "aberration". Of the 420 "units" or religious communities, she hopes to make onsite visits to about 100 this spring and fall; 80 sisters have volunteered to serve as "visitors". 420 separate responses will be forwarded to Cardinal Rode; it will be up to him to share any information or not with the religious communities and to make a final response. Do keep our good sisters in faith and ministry in your thoughts and prayers.

A second item I promised to report on has been recently called the "**liturgy wars**" about which the average church going Catholic is completely unaware. Most Catholics are well aware of the liturgical reform that began after Vatican II (1962-65) to which the close unanimous support of all bishops of the world led to:

- altar turned so priests faces people
- communion distributed to standing rather than kneeling
- Latin replaced by the vernacular
- liturgy seen as linked to life and social justice
- parishioners called to participation rather than passive observing
- lectors and Eucharistic ministers multiplied and finally what Joseph Ratzinger (now Pope Benedict XVI) welcomed as "decentralization of liturgical decision making" so the main force in reform of local worship would tend to be bishops and local communities rather than Vatican authorities.

In recent years a different point of view has been given remarkable authority. First there has been a call for "**a reform of the reform**" and secondly an argument made that the Council did not represent or intend any significant change. Here are a few symptoms of the "reform to the reform";

- Pope Benedict approved regular use of the Old Latin Mass
- he distributes communion only on the tongue and to those kneeling
- translations previously approved by nation's bishops will be replaced by Vatican controlled texts.

Fr. Ansgar Chapungo may not be a household name but this internationally known liturgical scholar commands respect among his peers. So when he called recent liturgical decisions as "an attempt to put the clock back a half a century" and criticized as mere nostalgia and "a romantic attachment to the past without serious study", liturgists around the world took note. Here at Christ the King our own experience of the "liturgy wars" will come with new translations tangling our tongues by Advent of 2011.

Your Pastor,



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**WEEK AT A GLANCE****SUNDAY**

- Third Sunday of Lent** / Second Collection for School, RE and Youth Ministry
- CTK 55+, Breakfast at Mimi's Café (1631 Willow Pass Rd., Concord), RSVP Brenda 925-687-1259 by March 6<sup>th</sup>.
- RE Program for 3 year olds (A), Room D, During 9:15 Mass
- RE PreK/K: PreK Program, Parish Hall, A, B: RE K Program, CTK School, During 9:15 Mass
- CLOW (Children's Liturgy of the Word-Grades 1-5), During 9:15 Mass
- Jr/Sr Confirmation, Parish Hall, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm / Youth Group, Parish Hall, 7-9 pm
- Taize Prayer Around the Cross, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (1601 Mary Dr.) 7 pm

**MONDAY**

- Older Sacrament Grades 3-5, Parish Hall, 4-5:30 pm
- Bible Study for Men and Women, Parish Hall, 8:30am-10:30am, (Questions? call Kathy at 280-9748)
- H.E.L.P., Mental Health Support Group Meeting, Change of location: Parish Hall, 7-9 pm**  
(Questions? Pam/Joe Appel @ 947-0269)

**TUESDAY**

- Legion of Mary, Ministry Center, Following 8 am Mass
- MOMS' Support Group, Ministry Center (Dining Room, Library, Chapel), 9:30 am
- RE Grades 1-5; Grades 1-3, School, 3:40-5:00 pm; Grades 4 & 5, Parish Hall, A, B, D, 3:40-5:00 pm
- RE Grades 7/8, Parish Hall, 7:00-8:15 pm
- Rosary & Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion, CV Meeting Room, 7 pm, Contact Andy @ 229-3038
- Spanish Prayer Grp, CV Mtng Room, 7:30 pm / Knights of Columbus, Ministry Center (Chapel), 7:30 pm
- RE Grades 1-5; Grades 1-3, School, 3:40-5:00 pm; Grades 4 & 5, Parish Hall, A, B, D, 3:40-5:00 pm
- RE Grade 6, Parish Hall, 7:00 pm

**WEDNESDAY**

- Extended RCIA, Ministry Center (Dining Room), 7:00 pm
- Centering Prayer, Resurrection Episcopal Church (399 Gregory Lane), 7:30 pm

**THURSDAY**

- Centering Prayer, Ministry Center, 10:00 am
- Staff Meeting, Parish House, 10:30 am
- RE Grades 1-5; Grades 1-3, School, 3:40-5:00 pm; Grades 4 & 5, Parish Hall, A, B, D, 3:40-5:00
- Job Networking Ministry, I Just Lost My Job – Praise the Lord!** with Gene Nokes, 6:30-7:00 pm  
**networking, 7:00-8:30 pm presentation, Parish Hall**
- Adult Education Meeting, Parish House, 7:00 pm
- RE Reconciliation 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, Church, 7:00 pm

**FRIDAY**

- RCIA, Ministry Center (Chapel), 7:00 pm, contact: Al Garrotto @ 252-1008 or [algarrotto@comcast.net](mailto:algarrotto@comcast.net)
- Garden Café, Ministry Center (Chapel), 7:30-9:30 am, Proceeds go to the nurturing and growing of the CTK Garden
- Blessing of CTK Prayer Garden, 8:30 am
- Simple Soup Meal, Parish Hall, 6:45 pm; Ad Ed: "Bishop as Prophet" with USF President Stephen Privett, Church, 7:30 pm**

**SATURDAY**

- Men's Fellowship Group, Ministry Center (Chapel), 7:30-8:30 am, contact John @ 372-7873
- Altar Society Meeting, Rooms A & B (next to Parish Hall), Following 8am Mass
- St. Patrick's Day Dinner/Dance, Gym, 6:00 pm

**SUNDAY**

- Fourth Sunday of Lent**
- RE Program for 3 year olds (B), Room D, During 9:15 Mass
- RE PreK/K: PreK Program, Parish Hall, A, B: RE K Program, CTK School, During 9:15 Mass
- CLOW (Children's Liturgy of the Word-Grades 1-5), During 9:15 Mass
- Youth Group, Parish Hall, 7-9 pm

**Christ the King's Girls Scouts** will be selling cookies after all masses this weekend. Be sure to stock up for alter Lent. Take home an extra box for the freezer! A portion of the proceeds goes to support the Girl Scouts as well as to help each troop's fundraising and community service activities. Thanks for your support!

**Christ the King Parish Festival, May 14-16<sup>th</sup>.** Save the date! Look for more info in next week's bulletin

**Christ the King Parish Auction 2010** – ►Have you marked your calendar for Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 pm? Don't miss an evening of dinner, dancing and philanthropy. **Tickets sales are this Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup> after 9:15 Mass.** Buy a table for ten at \$550 or \$65 for single ticket purchases.

►The month of March is all about procuring items! Have a vacation home you would offer for a weekend get-away? Sports tickets? Services to offer? Donation forms are available in the school office, back of the church, RE office, parish House or on the auction website. New to the website...make cash donation online!

►Volunteers are needed, please contact Rachel Cheshareck at [chezr@yahoo.com](mailto:chezr@yahoo.com) or 370-7375. Visit our website for more information [www.ctkauction.org](http://www.ctkauction.org) and go to Facebook and become a fan of Christ the King Auction [www.facebook.com/CTKAuction](http://www.facebook.com/CTKAuction).

## **Soup and Adult Learning**

Join us this Friday for Soup at 6:45 pm

Adult Learning (in Church) at 7:30 pm

### **Lent a Time for Prophets**

This week “a Bishop as Prophet” with USF President Stephen Privett

Fr. Privett President of the University of San Francisco since 2000 has recently accepted an offer for a third five year term.



**Fr. Stephen Privett,**  
President USF

An accomplished Catholic scholar and theologian and a gifted public speaker, Father Privett is active in local and national organizations such as the Commonwealth Club of California and the Washington based American Council on Education and Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities.

With “Bishop as Prophet” Fr. Privett will share the story of Oscar Romero, a Prophet for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### **Archbishop Oscar Romero**

This year we observe the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the March 24<sup>th</sup> assassination of Oscar Romero



In 1980 in the midst of the U.S. funded war which the UN called genocidal, the soon to be assassinated Archbishop promised that life would have the last word. “I do not believe in death without resurrection” he said. “If they kill me, I will be resurrected in the Salvadoran people.” Romero’s greatest helplessness was that he could not stop the violence. Addressing a packed country church he stood by the funeral of the first priest he had ordained, surrounded by peasant farmers facing terror. Within the next year some 200 catechists and farmers who were there with him were killed. Over 75,000 Salvadorans would be killed and one million would flee the country and another million left hiding and homeless – this in a country of only 5.5 million. Amidst and risking violence he wrote to President Jimmy Carter pleading with him to cease sending military aid because “it is being used to repress my people”. Shortly after he was shot down at the altar as he celebrated mass but not before saying “You can tell the people that if they succeed in killing me, that I forgive and bless those who do it. Hopefully, they will realize they are wasting their time. A bishop will die, but the church of God, which is the people, will never perish.”