

CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH



Mission Statement:

Corpus Christi is a welcoming Catholic community grounded in Faith, nourished by the Eucharist, and dedicated to stewardship and service.

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Leo J. Edgerly, Jr., Pastor
Fr. Basil De Pinto,
In Residence
Michael Sahlman,
School Principal
Joseph Hébert,
Music Ministry Director
Claire Chaix, *Accompanist*

Catherine Holcombe,
Youth Ministry & Confirmation
Rebecca Pelle,
First Communion Coordinator
Judith Hilgert,
Business Manager
Gail Van Deusen,
Bulletin Editor/Parish Office
Karyn Caruso,
Communications

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil ~ 5 p.m.
Sunday ~ 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Monday ~ Saturday, 8 a.m.
Holy Days ~ 8 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday ~ 4:00-4:45 p.m.
or by appointment

BAPTISMS

Classes required for parents.
For information, call Parish Office.

MARRIAGES

By appointment, at least six
months in advance.

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www.corpuschristipiedmont.org



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The Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2021

All you who are thirsty, come to the water!

-- Isaiah 55:1



Please remember the sick in our Parish, especially Peter Heymans, Pamela M., Kerrie R., Sr. Marti McCarthy, SSS, Rita Jurin, Maradee Davis, Jim Faison, Rita Jackson, Julia, Helen Roberts, Michael Echaniz, Tina Chaix, Samantha Winterer, Michael Kluziski, Sebastian Romeo, Louise Ahern, Paul Cummings, Laura Pierce, Cora Rose, Tom Reid, Alexis Walker, Michael Bozman and Dori McGee-Lundy.

Weekly Collection	
Plate December 20, 2020	\$8,636.67
Plate January 3, 2021	\$9,232.00
Christmas	\$68,980.00

2020 Contributions

The 2020 contribution records will be available at the end of this month. They are scheduled to be mailed to parishioners who contributed \$250.00 or more during 2020. If you did not contribute \$250.00 and would like to receive a statement, please call the Parish Office and request a copy. Thank You!



The Waters of Baptism!

When new sod is put in, it needs constant saturation with water. Landscapers say that this "knits" the sod to the soil. The same when a branch is grafted onto a tree: the poultice that joins them at the splice must be kept wet at all times. Water is the stuff that binds the very cells of our bodies together. No wonder religions throughout all times and cultures have used it so prominently. When Jesus stepped into the Jordan for baptism, he "knit" himself to what had come before him. By going to the Jordan, he made himself one with the people of Israel who had crossed it into their Promised Land. With John the Baptist, Christ wove himself into the prophetic tradition that heralded the coming reign of God. He had become fully human in the waters of Mary's womb, and by partaking in the rite of the baptism of repentance, Jesus identified himself with our sinful, frail humanity. It is through the waters of baptism that Christ continues to graft new members onto his Body, the Church; through these waters we are cleansed from sin and filled with the promise of grace, given our destiny for eternal life. For us, as for Jesus, it is also the waters of baptism that inaugurate our mission to proclaim the Good News.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It was once customary to speak of a "new year of grace." Well, 2020 was not full of grace and at the moment 2021 is looking very chancy: the Covid virus is surging due to holiday excess or carelessness and even a new administration in Washington has us keeping our fingers crossed.

But as believers in our God and in the grace of Christ we have a vision of the world and of life that refuses to waver in the face of adversity. The sainted Pope John XXIII said that he was undaunted by those who wallowed in doom and gloom and so he launched the Second Vatican Council, the most important event in 400 years of church history. Our own Pope Francis continues to offer hope and encouragement to his people in spite of opposition and naysaying.

The Christmas season in our parish was marked by beautiful signs of generosity and good will. We all missed coming together in large family gatherings and in church. But we did have the blessing of "virtual" liturgies on line and many of you told us how much they meant and what they contributed to the reality of celebrating the Lord's birth.

We cannot and must not let down our guard in following the protocols that keep us safe from the virus and from spreading it to others. The next few months may see more infection and death but with the spread of vaccines there should be a gradual lessening of danger and a surge in good health for all.

More than anything else we live in hope, as we put our trust on the word of our Lord: Behold, I make all things new.

Fr. Basil

My heartfelt thanks to all who sent cards and gifts this Christmas. May God reward you richly for your kindly love.

Fr. Basil

Father Basil's memoir "Wonder" is available from Amazon books at the outrageous price of \$0.99. Buyer beware!





Treasures From Our Tradition!

In the 1560s, the Council of Trent attempted to standardize the widely variant customs for the pastoral care of the sick and dying. We had inherited a practice called "extreme unction," from the Latin words meaning anointing at the point of death. The deeper tradition, however, is about the prayer of faith that will heal and restore the sick person, and is straight from the Letter of James. The Fathers went back to the beginning, and while not discarding the "extreme unction" name, made a plea for the proper use of this sacrament. As soon as a person is in danger of death from sickness or old age, they reasoned, the time for the sacrament had already arrived.

As a result of this desire, the next ritual text for anointing contained an innovation: a rite for visiting the sick that included readings from scripture, psalms and prayers. Old customs fade slowly, however, and the quality of pastoral care languished for centuries while people delayed the celebration of a consoling and effective sacrament, sometimes missing the opportunity completely. A priest ministering to a dying and unconscious patient alone in a room has never been the desire of the Church. Our tradition is far too rich for this sacrament to be celebrated in such a diminished and ungenerous manner.

Today's Readings!

First Reading -- Behold my servant with whom I am pleased; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7).

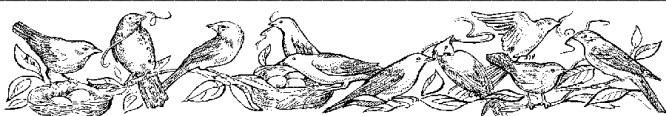
Psalms -- The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29).

Second Reading -- God anointed him with the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:34-38).

Gospel -- You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased (Mark 1:7-11).

An Ancient Baptistery!

One of the most ancient and enduring sites for baptism in Rome is the church of San Giovanni in Fonte. This church is in fact a baptistery, and houses the font for the Lateran Basilica, the cathedral of Rome. The Emperor Constantine sponsored its construction in the year 315, and it is therefore the oldest baptistery in the world. It is the model for nearly all later baptisteries, including perhaps the font in your own parish church.



Readings For The Week January 11th -- 16th

Monday: First Reading Hebrews 1:1-6;
Psalm 97;
Gospel Mark 1:14-20

Tuesday: First Reading Hebrews 2:5-12;
Psalm 8;
Gospel Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday: First Reading Hebrews 2:14-18;
Psalm 105;
Gospel Mark 1:29-39

Thursday: First Reading Hebrews 3:7-14;
Psalm 95;
Gospel Mark 1:40-45

Friday: First Reading Hebrews 4:1-5, 11;
Psalm 78;
Gospel Mark 2:1-12

Saturday: First Reading Hebrews 4:12-16;
Psalm 19;
Gospel Mark 2:13-17

Christmas Giving Tree Plan For 2020!

Outreach changed our usual Giving Tree on Christmas! No one likes change But, because of the very real threat of the coronavirus, we were not able to collect physical gifts as we have always done.

The safest way to support our traditional charities is to send gifts in the form of checks or gift cards to those groups who provide help to our most vulnerable neighbors. It is especially important due to the loss of income suffered by so many because of lay-offs and business closures. Please be as generous as you can! This is a gift giving emergency like none other that we have experienced since the pandemic of 1918.

Here are the names and addresses:

Peter Brown at Catholic Worker
P.O. Box 19277, Oakland 94619

J.C. Orton at Catholic Worker, Night on the Streets
P.O. Box 11312, Berkeley 94712

Alameda County Food Bank
7900 Edgewater Dr., Oakland 94609

Community Education Partners
2809 McClure St., Oakland 94609

Ariana at Elizabeth House
6423 Colby St., Oakland 904618

Julie Merrill at St. Mary's Center
925 Brockhurst St., Oakland 94608

John Sterns at St. Vincent de Paul
675 -- 23rd St., Oakland 94512