

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.

322 St. James Drive
Piedmont, CA 94611

tel: 510.530.4343 fax: 510.530.6824

www.corpuschristipiedmont.org

We have found
the Messiah



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 17, 2021

Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you.

-- 1 Corinthians 6:19a



Please remember the sick in our Parish, especially Peggy Delson, Isabel Canlas, 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
January 10, 2021	\$8,047.00

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!

Watching for the Messiah!

Today's Gospel story of John and his disciples seeing and following Jesus sounds so simple and casual. It's easy to miss the significant acts of faith that are made. John points to Jesus: "Look," he says, "there is the Lamb of God." John's faith in Jesus is evident, so evident that John's disciples immediately leave his side to follow this Jesus. The two disciples make their own act of faith. They follow Jesus, spend time with him and are quick to spread the good news of their discovery: "We have found the Messiah."

It is easy to forget that the expectations of generations, the hopes of many ages of faithful people were being fulfilled in these simple acts of faith. The Lamb of God, the Messiah, foretold by the prophets, had finally come. Nearly everyone among the Jewish people was watching for the Messiah back then; who in our own society watches for signs of the presence of the Messiah today?

From
Father Leo



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The gospel readings that we hear at Mass are repeated every three years. The cycle begins with Matthew (Year A), followed by Mark (Year B) and concludes with Luke (Year C). Because these three gospels share a similar theme and structure, they are known as the synoptic gospels.

The Gospel of John stands alone because it is primarily theological treatise on the nature of Jesus. We read from his gospel during the Christmas and Easter Seasons.

During the majority of this year, the gospel reading we will hear at Mass will come to us from the evangelist Mark. Although it is listed second in the canon of gospels, scripture scholars believe that Mark's gospel was written first. It is the shortest of the gospels and focuses exclusively on Jesus' public ministry. Two-thirds of Mark's gospel gives us a detailed accounting of our Lord's passion and death.

The theme of the good news according to Mark is very clear. The price that Jesus had to pay to be our Messiah included suffering and death. The call to discipleship requires us to accept a similar cross of self-sacrifice.

The hard-edged words of Mark don't sit well with many of us today. We prefer to reflect on more pleasant aspects of the good news. But the truth of Mark's message should not be denied or ignored. To try to live and love as Jesus lived and loved will sometimes lead to pain and suffering.

During this year, we will have ample time to reflect on Mark's hard truth, but we need not feel depressed. His accounting of the Messiah's mission of salvation ends happily. The moral of Mark's gospel is clear: if we follow Jesus to the end of our days, resurrection and not death will be our reward. Now that's **GOOD NEWS!**

Love, Fr. Leo

Today's Readings!

First Reading -- Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening (1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19).

Psalms -- Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will (Psalm 40).

Second Reading -- Your bodies are members of Christ; glorify God in your body (1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20).

Gospel -- The first disciples saw where Jesus was staying and they stayed with him (John 1:35-42).

Treasures From Our Tradition!

Old customs fade slowly, and in 1560 the Council of Trent tried for significant change in pastoral care of the sick. People resisted, thinking that the last breath was the right time for the sacrament. Although physical improvement was often noted after anointing, it was seen as a kind of bonus, rather than an expected outcome of a prayer for good health, strength, patience and even healing. More than four hundred years later, many people still do not ask for anointing until it is literally too late for the person to have reasonable hope of healing or at least be aware enough to participate in the ritual. By then, it may even be too late for viaticum, the true "last rite."

We have a treasure in our tradition that we seem reluctant to use. We visit the sick, we anoint those who are in the first crisis of illness, we give Communion to those who are dying, and we keep vigil and pray for those close to death. When anointing is celebrated early enough, optimally when the sick person is still at Sunday Mass, it can be a source of courage, faith and hope for a difficult road ahead. When we anoint our sick, we remind them that they belong to Christ and a community of faith. We bring them into the presence of Christ to reconcile, heal, and give strength and hope. We resist forces that isolate and alienate the sick; the symbol of touch is a powerful act of acceptance. Why wait until the crisis of illness is dire before we apply such a rich remedy to body and soul?

Every year, close to the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul on January 25th, and before the feast of the Chair of St. Peter on February 22nd, the cause of Church unity is commended to Christians everywhere. Sadly, Protestants, Orthodox and Catholics have settled to a status quo of separation. When baptized people become Catholic, we speak of them as being received into "full communion." That means we already share a communion in faith in many ways, including the Word of God. Many Protestant denominations have received and revised the three-year cycle of readings first arranged by Catholics in the early 1970s. Therefore, many of your neighbors who are not Catholic are celebrating and reflecting on the same readings we are savoring on most Sundays of the year. This makes for a new spirit of cooperation among preachers of the gospel; and gives hope that the cause of reunion, desired by Christ, has great vitality at the table of God's Word and will one day lead to unity at the table of the Lord's Body and Blood.

A Prayer to the Spirit!

Spirit of Jesus,
poured out in flames of fire upon your disciples
on the day of Pentecost,
we pray to you:
Set afire the hearts of your faithful
so that they will announce
in all the languages of the world
the wonders of the salvation of God.

Readings For The Week January 18th -- 23rd

Monday: First Reading Hebrews 5:1-10;
Psalm 110;
Gospel Mark 2:18-22

Tuesday: First Reading Hebrews 6:10-20;
Psalm 111;
Gospel Mark 2:23-28

Wednesday: First Reading Hebrews 7:1-3, 15-17;
Psalm 110;
Gospel Mark 3:1-6

Thursday: First Reading Hebrews 7:25—8:6;
Psalm 40;
Gospel Mark 3:7-12

Friday: First Reading Hebrews 8:6-13;
Psalm 85;
Gospel Mark 3:13-19

Saturday: First Reading Hebrews 9:2-3, 11-14;
Psalm 47;
Gospel Mark 3:20-21

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 94618

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

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