

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.

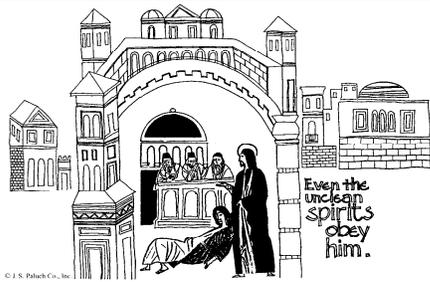
MARRIAGES

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



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 31, 2021

Come, let us bow down in worship;
let us kneel before the Lord who made us.

-- Psalm 95:6



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 24, 2021	\$7,606.00

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!

Authority From God!

According to Moses, the people decided they didn't want to hear God's voice directly any more. It was much too frightening. Why couldn't God send human teachers, prophets, instead? God agreed, but with a warning. The people had better listen to those teachers because they spoke in God's name.

That arrangement, though, had its own problems, for them and for us. How do I know this teacher is truly from God? And if the teacher is from God, are all parts of the teaching meant for me? We have the Church and scripture to help us with those questions, but still there are always a few loose ends.

That is the powerful significance of the sentence in today's Gospel: "The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes." The people knew that this Jesus was authentic -- truly a teacher sent by God. They knew it by hearing him.



From My Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Father Leo



I want to try to explain to you how my discussions with Sister Sandra Schneiders, I.H.M. and Fr. Kenan Osbourne, O.F.M., together with the article written by Fr. Raymond Brown, S.S. changed my understanding of Jesus' self-knowledge.

Let me begin by saying that you and I live two thousand years after the fact. By that I mean: when we look at the person of Jesus, we view Him through the lenses of a theology developed over the past two millennium. Our image of our Lord is of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. The language that we use to describe Him reflects our Trinitarian understanding of Him. So, when I asked the question: when did Jesus realize that He was God, what I was really asking was: when did Jesus realize that He was the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity?

The question that I should have asked is this: did Jesus know that His relationship with the Father was unique? The emphatic answer of the New Testament is YES! He had an intuitive self-understanding that we later described in theological terms. Our conception of the Trinity does not fully capture the mystery of the relationship between the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We are limited by our terminology and our inability to comprehend the incomprehensible.

If you would like to learn more about this topic, please give me a call.

Love, Fr. Leo

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Today's Readings!



First Reading -- Moses spoke to all the people, saying: "A prophet like me will the Lord, your God, raise up for you" (Deuteronomy 18:15-20).

Psalm -- If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).

Second Reading -- Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties (1 Corinthians 7:32-35).

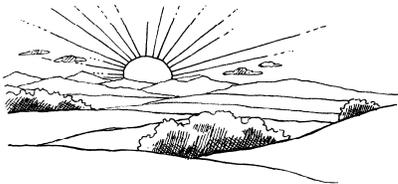
Gospel -- The people were astonished at Jesus' teaching (Mark 1:21-28).

Treasures From Our Tradition!

The Oil of the Sick, usually labeled OI (for *Oleum Infirmarum*), is often reserved with chrism and the oil of catechumens in an ambry. An ambry is a cabinet, often beautifully ornamented and kept near the baptistery in the church. Olive oil, with no fragrance added, is blessed at the Chrism Mass in Holy Week by the bishop, although there is now a provision for a priest to bless oil if none is available. This restores to our Latin Rite practice a tradition never lost in the Eastern tradition, in which priests consecrate the oil of the sick, even at the sick person's home. Any vegetable oil may be used now, since olive oil is difficult to obtain in some places. Many priests keep a small supply of oil close at hand in a small metal tube called a "stock."

In the former rite, every sense of the body was anointed, accompanied by a prayer for forgiveness of sin. So, the eyes, ears, nostrils, mouth, hands and feet were all touched. Today, this is simplified to an anointing of the forehead and the hands, but generally today the oil is used more lavishly, and the symbolism of touch so central to the rite is enhanced. Often a priest will invite everyone present to join in the "laying on of hands." Sick persons are often pushed aside or feared in our culture, and to be reverently touched in love can be a profound experience of God's healing, forgiving, accepting presence through the ministry of the Church.

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False Prophets, True Prophets!



For Deuteronomy today, we hear that God's very words will fill the mouth of a true prophet, but a false prophet will, in a manner of speaking, put mere mortal words into God's mouth. In Mark's Gospel, we see Jesus teaching and healing as a true prophet, one filled with the authority of God's own voice, the Holy One of God.

The whole history of our church is filled with both true and false prophets. But in today's Gospel, we learn that Jesus' fame spread because he taught with authority; he wasn't an authority because he was popular or famous. We also learn from him, in his desert temptation confrontations with Satan, that anyone can quote scripture, even against God's purposes. And today we hear that his authority was not like that of the scribes, who held the official positions of religious authority in his day. Our work is to do our best to discern the true prophets in our midst, and to be true prophets as well. The psalmist tells us how to do this: by not hardening our hearts when God speaks. If we truly listen to God, it will be God's very words filling our mouths.

Readings For The Week February 1st -- 6th

Monday: First Reading Hebrews 11:32-40;
Psalm 31;
Gospel Mark 5:1-20

Tuesday: First Reading Malachi 3:1-4;
Psalm 24;
Second Reading Hebrews 2:14-18;
Gospel Luke 2:22-40

Wednesday: First Reading Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15;
Psalm 103;
Gospel Mark 6:1-6

Thursday: First Reading Hebrews 12:18-19, 21-24;
Psalm 48;
Gospel Mark 6:7-13

Friday: First Reading Hebrews 13:1-8;
Psalm 27;
Gospel Mark 6:14-29

Saturday: First Reading Hebrews 13:15-17, 20-21;
Psalm 23;
Gospel Mark 6:30-34

There's Still Time!

There is still time to make a donation by sending 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. Thank You for your help!

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

Take Note!

Please **do not** drop off any items of clothing, etc. at the Parish Office or Rectory. We have no way of disposing of these items, especially during the pandemic!