

Christ Child Catholic Church
***Dedicated to Growth in Christ and to the
Challenges of Loving Services***

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**PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S
PASSION**
March 20, 2016

What's God doing on a Cross?

According to the Gospel story, those who passed by Jesus on the cross at the top of the hill of Golgotha ridiculed him, laughing at his powerlessness. They tell him: "If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." Jesus doesn't answer their provocation. His answer is a silence full of mystery. It's precisely since he is the Son of God that he will remain on the cross until death.

Questions are inevitable: How is it possible to believe in a God who is crucified for us human beings? Do we realize what we're saying? What's God doing on a cross? How can a religion founded on such an absurd of God survive?

A "crucified God" constitutes a revolution and a scandal that obliges us to question all the ideas we humans make about a God that we supposedly know. The Crucified doesn't have the face or the appearance that religions attribute to the Supreme Being.

The "crucified God" isn't an almighty and majestic being, unchangeable and happy, far

from human suffering, but a powerless and humiliated God who suffers the pain, the anguish, and even the same death as we do. With the Cross, either our faith in God ends, or we open ourselves to a new and surprising understanding of a God who is incarnate in our suffering and who loves us in an incredible way.

In the face of the **Crucified**, we begin to intuit that God, in God's ultimate mystery, is someone who suffers with us. Our misery effects God. Our suffering washes over God. There doesn't exist a God whose life passes, as it were, outside the margins of our pains, tears and misfortunes.

God is in all the Calvaries of our world. This "crucified God" won't permit a frivolous and selfish faith in an almighty God who serves our fickleness and pretensions.

This God puts us face to face with the suffering, abandonment, and helplessness of so many victims of injustice and misfortune. We meet this God when we come close to the suffering of any crucified person.

We Christian put ourselves through all kinds of twists and turns to avoid running into the "crucified God." We have learned to even raise our eyes toward the Lord's Cross, blocking our sight from seeing those who are crucified right before our eyes. However the most authentic way to celebrate the Lord's Passion is to **revive our compassion.**

Without this, our faith in the "crucified God" gets watered down and the door gets opened to all kinds of manipulations. May our kissing of Jesus on the Cross place us always in sight of those, near or far, **who are suffering.**

José Antonio Pagola

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By request or appointment
BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS
Call the office for an appointment.

Anointing of the Sick

Celebrated biannually at Mass or individually by appointment.

For Pregnancy Support:

Birthright 241-8444 or 800-550-4900

Prayer Group in the Parish

Every Tuesday at 8:15 am. All Women and All Men.

MASS INTENTIONS March 19 - 25

Saturday 5:00 p.m. The Shapiro Family
Sunday 10:00 a.m. Virginia Stehly
Tuesday 9:00 a.m. The Moran Family
Wednesday 8:00 a.m. Parishioners
Thursday 7:00 p.m. Kirkham Family

TREASURY REPORT SUNDAY

March 12 & 13, 2016

Plate.....	\$ 598.00
EFT.....	\$ 565.00
Total	\$ 1,163.00

Thank you and God the Father Bless you!

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)

Tuesday of Holy Week March 22 7:00 – 8:00 PM
& Holy Thursday March 24 11:00 – 12:00 Noon

Stations of the Cross

Good Friday, March 25 the Stations of the Cross at 12 Noon, we invited the people of the Mountain Bible Church to come; the prayers will be on the Parish grounds if the weather permits.

Good Friday is a day of universal fast and abstinence in the Church!

The 8th Annual Blessing of the Hot Rods
(Because insurance isn't always enough!)

Free Admission.

**Hot Rods – Classic Cars –
Custom Cars – Muscle Cars
Saturday May 21st 2016
10am to 3 pm**

**For more information contact
408.315.7662**

2016 Bishop's Annual Ministries Appeal

Since every parishioner is a member of **Diocese of Monterey**, every household is encouraged to support the work of our diocese by participating in this appeal. No gift is too small!!!

HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2016

Holy Thursday March 24th

7:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper with Washing of Feet followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
March 25th 7:00 pm

Celebration of the Passion of Our Lord

Holy Saturday Night:

**The Great Vigil of Easter March 26th at
8 pm**

Easter Sunday March 27th

**Sunrise Service with Mountain Bible
Church at the Gazebo – 7 am**

**MASS OF RESURRECTION OF THE
LORD AT 10 am.**

**After Mass there will be an Egg Hunt in
the Church grounds!**