

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

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**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN**  
**ORDINARY TIME**  
**October 16, 2016**

**Gideon's experiment with prayer**

Many years ago a man named Dalton suggested that the prayer of petition should be put to the test. One-half of England, he said, should pray for rain and then compare the rainfall with the other half who did not pray for rain. He was not, in fact, the first believer with a flair for experimentation. In the Book of Judges, Gideon said to God, "If you really mean to deliver Israel by my hand, as you have declared, see now, I spread out a fleece. If there is dew only on the fleece and all the ground is left dry, then I shall know." Gideon had the mind of a true experimenter. The following night he reversed his experiment to test God a second time. He prayed, "Do not be angry with me if I speak once again... Let the fleece alone be dry, and let there be dew on the ground all around it" (Judges 6:36-40).

Prayer isn't just a way of getting what we want, but some people go to the opposite extreme of never asking God for anything

(while having no problem with the prayer of praise, thanks, and so on.)

If it makes sense to thank God for something, it must make sense to ask God for it and to persevere in that prayer as Jesus proposes in today's Gospel.

Today's readings are mainly about prayer – perseverance in prayer, constancy in prayer and trust in God as we pray.

They are also about the Trust worthiness and Justice of God, a Justice that reaches out to the poor and the weak, enabling them to fight against injustice.

In the first reading, Moses, after sending Joshua to fight against Amalek, is presented as making tireless intercession with constancy for the victory of Israel's army.

Both Moses and the widow in today's Gospel story teach us how we should pray.

In the second reading, St. Paul instructs Timothy to persevere in his ministry, to proclaim the word of God with persistence in all circumstances and to use it to "*correct, reprove and appeal with patience.*"

By introducing the parable of the unjust judge and the persistent widow in today's Gospel, Jesus emphasizes the "*necessity of praying always and not losing heart.*"

Constancy in prayer is Faith in action. Jesus presents the widow in today's Gospel as a model of the trust and tenacity with which his disciples are to pray. The widow was asking for something which God would certainly want for her – justice.

**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 call for an appointment

**For Pregnancy Support**

Birthright 241-8444 or 800-550-4900

**Prayer Group**

Every Tuesday's at 8:15 am. All Women & All Men Welcome!

**MASS INTENTIONS October 15 – 21**

**Saturday 5:00 p.m. Schaner Family**

**Sunday 10:00 a.m. Herb & Chris Curran**

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Teresa Dunajski

Thursday 8:00 a.m. + Harry Furlong

Friday 8:00 a.m. + Dennis Stacey

**NEXT Sunday October 23**

**WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**

2016 World Mission Sunday Appeal

A Sunday to be Merciful to the Whole World...

Your prayers and generous support offered to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith on World Mission Sunday directly benefits the mission Church – places like Mongolia and Zambia, Papua New guinea and Indonesia, where young churches are growing, filled with zeal for the faith, but lacking resources for its outreach to families and those in need.

It's our world on mission. And through your prayers and assistance on World Mission, you too are "on mission" – supporting the loving services offered to the poor half a world away by priests, religious and lay leaders. **Thank you!**

**13<sup>th</sup> Annual Giving at Greenfield**

It is a holiday tradition for the Christ Child parish to adopt 58 families from Greenfield community.

We will have the family information available after Mass on Nov. 5 & 6 and next Sundays.

Contact Karen if you have questions-

408 375-0984

Thanks, Karen

**Monte Carlo Night: Saturday, November 12**

**Come join us for St. Lucy's Parish Monte Carlo night of fun!**

Play for Fun and Prizes... Games, Prize Baskets & Silent Auctions!

Date: **Saturday Nov 12 6:30- 10pm**

**Admission Ticket sales now open! \$35** includes food & 1<sup>st</sup> drink, plus \$200 worth of chips. \$25 bonus for advance tickets purchased online!

[www.birthright.support](http://www.birthright.support) or at Birthright office

1210 S. Bascom Ave. Suite 129

San Jose, California 95128.

Tickets sales now open!

\*\*Proceeds to benefit Birthright of San Jose, Knights of Columbus and St. Lucy Parish.

Can't attend or want to highlight your business?

Table sponsorship can be purchased online for \$50.

**ATTENTION FAITH**

**FORMATION CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

We would like to remind you that Faith Formation classes began last Sunday.

Please bring your children!

The classes for Grades 1 to 8 Every Sunday @ 9:00 a.m.

**Grades 9 -11**

**Formation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.**

**Please contact Herb Curran and Fr. Eugenio**

**Are you an Adult?** And would like to be Catholic, be confirmed or receive the Eucharist? Please call at 408. 353.2210. We would be delighted to help you! Fr. Eugenio

**Christ Child Coat Drive Has Begun!!!**

**ASK your friends and neighbors if they have gently used coats, jackets, and parkas (all sizes) for donation. The donation box is in the church foyer. Thank you.**

**Questions? Contact Joe or Andrea Bruna 353-3101**