

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

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
April 2, 2017

The motives behind the miracle

According to John, the raising of Lazarus is the sixth of seven signs. It is the longest single narrative/story in the four Gospels, covering 45 verses. It is also Jesus' last public appearance before His Passion and death. In addition, it is the last and greatest of the miracles worked by our Lord to demonstrate that he is the Messiah, the Christ, the Son of God, and that through Faith in him believers will receive eternal life. In others words, Jesus wanted to make this, his last recorded miracle, a convincing demonstration that he is what he claims to be – the Messiah, sent by God to give new life, eternal life, to mankind. As this miracle took place a few miles from Jerusalem, Jesus also knew it would give his enemies the impulse and motivation to carry out his condemnation death by crucifixion, which was the “debt”, he, “the suffering servant” of God, was to pay for the sins of mankind. Jesus explains the *why* of this miracle as, “It is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” First, when Jesus brings Lazarus back to life, people will give God glory for the miracle. Second, in this Gospel, Jesus’ glorification involves the cross, and verses 45-53 make it clear that Lazarus rising will lead to Jesus’ death and Resurrection. This is another way of saying that

Jesus’ death on the cross will lead to his glorification. This miracle story, taking place as Jesus is on his final journey to Jerusalem, prepares us for his death and Resurrection. The story is presented in five distinct, self-contained scenes: Jesus receiving the news of Lazarus’ death, the disciples’ protesting Jesus’ return to Judea, Martha’s pleading with Jesus, Mary’s arrival as Jesus stood waiting in the road, and the miraculous raising of Lazarus.

The touch of human sentiments: While the miracle of raising Lazarus from the grave shows Jesus’ Divine power over death itself it also shows him as a wonderfully sensitive human being. His love for Lazarus and his sisters is palpable. Martha’s and Mary’s complaint that Jesus’ presence would have averted Lazarus’ death shows us how real their friendship was. So do Jesus’ tears. The story also represents the best of that special human quality in Jesus of openly expressing real feelings. This interpretive description of Jesus’ greatest miracle is also John’s reflection on the significance of the Resurrection.

Life Messages: “Roll away the stone, unbind him and let him go.” There are so many dark areas in our private lives. We often bind ourselves with chains of addiction to alcohol; drugs, sexual deviations, slander, gossip, envy, prejudices, hatred and uncontrollable anger, and we bury ourselves in the tombs of despair. Sometimes we are buried in the tomb of selfishness, filled with negative feelings...

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 April 1 – 7

Saturday 5:00 p.m. + Adeline Laranjo
Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Leslie R. Olsen
Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Frances L. Acosta
Wednesday 9:00 a.m. + Roman Kubalski
Thursday 9:00 a.m. + Sylvia Cordle
Friday 8:00 a.m. Parishioners

TREASURY REPORT SUNDAY

March 25 & 26, 2017

Plate..... \$ 1,000.00
EFT..... \$ 633.00
Total \$ 1,633.00
Second Collection Maintenance was \$400.00
Thank you and God the Father Bless you!

Stations of the Cross

Last Friday of Lent April 7th at 6:30 p.m. Soup, followed by the prayers of the Stations of the Cross...

Women’s Club/Prayer Group

We meet the 4th Wednesday of each month from 7 – 8:30 pm. April 26th Our focus is social and spiritual at the same time...Please contact Ruth McCormick ruthmcc@flash.net

Christ Child Men’s Club

Our next meeting will be at 6:30 pm. this coming Wednesday April 12th - great conversation and dinner. All men welcome!

My Fair Lady Come join us for a wonderful night of musical theater on **Thursday, May 25, 2017** to benefit **Birthright of San Jose**, whose mission is to help woman facing unplanned pregnancy. **Hor d’oeuvres & Champagne Reception 6:15 PM – Play begins 8:00 PM – Coffee and dessert during intermission – Baskets Raffle! Ticket Purchase \$45/person**

Benefit Concert for New Camaldoli

Hermitage! The Hermitage has suffered road damage and lost income during the recent storms. Fr. Cyprian and friends will perform “An Evening of Gratitude and Hope” for all who are able to participate in this opportunity to provide financial and moral support!
Peace United Church, 900 High Street, Santa Cruz – Friday, April 21st – Reception 6 p.m. – Doors open 7 p.m. – Concert 7:30 p.m. Tickets available at FrCyprian.brownpapertickets.com

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

Masses Saturday & Sunday 5:00 pm. and 10:00 am.

Holy Thursday April 13th

Mass of the Lord’s Supper - 7 pm

Good Friday April 14th

Station of the Cross at 12:00 p.m. around the Parish with the Mountain Bible Church;
The Passion of Our Lord – 7pm

Holy Saturday Night April 15th

Solemn Easter Vigil – 8:00 pm

Easter Sunday April 16th

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 on the Church grounds!