

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

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Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 11, 2018

*The Fourth Sunday of Lent is called
“Laetare” (Rejoice Sunday, from the first
words of today’s liturgy. As on Gaudate
Sunday in Advent, rose-colored vestments
may replace violet and flowers may grace
the altar, symbolizing the Church’s joy in
anticipation of the Resurrection of Our
Lord.*

*The central theme of today’s readings is that
our salvation is the free gift of a merciful
God, given to us sinners through Jesus, His
Son.*

*The readings stress God’s mercy and
compassion and remind us of the great love,
kindness and grace extended to us in Christ.*

Nicodemus in art and history

One of Rembrandt’s most famous etchings
portrays the scene. The limp, dead body of
Jesus was slowly taken down from the cross.
Joseph of Arimathea, dressed as the person
that he was, in all his finery, stands close by.
In the darkness, further away, veiled in
shadow as only Rembrandt could do it, with
his face lined in sorrow, is Nicodemus. He is

holding in his hands the lined cloth in which
Jesus’ body would be buried. The Gospel
says that Nicodemus also brought with him a
mixture of spices, myrrh and aloes, “about a
hundred pounds”.

One wonders what Nicodemus must have
been thinking as he stood there, waiting for
the body of Christ to be taken down from the
cross. Obviously, much was going on in his
life – this wealthy man, bringing fine linen
and a bountiful amount of expensive spices to
anoint the body of one who had died as a
common criminal. Was he still puzzled by
the response of Jesus when he pressed his
question about how one could be born again?
Jesus’ answer had been totally unsatisfying
for his rational mind: “The Spirit blows
where it wills – you feel it, and you hear the
sound of it – but you don’t know where it
comes from or where it goes. So it is with
everyone who is born of spirit.”
(24 Additional anecdotes will be uploaded in
our website: stjohngrandbay.org)

**Life messages: We need to love the cross,
the symbol of God’s forgiving and merciful
love.**

The crucifix – the symbol of the “lifted up”
Jesus – holds a central place in our Churches
because it is a forceful reminder not only of
God’s love and mercy, but also of the price of
our salvation. Hence, no Christian home
should be without this symbol of God’s love.
The crucifix invites us to respond with more
than compassion; it inspires us to remove the
suffering of others people’s misery. It
encourages us not only to feel deep sorrow
for another’s suffering, but also to try our
best to remove that suffering. Hence, let us
love the cross, wear its image and carry our
own daily cross with joy.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Anointing of the Sick

**For lent you receive this Saturday & Sunday in
the Mass at 5 pm. and 10 am.**

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick!

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 10 - 16

Saturday 5:00 p.m. + Virgil Kannall
Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Cecily Olsen
Tuesday 9:00 a.m. Murphy - Dwyer
Wednesday 9:00 a.m. + Sylvia Cordle
Thursday 9:00 a.m. Mark Walsh
Friday 8:00 a.m. Parishioners

**TREASURY REPORT SUNDAY
March 3 & 4, 2018**

Plate..... \$ 1,157.00
EFT..... \$ 581.00
Total \$ 1,738.00

Thank you and May God bless you!

2018 ANNUAL BISHOP’S APPEAL

**Your gift brings life to our Faith, love to our
Family and light to our Future!**

I am grateful for your gift to the 2018 Annual
Ministry Appeal. It reflects the spirit of giving in
its purest form – one of authentic love for God and
neighbor. Your generosity makes it possible for
the ministries of the Diocese to have real impact
on the people we serve throughout our beautiful
Central Coast. Thank you.

Sincerely yours in Christ, **Richard J. Garcia**

Our parish goal this year is \$8,000.00

God willing and with your help it will be
achieved.

Christ Child Men’s Club

Our next meeting and dinner will be at 6:30 pm.
this coming Wednesday **March 14th 2018**

**“Together, supporting each other, we can do
great things.”**

Women’ Club/Prayer Group

We meet the 4th Wednesday of each month from
1 to 2:30 pm. in the Community Center. **Our
next meeting is Wednesday March 28th!**
Our focus is social and spiritual at the same time;
get to know our faith and each other better so
that we can better serve the needs of our
community.

Please contact Ruth McCormick

ruthmcc@flash.net

Parish Retreat - Hold the Date Friday,

April 6-7 “Walking the Way with Open Eyes
and a Burning Heart”

Michael Fish, OSB, Cam.

Holy Cross Church – Santa Cruz, CA

Cost: \$25. (Scholarships available)

To register: Call 831 430-6207

Email: zig.poet@gmail.com

Stations of the Cross

Friday’s of Lent at 6:30 p.m. – Soup supper
followed by the prayer of the Stations of the
Cross.

Come celebrate St. Patrick’s Day with us!

Saturday, March 17th from 6pm – 9pm

**We will have appetizers, corned beef,
cabbage, potatoes, fruit, and something for
vegetarians as well. Also included are
fabulous desserts, beer and wine.**

**As this a fundraiser for the young families
group we are asking for a donation of \$15 per
person or \$30 per family.**

**If you wish to donate you can pay at the door
or see Ann, Chiara or Jocelyn after mass on
Sunday.**