

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

23230 Summit Road  
Los Gatos, CA 95033-9278  
Telephone: (408) 353-2210  
Fax: (408) 353-8680  
Pastor: Rev. Eugenio Arámburo  
Web Site: [www.christchild.org](http://www.christchild.org)  
Email: [eugenio.aramburo@yahoo.com](mailto:eugenio.aramburo@yahoo.com)

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**April 22, 2018**

*The Good Shepherd laid down his life to  
share with us his risen life.*  
**John 10:11-18**

**I Am the Good Shepherd**

Laura Bell is not your typical college graduate. After graduation she took a job as a shepherd in Wyoming. Some of her friends thought she was crazy. But Laura wanted a challenge. Well, she got it. She worked eighteen hours a day, seven days a week. Her days began at dawn and ended at sunset. All this time she was completely alone, except for her dog, her horse, and 2,000 sheep. Once a week someone rode out across the hills to bring her food, mail, and rifle shells. Laura's job consisted of keeping the sheep together, moving them about for food and water, and protecting them from wild animals. "When you're out there all alone," she said, "there's no one to correct your mistakes. So you keep doubly alert for dangers, like rattlesnakes; and you don't do dumb things with your horse."

Laura said one of her joys was the weather. It was also one of her biggest headaches. The weather determined how the sheep were going to behave and what her day would be like.

One morning a group of sheep decided to break away from the main herd. Laura said she spent the rest of the day tracking them down. Just when she found them, a thunderstorm drenched her and the flock. She spent that night shivering in a wad of soggy blankets.

The story of Laura Bell gives us an insight into just how hard the job of a modern shepherd can be.

Ancient shepherds had to work even harder. This was because they had no horse, dog, or rifle to help them with their job. All they had was themselves.

The ancient shepherd's dedication to his flock inspired the biblical writers to speak of God as a shepherd. God's dedication to Israel was like that of a shepherd. Thus the psalmist sings:

**"The Lord is my shepherd; I have  
everything I need... Even if I go through  
the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid."**  
Psalm 23: 1, 4

What should be our response to all this? First, it should be one of gratitude to Jesus. For through his death and resurrection we have been saved from eternal death and raised up to eternal life.

Second, our response should be one of profound openness to Jesus. For Jesus is present in our midst right now, continuing his work of salvation.

Jesus is indeed the Good Shepherd promised by God. Jesus not only laid down his life for us 2,000 years ago, but also continues to

dwell in our midst, and communicates to us his own risen life.

**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 a.m. All women and all men are invited!

**MASS INTENTIONS April 21 - 27**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. + Harold M. Hoyt

Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Fred & Bea Wagner

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. Murphy-Dwyer

Thursday 9:00 a.m. Parishioners

Friday 8:00 a.m. Communion Service

**TREASURY REPORT SUNDAY**

**April 14 & 15, 2018**

Plate..... \$ 1,377.00

EFT..... \$ 540.00

Total \$ 1,917.00

**Thank you and  
May God the Father Bless you!**

**PRAYER REQUESTS: CAN BE TO  
CHRISTCHILDCHURCHPRAYERLINE@GMAIL  
OR WRITTEN AND PLACED IN THE BOX  
PROVIDED IN THE CHURCH FOYER.**

**Pre-school GOSPEL  
During 10 am. Mass.  
The Second Sunday of every month!  
Join other Catholic Families!!!**

**Christ Child Men's Club**

Our next meeting and dinner will be at 6:30 pm.

**On Wednesday May 9<sup>th</sup> 2018 "Together,  
supporting each other, we can do great things."**

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**Mary's Magnificat: Proclaiming the  
Greatness of God - May 18-20, 2018 & July  
27-29, 2018 Men's & Women's Silent Retreat**  
To Register Go online or call:  
[www.stclaresretreatcenter.com](http://www.stclaresretreatcenter.com) 831 423-8093  
St. Clare's Retreat 2381 Laurel Glen Road,  
Soquel, CA 95073

**10<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BLESSINGS OF THE HOT RODS**

**Saturday May 19<sup>st</sup> 10 am to 3 pm**  
**FOOD – FUN – CARS**  
**Kids' Activities!**

Please sign up to volunteer in the lobby of the church. We are still in need of items to go inside of Raffle Baskets... wine; wine accessories, fun napkins/plates, picnic, snacks... or you could put together your own Basket. Also, please donate gently used jewelry at the back of the church! Have Questions? Ask Chris or Herb.

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**Women's Club/Prayer Group**

We meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month From 1 to 2:30 pm. in the Community Center. Our next meeting **Wednesday April 25<sup>th</sup>!** Our focus is social and spiritual at the same time. Please contact Ruth McCormick [ruthmcc@flash.net](mailto:ruthmcc@flash.net)

**TENT OF ABRAHAM: Interfaith Dialogue,**  
**the third presentation in a three-part series on Religious prejudice.**  
**Sunday, May 6, 2018 3:30pm – 6:30pm**  
**Feature Speaker Fr. Cyprian Consiglio, OSB,**  
**Cam. Prior, New Camaldoli Hermitage**  
**Holy Cross Parish Hall - 210 High St.**  
**Santa Cruz, CA**  
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