



# Christ The King

## Fall Newsletter

### 2020



**MAY THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST BE ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS**

*"By the might of his glory you will be endowed with the strength needed to stand fast, even to endure joyfully whatever may come" Col 1:9*

Dear Friends,

Oh my, have times changed! As we prepare for the transition to Fall, we normally send this newsletter filled with the annual Parish Retreat Season schedule, thus giving you abundant options to join us for various Passionist programs and events. This Autumn season, interestingly, the changes continue. We wait, patiently. We try to think about what our Fall schedule will be, but a bit of hesitation occurs and questions arise. When will larger groups be able to meet again? When will we be able to enjoy each other's company without a mask? And ultimately, will we be able to follow a schedule without any changes?

When I last wrote, we were preparing for a thriving season of Hosted groups and Passionist programs, and we were excited about all the upcoming events, celebrations and time together. I was catching my breath behind the scenes, as to the busyness at the Retreat Center.

Thinking about the past 6 months, I find myself in disbelief. How did everything turn upside down in a matter of hours, days and weeks? We've definitely had our challenges. We've experienced loss, upset, sadness and fear. But as with every life situation and season, we pull ourselves up and move forward. We look towards tomorrow and we find respite when the days are calm and things work as they should.

Soon the rain will be upon us, the leaves will fall and the air will become crisp yet again. Early on, with as many things happening on the grounds, I used to think "what else?". It was later shared, shouldn't it be "when else?", as challenging situations always happen. So I continued to think about some of the various seasons of life which seem so far away. Joy, Faith and Love.

Joy. When was the last time you laughed with such joy? When you saw something that touched your heart? When you looked at a person's eyes to see their smile (even with a mask on)?

Faith. To remember that our loving God is with us during all these days. He's never left our sides, but rather walks with us during these challenging times. He is the constant Being in these ever changing times.

And Love. To share a moment of true love with others. Unconditional love continues to be shared from all of us here at the center. Remembering God's eternal love for us.

As Autumn is upon us and Winter is creeping near, we look with bright eyes to your arrival back to the grounds. Until then, please know all of us continue to keep you and your loved ones in our prayers.

Abundant blessings and love,

*Natalie Swistonsky*

**PS. Your 2020-2021 Parish Retreat Season Schedule and details will be sent with our Fall Appeal letter.**



## Best Wishes to Br. Nicholas

Br. Nicholas Divine left Christ the King in July for his new assignment, Director of Ministry at Holy Name Community in Houston, Texas. Br. Nicholas professed his Final Vows to Fr. Joe Moons, CP, Provincial Superior, on Sunday, June 7, 2020, in the presence of the Passionist Community. He will be greatly missed by the community and staff at CTK. We wish him the best!



## Thank You CTK Board Members for Your Service....

**Dennis Cook** served on the board for 7 years, previously completing a term as Board President. Along with the other board members he is deeply committed to the well-being of the Retreat Center. He strongly believes in the power of retreat, reflection, and renewal. He has also served on the Policy Governance Committee, Development Committee, and Finance Committee at CTK. Dennis is an Attorney, in practice since 1980.



**Deacon Jackson Gualco** served on the board over 12 years, including as vice-chair over the last few years. He has been witness to the thriving success of the Retreat Center in recent years. He praises the staff, the Passionists, and volunteers for their dedication—a source of inspiration and joy for him. Jackson's firm, The Gualco Group, a lobbying and consulting firm, is celebrating 30 years in business.



**Ken Uribe** served on the board for 10 years. He has enjoyed being able to work with dedicated individuals who love the retreat center as much as he does, particularly as everyone adjusts to the many changes and challenges of the day. He wants Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center to be a welcoming spiritual home for retreatants for many generations to come. Ken is a Senior Real Estate Officer at the California State Department of General Services.



## Retreat Center Update

COVID-19 is still very much a part of our lives. We have been able to move a few offerings to online that have been well received. The Hispanic and Young and Married Ministry groups have been meeting regularly on ZOOM. Thursday community Mass has been taking place outside on the grounds. Please check our website for updates at [www.christthekingretreatcenter.org](http://www.christthekingretreatcenter.org) or contact us at 916-725-4720.



## Development News- Sandra Gill

### Supporting Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center

**Thank you for your continued support of Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center!** The Center is dedicated to sustaining the vision of our founder, St. Paul of the Cross by offering retreats and ministry activities intended to provide spiritual renewal and growth. Donations provide support to on-going programs, provide retreat scholarships, and care for the beautiful buildings, gardens and grounds at Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center.

To learn more about ways to give to Christ the King, including monthly gifts, planned giving, and information on the CAREs Act signed in response to COVID-19 containing provisions for charitable contributions for 2020, go to our website at <https://christthekingretreatcenter.org/giving/> or contact Sandra Gill in the Development Office at 916-725-4720, ext. 302 or [sgill@passionist.org](mailto:sgill@passionist.org).

**Diamond Jubilee “Let it Shine” Capital Campaign** is underway to make several much needed repairs and upgrades to the Retreat Center over the next 4 years, in time for the celebration of our 75th Anniversary in 2025. The projects include:

- HVAC replacement in both the Holy Cross and Chapel buildings. The Holy Cross Building was completed in August 2020. Chapel Building is currently in progress.
- Upgrade to the Quinn Room; paint, carpet, and curtains
- ADA Compliance in the Chapel Building

### Looking ahead....

#### Join us for Christ the King’s Annual Fall Fundraising Event:

Fall Harvest 2020: Gathering God’s Blessing – **October 30, 2020**. More details to come.

**Giving Tuesday:** December 1, 2020- A Global Day of Giving event. Watch for more details!



### Summer “Stay at Home” Family Fiesta 2020

This year’s Multicultural Family Fiesta was re-imagined due to COVID-19, to a non-event event Summer “Stay at Home” Family Fiesta 2020. Thank you to all who bought raffle tickets or made a donation in support of this annual fundraising event and making it a success.

#### Congratulations to our raffle winners:

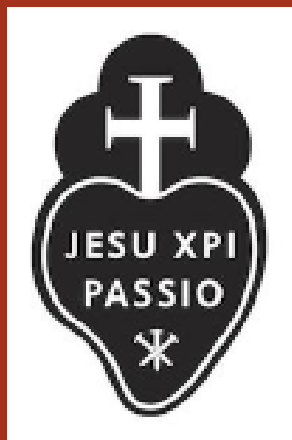
Grand Prize \$1000 Frank and Ginny Paladini  
 Second Prize \$500 Michael Lynch  
 Retreat Weekend Michael and Ellen Gutierrez

Multicultural Family Fiesta 2021:

**Save the Date for June 6!** We hope to see you there!







Christ the King  
 Passionist Retreat Center  
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### ONLINE

**Institute for the Study of the Passion**  
 Led by Fr. Tom Bonacci, CP



#### Fall Series 2020

**Reflections on St. Paul of the Cross**  
**Tuesday mornings 10:00 am to 12:00 noon**

**October 13-** The Passionist Charism  
 According to the two St. Paul's

**October 20-** The Passions of Jesus and the  
 Heart of St. Paul of the Cross

**October 27-** The Passion in the Christmas  
 Narrative of the Birth of Jesus

## *Save the Date*

*Join us for Christ the King's  
 Annual Fall Fundraising Event*

*Fall Harvest*

*Gathering God's Blessings*

*Friday, October 30, 2020*

*Delicious "Meal to go" \$125pp*

*Silent Auction*

*Fund a Need*

*More details to come!*