



Christ the King

Fall Newsletter

2021



MAY THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST BE ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS

"“Hope” is the thing with feathers- That perches in the soul- And sings the tune without the words - And never stops- at all-...” Emily Dickenson

Dear Friends,

Recently, I walked into our kitchen at the retreat center to see a white board filled with notes. The title on the board said, “We Need”. The list started with “to go” boxes, pancake mix, eggs, and in between the boxes and pancake mix, *hope* was written. So simple, yet so defining of the times.

When thinking about hope, our history as a Passionist Congregation and Retreat Center comes to mind. It took our Founder, St. Paul of the Cross, (1694-1775), twenty-one years of a humble and quiet path, filled with Church rejection, until he received his first papal authority to found The Congregation of the Passion of Jesus Christ. Paul was determined to gather companions and share the message. He saw those who were suffering and knew God’s love through the Passion of Jesus Christ would provide the hope and trust the world needed. His path was not easy.

Our retreat center has served as a beacon of hope for so many. Historically, we started in 1949 with a small house on the property. In 1950, the first retreat center building was completed to accommodate thirty retreatants, with a chapel, dining room, library and office space. The first retreat was held in May 1950 for a select few individuals. By 1951, a total of 848 men attended thirty eight retreats.

Around the same timeframe, in the world, the Korean War, earthquakes, floods, storms, blizzards were all present.

In Citrus Heights, Passionist brothers and priests increased in number at the local residence. The community conducted parish missions and served as chaplains throughout the Diocese of Sacramento, Northern California and western Nevada. Ultimately, in 1987, the facilities were expanded with the completion of the Holy Cross building, adding 40 self-contained bedrooms, small conference rooms and a large assembly room. In March 2020, our doors closed for the first time in many years. We stopped. We hoped. We prayed. We trusted.

However, our story doesn’t end here. As daily lives continue to be affected by challenges, hardships, and fears our Passionist family walks along the same path. We never turn our backs but rather move forward. **“We Need”: God, hope, love, and each other.**

Our retreat center is open. We thank you for all your support and for walking along with us in the wonderful journey we call life. May God bless you always.

Warmly,

Nctake Swisternoff

Retreat Center Update

The Retreat Center has re-opened. Many hosted groups have returned over the past few months, including the annual retreat for Priests of the Sacramento Diocese. Thursday Mass has returned to the Chapel. Christ the King's celebration of Easter began with a limited in-person participation, and an online option for those who could not be accommodated at the Holy Thursday Mass. On Good Friday, offerings included an online morning retreat facilitated by Jack Conley, CP, and Tom Bonacci, CP, and in-person Stations of the Cross. The Married Couples retreat was held on July 16-18, with 13 couples in attendance. The staff and Passionist community are looking forward to seeing you for our 2021-2022 Retreat Season!



CTK Ground Projects

Over the past several months a few major projects on the grounds of Christ the King have been accomplished thanks to generous volunteers and donors. Volunteers worked to rebuild the bridges at the Stations of the Cross and clean out the canal that runs under the bridges. Many thanks to Curtis Walker, owner and president of Mike Walker Lumber, Inc., for the donation of materials, time, and backhoe. Thanks to volunteers Curtis Walker, Cristina Brisbane, Brandon Mattes, Chris and Bill Swars and Chris, Jodi, and Brinley Ornelas, Br. Carl Hund who've worked on one or more of the projects.

Thank you to Al Foley (CTK staff) and volunteers, Randolph Brown, Thomas Cuccia, Daniel Lovesee, and John Huue, who all worked diligently to repair Station #5.



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.

There are several ways to make a gift to Christ the King including:

Online: Online donations to Christ the King can be made using any major credit card, including Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover.

Recurring Gifts: A great way to help us plan for the future is through recurring donations. You can set up a monthly gift that is automatically paid via your bank or credit card once a month.

Planned Giving: Include a gift in your estate planning. The ultimate goal of Christ the King Planned Giving is to ensure the longevity of Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center for future generations.

For information about ways to give, go to our website at www.christthekingretreatcenter.org or contact Sandra Gill at 916-725-4720, Ext. 302 or sgill@passionist.org.

Holy Family Prayer Garden- Buy a Brick Tile \$275

The Holy Family Prayer Garden is one of several areas at Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center dedicated as a place of meditation and prayer. Engraved brick tiles are available for purchase that will be carefully placed on the base of one of two statues in the garden: Lady of Guadalupe, and/or St. Joseph. For more information go to <https://christthekingretreatcenter.org/giving/buy-a-brick/>



Looking Ahead....

Join us for Christ the King's Annual Fall Gala (Fundraising Event):

Paris at Twilight, Saturday, October 2, 2021. \$125 pp. See back page for more details

Giving Tuesday: A Global Day of Giving on November 30, 2021. Watch for more details!

Welcome Marion Bishop to the CTK Board

Marion Bishop has been active in the Diocese of Sacramento since the early 1980's. She served as a volunteer at St. Mel Catholic School, where her children attended, and on the Diocesan School board, including as President. Her career includes Director of SUCCEED (Sacramento Urban Catholic Children's Development), first president of St. Francis High School where she worked for 11 years, and first District President for St. Vincent DePaul Society, Sacramento. During these tenures, Marion was deeply connected to Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center. Marion found CTK as a haven in which she could retreat to find her own way to God. There she grew in her love for God and all God's creatures—even the turkeys. Her involvement in the Center has been long and cherished, an important part of who she is today. She is honored to be serving on the Board of Directors.



Family Fiesta 2021

The Center held its annual Family Fiesta event onsite on Sunday, June 6, with an outdoor Mass, a Mexican lunch, and raffle. Mass was held outside in the Marion Grotto, with Fr. Jack Conley, CP presiding. Over 100 guests attended the event. Thank you to all who bought raffle tickets or made a donation in support of this annual fundraising event and making it a success. A special thank you to those who volunteered, especially, Pete and Mary Lopez, who prepared the delicious Mexican lunch!



Congratulations to our raffle winners:

Grand Prize - \$1000: Bill and Chris Swars
 2nd Prize-Garden Bench: Roy and Laura Wicklman
 3rd Prize - \$500: Phil and Denise Morales
 4th Prize- Retreat Weekend: Mike and Marilyn Jones



Save the Date:

Family Fiesta 2021 Saturday June 4! We hope to see you there!



Volunteer Spotlight – Judy Schuchmann and Jim Philips

While on retreat 4 years ago, Judy Schuchmann let us know she would like to volunteer and take care of the roses. She's been a staple at CTK ever since. Not only has she taken great care of the roses, she attends to many flower beds, clearing out weeds and trimming plants. Judy grew up in the Sacramento area. She graduated from Armstrong, today known as Christian Brothers. Judy and her late husband Joseph owned and operated a pastry shop in San Jose, a motel in Tahoe, while raising 4 children.

Jim Philips joined CTK as a volunteer in October 2020. As a retired landscaper, Jim brings a wealth of experience having owned a landscaping business for 25 years and felt he could share his passion with the Center. Jim is very detailed and loves helping the Center with various landscaping projects. Jim has lived in Fair Oaks for 34 years with this wife Ann. They have 3 grown daughters.

CTK is very blessed to have such dedicated and compassionate volunteers. Please feel free to say "Hi" to Judy and Jim while you're visiting!





Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center

6520 Van Maren Lane, Citrus Heights, CA 95621

**Retreat Season
2021-2022**

GOD'S DREAM for our world



THE BIBLE AS STORY

This year's retreat offers the opportunity to ponder God's dream for our world. If you've been wondering how to make sense of the last year and a half, we will be stepping back to look at the bigger picture — the state of our church and our country, and, of course, our own personal lives — all through the lens of Sacred Scripture and storytelling.

**ALL WEEKENDS ARE OPEN TO
MEMBERS OF ANY PARISH
GROUP AND INDIVIDUALS**

Women's Retreats

W1 Nov	19-21, 2021
W2 January	7-9, 2022
W3 January	21-23, 2022
W4 January	28-30, 2022
W5 February	18-20, 2022
W6 March	4-6, 2022
W7 March	25-27, 2022
W8 April	8-10, 2022
W9 April	22-24, 2022

Men's Retreats

M1 Dec	3-5, 2021
M2 February	4-6, 2022
M3 February	11-13, 2022
M4 February	25-27, 2022
M5 April	1-3, 2022

Retreat Team

Fr. Jim Strommer, C.P.
Fr. Jack Conley, C.P.
Fr. Tom Bonacci, C.P.
Gwen Devereux
Talib Huff

IN-PERSON REGISTRATION: \$250 SINGLE/\$230 DOUBLE

(*During COVID-19, double occupancy is only available for individuals from the same household. Space is limited, and may change at any time based on COVID-19 Guidance)

PAY ONLINE: CONTACT RETREAT CENTER IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE

Retreat Number: _____ Date: _____
NAME _____ HOME PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____ Cell Phone _____
CITY / STATE / ZIP _____ EMAIL _____
PARISH _____

PAYMENT ENCLOSED: ☐ Cash \$ _____ ☐ Check Number: _____

CREDIT CARD: Number: _____ Expire Date: _____ Security Number: _____

Have you attended a retreat at Christ the King in the past? YES ☐ NO ☐ Number of times _____

Please Mail To:

Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center- 6520 Van Maren Lane, Citrus Heights, CA 95621.

Attention 'Retreat' or Register Online: ChristTheKingRetreatCenter.org. Call 916-725-4720 ext. 307

***Please see back**



Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center

6520 Van Maren Lane, Citrus Heights, CA 95621



*2021-2022 Schedule

FRIDAY

- 4:30pm Registration
 5:30 pm Social & Welcome Announcements
 6:30 pm Supper
 7:30 pm Opening Prayer Service and First Conference

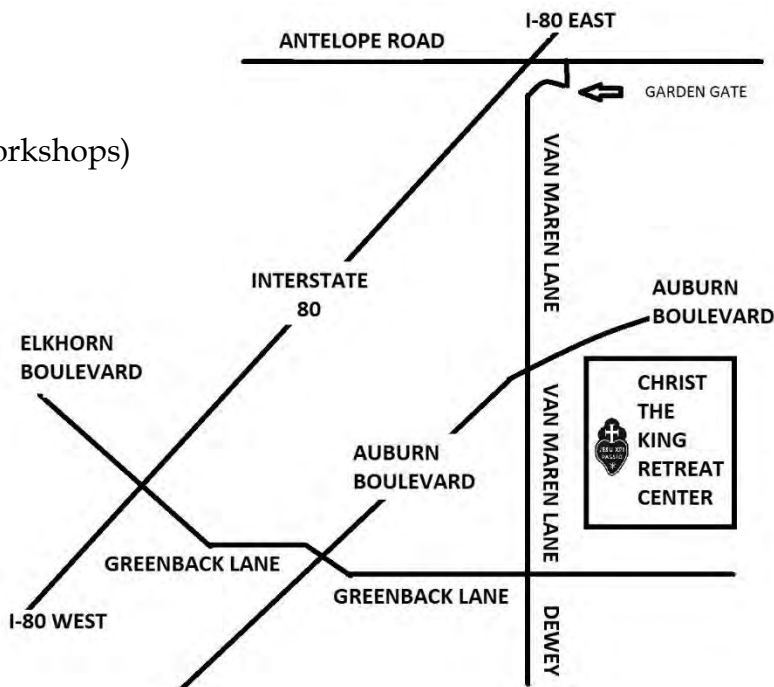
MAP

SATURDAY

- 8:00 am Morning Prayer
 8:30 am Breakfast
 9:30 am Second Conference
 11:15 am Liturgy
 12 noon Lunch
 1:00 pm (Quiet, Rest, Study, Optional Workshops)
 3:00 pm Third Conference (Chapel)
 3:45 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
 5:15 pm Conference four
 6:00 pm Supper
 7:15 pm Fourth Conference
 9:15 pm Night Prayer

SUNDAY

- 8:00 am Morning Prayer
 8:30 am Breakfast
 9:30 am Final Conference
 11:15 am Concluding Liturgy
 12:15 pm Lunch & Peaceful Farewell



Room Request

- ☐ Bathroom with wheelchair access ☐ No Stairs ☐ Service Dog

Share room: Only available if living in same household

Please provide details of other mobility issues or special requirements _____

Dietary Requirements: ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Gluten free

Other dietary requirements may need for you to bring your own food. Refrigeration is available.

For more info visit our website www.christthekingretreatcenter.org or call 916-725-4720 Ext. 307

Institute for the Study of the Passion ONLINE-Fall Series 2021



Led by Fr. Tom Bonacci, CP
Thursdays mornings 10:00am-12noon
Reflections on the Gospels of Mark

November 4 - She Gave All She Had to Live On
November 11 - He Cried Out
November 18 - Saying Nothing Tells All
Fee: \$30 for all sessions

A Day of Reflection



Love Knows Not Death

Friday November 12, 2021
9:30am-3:00 pm

Led by Fr. Jack Conley, CP

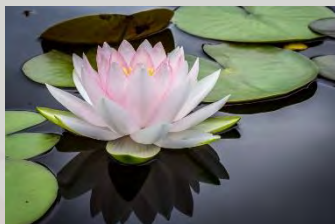
A day of reflection, a time to ponder, a space to heal centered on assisting each other in the expression of grief, and the welcoming of HOPE.
Fee: \$50 - Includes Lunch

A DAY OF SPIRITUALITY FOR PEOPLE IN RECOVERY

ONLINE

SERENITY IN THE TIME OF UNCERTAINTY

Friday, September 24, 2021
10:30am - 2:00pm
Led by Fr. Tom Bonacci, CP
Fee: \$35



IN PERSON

ANTICIPATING THE HOLIDAYS

Wednesday, December 22, 2021
10:30am-2pm
Led by Fr. Tom Bonacci, CP
Fee: \$50 Includes Lunch



Advent Day of Prayer

December 7, 2021 9:30am-3:00 pm
Led by Fr. Jack Conley, CP and
Fr. Tom Bonacci, CP
Fee: \$50 - Includes Lunch



Simbang Gabi

December 15-23, 2019
Starts 6:00 pm each evening
Come celebrate this wonderful
Filipino Tradition fellowship



New Year's Retreat

December 31, 2021 -Jan 1, 2022
Details to Come...



Catholic Engaged Encounter

Dates:

Nov. 5-7, 2021

Jan. 14-16, 2022

March 18-20, 2022

For information or to register,
please go to the
Engaged Encounter website at:
<https://www.sacee.org>



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 Passionist Retreat Center
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 Citrus Heights, CA, 95621

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Please Join Us...



Please join us at our 4th annual Fall Gala- *Paris at Twilight*- for an elegant and fun evening with Mass, Dinner and Dancing. Silent and Live auctions. Overnight accommodations available. Cocktail Attire.

Tickets \$125pp
 Overnight \$100 - Includes Breakfast

Tickets can be purchased online, by mail, or in person.

Donations of Silent Auction items are appreciated.

For more information contact
 Sandra Gill at sgill@passionist.org
 or 916-725-4720, ext. 302.