



Christ the King Spring Newsletter

2023



MAY THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST BE ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS

You have been told, O mortal, what is good, and what the LORD requires of you: Only to do justice and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

Dear Friends,

When I was younger there was always a desire to find "the one". To feel the large amount of love from the person who would take away any challenge, any hard day, any undesirable situation and turn it into something that could move a mountain, shift the universe and make me smile. Of course, through the years, there's been more than "one", whether it's a family member, friend, mentor or colleague.

As I think about my relationship with God, I realize we've found each other. It hasn't been easy or simple. There are moments of extreme excitement and joy, followed up by frustration, upset and as many of you know, tears. There have been times of ups and downs. Sometimes, I want to turn my back and walk in a different direction or say thank you, but no thank you. Then, there is the desire to take a break and breathe. I suppose some people might say that's harsh or unnecessary. But here's where I need to stop for a moment.

Isn't this where the depth of a covenant relationship occurs? When thinking of one's spiritual growth, isn't it the relationship with God that matters most? More often, it's not about throwing in the towel when our prayers aren't answered, or being upset when things don't go our way, but rather, being open to possibilities.

While my emotions and feelings can shift, God is always constant. And through His constant presence, I believe that's where my faith continues to grow. It's funny, really. Moments turn into a dance, I look at my feet hoping to not mess up the steps, and at other moments, stepping on God's feet, and blushing in embarrassment. Here's the amazing thing, He never stops and He never pulls away. I'm given the option to try again, continue to practice until I get the right steps.

The right steps. If only all relationships were led in such a manner, where we can continue to practice until we get it right. Maybe, we'd be more patient about the family members we don't understand. We'd show compassion to those who are different and we'd open ourselves up to others who we don't see eye to eye with. We'd dance.

As Spring arrives, we are excited to share with you another season of news and updates about the retreat center. We look forward to seeing you soon. As always, please know, our doors are open to you. Welcome home!

Warmly,

Nctate Gristonoff

Christ the King Highlights

For four nights in September 2022, CTK hosted the Discalced Carmelite Nuns of Sacramento. They were under mandatory evacuation orders due to a large fire near their Monastery in Georgetown, CA. The nuns moved to an interim location until the evacuation orders were lifted following their stay at CTK. The town of Georgetown and the monastery were spared from the fire.

The New Year started off wet and windy at CTK. The Sacramento region experienced days of much needed rain with several storms that brought in high winds. Many trees on the retreat center grounds toppled down on New Year's Eve as CTK was hosting a New Year's Eve Retreat, blocking the driveway and causing damage to walking bridges in the Stations of the Cross. Thankfully no one was injured.



Thank You for Your Service



Bob Porter was on the CTK board of directors for 8 years, serving in several positions, including Board President for the last few years. CTK has been a part of his life for decades, recalling a fundraiser he attended with his mother in the 1950's. He began attending retreats in the 1990's. "In today's hectic, frenetic, and polarized world, the oasis of CTK is a wonderful gift for us all". He is actively involved at St. Joseph Mareello Parish with his wife, Sue, and leads the RCIA ministry. He and Sue have 3 sons and 7 grandchildren.

New Board President



Deacon Dan Haverty has been on the CTK board for 7 years and was appointed Board President in December 2022. He considers the Center a respite from the distractions of the world where one may grow in closeness to Jesus. Dan serves as a Deacon at Holy Trinity Parish. He also serves our Bishop on the Catholic Foundation Board and is on the Deacon Life and Ministry Committee, Deacon Council, and is Chaplain for the Knights of Columbus Council 12394. Dan has been a firefighter for 40 years and currently serves as the Interim Fire Chief for the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District.

Fall Gala 2022: Our fifth Annual Fall Gala, an Evening in Paradise, was held on October 8, 2022. The event included Mass, social, buffet dinner, silent and live auctions, festive island music and dancing. Many thanks to all who supported our Gala event by donating, volunteering, and/or by attending the Event. The Fall Gala is the largest fundraiser for the Center. We look forward to our next Gala on Saturday, October 7, 2023. **Save the Date!**



Christ the King Highlights Cont.

CTK Guild Christmas Luncheon

Our CTK Guild held their annual Christmas luncheon and fundraiser—Celebrating Christmas with the Saints—on December 13. Lunch was prepared by the Center's chefs, Deanna Jensen and Anoud Zaki. Short presentations were given from each table host about the Saint's they chose to represent their table. The guests were treated to a Christmas Choir made up of members from the Guild.



Simbáng Gabi Celebrated at CTK

CTK hosted Simbáng Gabi, a Filipino tradition, December 15-23. Simbáng Gabi (Filipino for "Night Mass") is a devotional nine-day series of Masses in anticipation of Christmas and to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. Fellowship followed mass. A special thank you to ALL guests who made the event a success!



Development News

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.

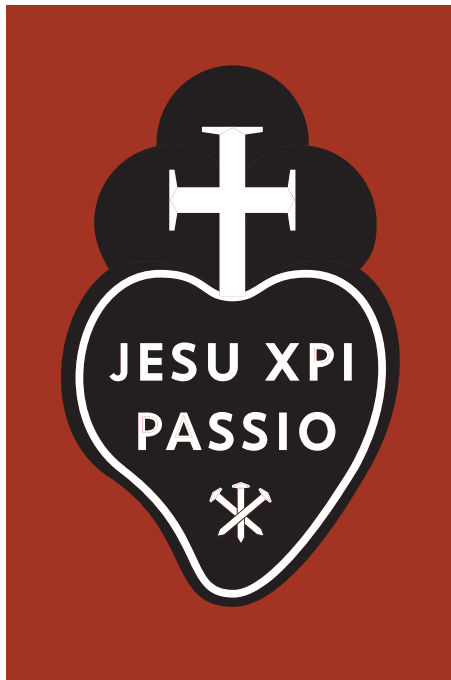


Consider Making a Monthly Gift: Recurring donations are a great way to help us plan for the future. If you are already giving monthly, consider increasing your gift.

The Gift of Time -Volunteer at CTK: There are several volunteer opportunities at Christ the King, including Weekend Retreat Host/Hostess; General Event Support, Parish Coordinator, Grounds and Maintenance.

Update: Our Fall Gala 2022 Fund-a-Need project focused on an additional Fire Marshal mandated exit door to the dining room. Thanks to an anonymous donor, a matching gift opportunity of \$10,000 helped us reach our goal of \$21,000. The project is scheduled to begin in Spring 2023.

To learn more about ways to give to Christ the King, go to our website at www.christthekingretreatcenter.org or contact Sandra Gill in the Development Office at 916-725-4720, ext. 302 or sgill@passionist.org



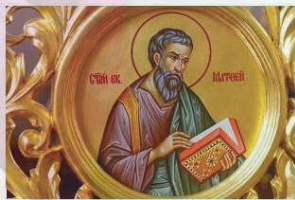
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Upcoming Programs and Events in 2023

Institute for the Study of the Passion The Passion of Jesus in Our World Today



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Led by Fr. Tom Bonacci, CP
 Thursdays 10:00am-11:30am
 April 20, May 4, 18
 June 22, July 6, 20

Good Friday/Stations of the Cross-April 7
 Recovery Retreat/Men-May 5-7
 Recovery Retreat/Women -July 28-30
 Silent Retreat - June 5-9
 Married Couples Retreat - July 14-16

Save the Dates 2023

Summer Event – Sunday, June 4
Fall Gala – Saturday, October 7



**Please join us for Community Mass on
 Thursdays at 9:00am**

For information on programs and events,
 please call 916-725-4720 ext. 307 or go to
www.christthekingretreatcenter.org