



CHRIST THE KING SPRING NEWSLETTER 2026

*“See, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?”
(Isaiah 43:19)*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As spring unfolds around us at **Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center**, we are surrounded by signs of God’s quiet and faithful work. The gardens awaken after winter’s rest, trees begin to bud along the Stations, and new life stirs across these sacred grounds. Each year, spring transforms this place into a gentle reminder that God is always at work—bringing beauty from stillness, growth from patience, and hope from what once seemed dormant. Simply walking these grounds in this season becomes a prayer, inviting us to slow down and notice the grace unfolding around us.

Spring at Christ the King also invites us to reflect on what God may be stirring within our own hearts. Just as the earth awakens gradually, so too are lives renewed here—through silence, prayer, shared stories, and moments of encounter. Often, God’s “something new” begins quietly, like a seed beneath the soil, nurtured in these peaceful surroundings until it is ready to emerge. This inner renewal gently calls us outward, shaping how we live, love, and relate to one another as people of faith.

That outward movement of the heart is the very pattern we see in the life of Jesus. Throughout his ministry, Jesus reached out to those on the margins, drawing them back into community so they might know they belong—as beloved children of the Father and as sisters and brothers to Him. As we approach Holy Week, we are reminded that love is not meant to be held tightly but shared generously, carried faithfully, and lived for the sake of others.

This year, we once again celebrate the Triduum with the theme **“Come and see the place where Jesus lay”** (Matthew 28:6). We are grateful to welcome Fr. Tom Bonacci, C.P., who will guide us through these sacred days. In keeping with our mission to serve all God’s people, we will offer both an English-speaking and a Spanish-speaking retreat.

We are also thankful for the continued growth of our ministry. This past September, we began our first year of Spiritual Guide formation in Spanish through the lens of the Passionist Charism. Our Catholic Weekend Retreat theme, **“Listen, Christ Is Calling: A Pilgrimage of the Heart,”** continues to touch many lives, offering space to reflect on one’s faith journey through the love of a merciful God.

With your prayers and support, these sacred grounds remain a place of healing, renewal, and grace. As Scripture assures us, **“Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength; they will soar on wings like eagles”** (Isaiah 40:31).

Let us keep one another in prayer. May this Lenten season bring you renewed hope, quiet joy, and a deep awareness of God’s life-giving presence through the Risen Lord.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Joe Moons, C.P.
Retreat Center Director



Hispanic Ministry

Over the past year, Hispanic Ministry has been blessed with ongoing renewal and growth, seeking to serve more faithfully the Passionist Charism. Offerings include the celebration of the Spanish Mass (on the last Sunday and second Monday of each month), formation through the Passionist Spiritual Accompaniment Program with 21 students, and various days of retreat and reflection. Support is also provided to parishes and Catholic schools through Confirmation retreats and parent formation, while faith traditions are joyfully lived through celebrations such as Our Lady of Guadalupe and Las Posadas. All of this continues to keep the Memory of the Passion alive as we serve the community with hope, closeness, and Christian love.

Ministerio Hispano

Durante el último año, el Ministerio Hispano ha sido bendecido con una renovación y un crecimiento continuos, buscando servir con mayor fidelidad al Carisma Pasionista. Entre sus ofrecimientos se incluyen la celebración de la Misa en español (el último domingo y el segundo lunes de cada mes), la formación a través del Programa Pasionista de Acompañamiento Espiritual con 21 estudiantes, y diversos días de retiro y reflexión. También se brinda apoyo a parroquias y escuelas Católicas mediante retiros de Confirmación y formación para padres, mientras que las tradiciones de fe se viven con alegría a través de celebraciones como Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe y Las Posadas. Todo ello continúa manteniendo viva la Memoria de la Pasión al servir a la comunidad con esperanza, cercanía y amor Cristiano.

Ministerio Hispano Pasionista Programas

En el corazón del Ministerio Hispano Pasionista late el deseo de ofrecer espacios de encuentro con Dios donde cada persona pueda detenerse, reflexionar y crecer espiritualmente. Fieles al Carisma Pasionista, acompañamos a quienes llegan al Centro creando un ambiente seguro, acogedor y profundamente orante. ¡Bienvenidos!
“Que la Pasión de Jesucristo esté siempre en nuestros corazones.”



Programa Acompañamiento Espiritual

Para más información



Día de Reflexión y Agradecimiento
 para Empleados y Voluntarios de parroquias
 Mayo 30 de 9am a 3pm
 Costo: \$50
Incluye almuerzo



Día de Retiro Cuaresmal Lenten Day of Retreat

Marzo 7 de 9am a 3pm
 Costo: \$55
incluye almuerzo



Retiro Pasionista en Silencio
 Julio 10 al 12
 Costo: \$290 cuarto privado
 \$260 cuarto compartido



Misa Dominical Mensual

Ultimo Domingo del Mes a las 4pm
Lunes Pasionista
 Segundo lunes del mes a las 6:30pm



Parish Staff Day of Recollection
 August 26, 2026
 9am to 3pm
 Cost: \$50
Lunch included



Retiro en Silencio: Triduo Pascual

Abril 02 al 05
 Costo: \$375 cuarto privado
 \$325 cuarto compartido



Peregrinacion y Retiro Pasionista en Italia
 Septiembre 6 al 21, 2026
 Costo: \$3,950

Contact: Teresa G. de Donan at
 916-725-4720, ext. 345 or
 tdonan@passionist.org

¿Preguntas? Questions? tgdonan@passionist.org
pdonlan@passionist.org aaparcio@passionist.org

916-725-4720, Ext. 301

Upcoming CTK Retreats and Programs 2026

Lenten Day of Prayer



Uncommon Courage: Learning Discipleship from the Women of St. Matthew

This Lenten Day of Reflection invites all of us to walk with the women of St. Matthew's Gospel—from the birth of Jesus to his Ascension.

Presenters: Fr. Tom Bonacci, C.P.
Fr. Joe Moons, C.P.
and Fr. Phillip Donlan, C.P.

Wednesday, March 18
9:00am – 3:00pm
\$65 includes lunch

Institute for the Study of the Passion 2026 Season



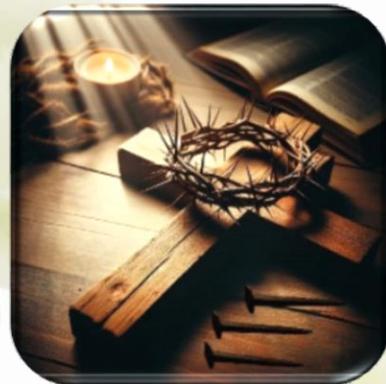
The Beloved Scripture of St. Matthew's Gospel

Spring: April 9, 23, May 7
Summer: July 2, 16, 30

Led by Fr. Tom Bonacci, C.P.
Thursdays 10:00am-11:15am (PT)
Following Community Mass
Cost: \$45.00 for all sessions
\$15.00 per session

In Person and Online

Easter Triduum Retreat



"Come and See the Place"

Holy Thursday through Easter Sunday April 2nd – 5th, 2026

Inspired by the angel's invitation, "Come and see the place where he lay" (Matthew 28:6), Holy Week invites us to walk closely with Jesus. Through these sacred days, our faith is renewed and we are sent forth as Christ's risen presence in the world.

Presenters: Fr. Tom Bonacci, C.P.
Fr. Joe Moons, C.P., Fr. Phillip Donlan, C.P.,
Talib & Olivia Huff

\$375 single/\$325 double

Easter Liturgy and Brunch Only: \$45

You are welcome to join us for the following services (no cost):

- Holy Thursday Prayer Service and Liturgy: 7:30pm in Quinn room.
- Good Friday: **Stations of the Cross are open to the public any time.**
- Good Friday Prayer Service and Liturgy: 3:00pm in Chapel.
- Saturday Prayer Service and Liturgy: 7:30pm in Quinn room.
- Easter Sunday Liturgy: 9:00am in Chapel.
(Followed by Brunch - \$45)

Recovery Retreats Weekends 2026



Nothing fancy. Something simple.

A weekend of conversation, quiet, and recovery for people in 12-step recovery. Newcomers and “old timers” are most welcome!

Women in Recovery:

May 29-31: Presented by Fr. Tom O’Neil

Sept. 25-27: Presented by Fr. Tom Weston, SJ

Cost: \$290 per person

Men in Recovery

Aug. 28-30: Presented by Fr. Tom O’Neill, SJ

Cost: \$290 per person



Catholic Engaged Encounter 2026 Dates:

Mar. 13-15, May 22-24,

Sept. 4-6, Nov. 20-22

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



2026 Dates: June 26-28

Oct. 16-18

For information or to register for the program, please call John and Peggy Di Nocco, Sacramento Retrouvaille 530-536-0449 or visit: www.helpourmarriage.org

Silent Directed Retreat



Come Away by Yourselfs

“Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.”

— Mark 6:31

This time together is an invitation to step aside from daily demands and enter a sacred space of silence, rest, and attentive listening.

July 6-10, 2026

Presented by: Fr. Joe Moons, C.P.

& Fr. Phillip Donlan, C.P.

Cost: \$520 per person

Married Couples Retreat



“Two Become One: A Journey of Love and Forgiveness”

This weekend retreat is for married couples at every stage of their life together. Together we are called trust God’s love for one another in our life.

July 17-19, 2026

Cost: \$520 per couple

Presenters: Fr. Joe Moons, C.P., Fr. Phillip Donlan, C.P., and Olivia and Talib Huff

For more information on retreats, call 916-725-4720 ext. 301 or go to www.christthekingretreatcenter.org

CTK Celebrations 2025



75th Diamond Jubilee Gala

The Center joyfully celebrated its 75th anniversary at the **Diamond Jubilee Gala, "Let It Shine! Pilgrims of Hope and Light," on October 4, 2025.** More than 130 guests gathered for a truly special and successful evening honoring this remarkable milestone. The celebration was graced by the presence of Bishop Jaime Soto of the Diocese of Sacramento, who presided over Mass, and with Auxiliary Bishop Rey Bersabal and Passionist Provincial, Fr. David Colhour, C.P. With heartfelt gratitude, sincere thanks is extended to all who made this evening possible through their attendance, volunteering, and generous support.

Save the date for the next Fall Gala on Saturday, October 3, 2026!



Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration

A celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe was held on December 12 with a bilingual Mass celebrated by Fr. Phillip Donlan, C.P. The celebration continued with a delightful brunch shared together.



Simbang Gabi

On December 18, Simbang Gabi, the Filipino Feast of Lights was celebrated. Fr. Joe Moons, C.P. presided at Mass, followed by a wonderful Filipino brunch that reflected the warmth, generosity, and rich cultural traditions of the community. CTK board member, Elaine Abelaye-Mateo and her husband Chris sponsored this celebration.



Las Posadas

Las Posadas was celebrated on December 20 with the Hispanic community. The procession and song re-enacted the search of Mary and Joseph, going from door to door, seeking shelter but being turned away until the last door is opened to them. Mass was then celebrated with Fr. Joe Moons, C.P.

The celebration concluded with a wonderful meal and the arrival of St. Nicholas, who delighted children and adults alike, by sharing candy with everyone, followed by the breaking of the piñata filled with candy.



Thank You to Jim and Normita Spinetta Sandoval!

Jim and Normita Spinetta Sandoval made a generous gift of \$108,808 to CTK, in support of the Center's grounds and exterior maintenance, establishing the **Sacred Grounds and Exterior Maintenance Stewardship Fund**. Jim has generously volunteered his time as auctioneer for the CTK Fall Gala event for the past several years.

The **Christ the King Guild** meet every 3rd Tuesday of the month, starting with Mass at Noon.

The Guild is a dedicated and committed group of faith-filled women who serve in many capacities in support of Christ the King Retreat Center.

For more information call Lynn Bertaut at 916 200-9078.



CTK NEWS

The Retreat Center continues to be busy with a full calendar of Passionist Retreats offered in both English and Spanish, along with many hosted groups, including high schools. These gatherings affirm the Retreat Center as a sacred place of prayer, reflection, community, and spiritual renewal.

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, the **75th Diamond Jubilee** Capital Campaign has raised \$645,000. These funds will allow us to invest in much-needed infrastructure improvements and to support our ministries, strengthening our mission for years to come.

We are truly blessed to have two dedicated volunteers, Adrianna Becerra and Martha Ferris, who have stepped in to manage the gift shop. They have beautifully refreshed the space by adding new items and thoughtfully arranging everything to create a welcoming and vibrant experience for our guests.

Fr. Phillip Donlan, C.P. participated in the **SEEK Conference** in Grapevine, Texas Jan. 1-5, 2026, along with Natalie Svistoonoff, Emily Shaffer and Fr. Bruno D'Souza from the Holy Cross Province. The conference hosted by FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) created space for honest conversations about faith, community and purpose for young adults gathered from across the country. There was over 5000 in attendance.



Supporting Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center

Thank you, sincerely, for your continued love and support of Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center. Together, we remain faithful to the vision of our founder, St. Paul of the Cross, by offering retreats and ministries that invite spiritual renewal, healing, and growth. Your generosity sustains our on-going programs, allows financial assistance possible for those in need, and helps care for the beautiful buildings, gardens, and sacred grounds that so many call a place of prayer, peace, and home. We are deeply grateful for you.



Ways to Give to CTK

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

The Gift of Time: Volunteer at CTK: Give the gift of time by volunteering at Christ the King. There are several volunteer opportunities including Evening & Weekend Retreat Host/Hostess, General Event Support and Grounds/Maintenance. For more information, please go to our website or contact the Development Office.

You can also give the gift of **Stock, Mutual Funds, IRA Distributions and Bequests:**

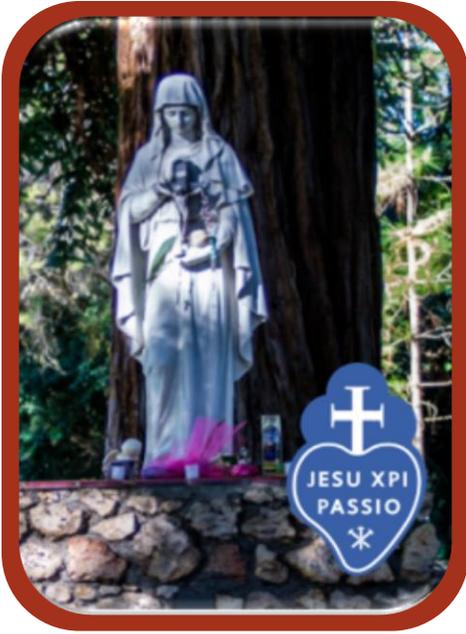
Legal title: Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center
 Legal address: 6520 Van Maren Lane, Citrus Heights, CA 95621
 Federal tax ID: 94-1294938



For additional information about ways to give, 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.



“Give, and it will be given to you.” (Luke 6:38)



Christ the King
 Passionist Retreat Center
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 Citrus Heights, CA, 95621

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MAY THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST BE ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS

SAVE THE DATE!

Summer Fiesta 2026



Sunday, June 7
 11:00am-4:00pm

Fall Gala 2026



Saturday, October 3, 2026
Mass, Dinner, Auction,
Dancing!

More Details to Come!