



INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

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**OAKLAND APOSTOLATE AT
SAINT MARGARET MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH**
Mailing Address:
1219 Excelsior Avenue, Oakland, CA 94610

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
(Mass Propers available in the Parish Bulletin)

Dear faithful,

In his Apostolic Constitution *Exsul Familia Nazarethana* (1952), the venerable Pope Pius XII wrote that the Holy Family of Nazareth, fleeing into Egypt, is the archetype of every refugee family. However, the pope also used this occasion to highlight another problem which has at times plagued Catholic lands: priests who abandon their flocks in times of danger. The Pope wrote:

“When the priests are absent, what ruin for those who must leave this world either unbaptized or still chained by sin! What sadness for their friends, who will not have them as companions in the repose of eternal life! What grief for all, and what blasphemy by some, due to the absence of the priest and of his ministry.”

On this Feast of the Holy Family, all Catholic families should remember the central place which prayer and frequent reception of the Sacraments, particularly Confession and the Holy Eucharist, should have in their lives. Family life, while beautiful, is full of sacrifices and little hardships and trials. The only way to succeed is through the grace of God, and this He principally gives us in the sanctifying grace of the Sacraments, the ordinary means of our salvation. Let us go to the fountain of the living waters of God’s grace, which only the Sacraments of Holy Mother Church can provide.

We bid goodbye to **Abbé Teague** this Sunday. After a short Christmas vacation, he is headed back to the Institute’s seminary, Gricigliano. Please keep him in your prayers for a good continuation of his priestly formation. **Abbé Alex Hoopes** is now with us for his vacation. Be sure to say hello!

Do you have children who need preparation for **First Holy Communion**? Classes will begin in late February of 2024, in preparation for First Communions in early May. To enroll your children, please contact: canon.norman@institute-christ-king.org.

Now that you have your blessed chalk from the **Feast of the Epiphany**, do you know what to do with it? Most of you probably know about the Epiphany blessing of doors, but here’s a refresher: This formula should be inscribed above the doors of the home: **“20 + C + M + B + 24”**. The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi — Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar — who came to visit the Infant Jesus in His first dwelling. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, “Christus mansionem benedicat” (“May Christ bless this house.”) The “+” signs represent the cross, and the “20” at the beginning and the “24” at the end mark the year.

This blessing is a wonderful way of reminding ourselves of our need for Christ’s blessing in our homes and our lives if we wish to persevere to a happy eternity. The chalking of the doors is a centuries-old practice throughout the Catholic world.

Our monthly **Men’s Group dinner** is this Wednesday, January 10 from 7:15 - 9:15 pm in Fr. Kozina Hall. Looking for authentic fraternity with other Catholic men seeking to live the Faith of our fathers in a hostile world? And enjoy a delicious catered dinner? The Men of St. Joseph is for you. Rsvp to **Felipe Vásquez**: MANofStJoseph@gmail.com or: 510-432-8995.

The annual **Walk for Life West Coast** will take place on Saturday, January 20 in



The Holy Family with a Palm Tree, Raphael, 1506

San Francisco. The event will begin at 11 am. As always, the Oakland and San Jose apostolates of the Institute of Christ the King will attend the Walk. More information here: <https://www.walkforlifewc.com/>.

Our **Men’s retreat** will take place on Wednesday, February 7 at the St. Vincent’s School for Boys in San Rafael (1 St. Vincent’s Dr.) from 9 am to 2 pm. Please **rsvp by January 31** to Felipe Vásquez (contact information above).

I will be **out of town** for three weeks beginning this Monday, January 8. I will return to Oakland on Saturday, January 27. First, I will spend a week with my family in Virginia, then, I will be at the Institute’s Apostolate in Tucson for about two weeks. Fr. Michael Kowalewski, whom you surely remember, will replace me for these dates. Please keep me in your prayers for a restful vacation. In case of **sacramental emergencies**, you can reach Fr. Kowalewski at: (314) 307-8636.

There will be a **festive Epiphany reception** this Sunday after the 12:30 pm Mass. We will have King Cake (perhaps even multiple cakes!) and the Three Kings Ceremony. The King Cake is variously known as “Three Kings Cake”, “Twelfth Day Cake”, etc., in many regional Catholic traditions. In France, they call it the “Galette des Rois”. In Brazil and Portugal, the cake is known as the “Bolo Rei”. In Spain, this pastry is crowned the “Roscon de Reys”. Whatever you call it, it’s delicious!

Wishing you a blessed Sunday,
Canon Norman

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LITURGICAL CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Date	Time	Mass of the Day	Celebrant	Intention
Sun. 1/7	7:00 am <i>Low Mass</i>	Feast of the Holy Family <i>2nd Class / White</i>	Canon Norman	Theresa Nguyen Thi Hat†
	12:30 pm <i>High Mass</i>			Dennis Scipi
Mon. 1/8	12:30 pm <i>Low Mass</i>	Mass of the First Sunday after the Epiphany <i>4th Class / White</i>	Fr. Staal	Carlos Azuaje†
Tue. 1/9	6:00 pm <i>Low Mass</i>	Votive Mass of the Holy Angels <i>4th Class / White</i>	Fr. Kowalewski	Souls in Purgatory
Wed. 1/10	6:00 pm <i>Low Mass</i>	Votive Mass of St. Joseph <i>4th Class / White</i>	Fr. Kowalewski	John Dinh
Thurs. 1/11	12:00 pm <i>Low Mass</i>	Commemoration of St. Hyginus, Pope & Martyr <i>4th Class / Red</i>	Fr. Kowalewski	Fr. Geoffrey Baraan
Fri. 1/12	6:00 pm <i>Low Mass</i>	Votive Mass of the Holy Cross <i>4th Class / Red / Adoration after Mass</i>	Fr. Kowalewski	Theresa Dinh
Sat. 1/13	10:00 am <i>Low Mass</i>	Commemoration of the Baptism of Our Lord <i>2nd Class / White / OMPH Devotions after Mass</i>	Fr. Kowalewski	Souls in Purgatory
Sun. 1/14	7:00 am <i>Low Mass</i>	Second Sunday after the Epiphany <i>2nd Class / Green</i>	Fr. Kowalewski	Zvonko Gelo
	12:30 pm <i>High Mass</i>			Jesus & Margarita Cristobal†

SACRAMENTS

Confessions are heard 30 minutes before each Mass, and also during the Adoration after the 6 pm Mass each Friday. Please contact Canon Norman if you are in need of or have questions regarding reception of any of the Sacraments.

CATECHISM CLASSES

Weekly catechism classes online: Please contact Canon Norman to request the Zoom link.

Youth Class: Tuesdays at 4:00 pm

Adult Class: Saturdays, at 2:30 pm

Prospective Catholics: contact Canon for class times

NB: *My Catholic Faith* is once again available for purchase! (Please contact Canon Norman)

FLOCKNOTE: sign up at icksapoakland.flocknote.com or text "ICKSPOakland" to 84576

PRAYER LISTS *

For the sick:

Thomas Henriksson	Gigi Cunningham	Peter Trong Nguyen
Paulann Dymond	Lianne Claver	Msr. David Link
Steve Farinaro	Marianne Martinez	Angie Gonzalez
Eurydice Buenger	Sylvia Duenas	Catherine Willis
Fil Marquez	Joshua Nascimento	Rick Pawek
Catherine Duenas		

For the repose of the souls of our beloved departed:

Rose Stone	Albert Bocek	Rita Soria Bautista
Bea Benham	Valeria Casillas	Carlos San Miguel
Dario Gonzalez	William M. Williams	Fr. Stan Zak
Nancy Duenas	Canon Fragelli	Ernest Jacob
Louisa Siu	Gabriel Fernandez	Camdan McWright
Mme. Guillemette de Guernon	Count Wolfgang von Waldstein	
Bernadette Moreau	Fr. Prokop Jozef Zboron, OCarM	
Thomas Apple	Alan Wong	Carole Jenkins

Requiescant in pace.

***Prayer lists:** If you wish to add a name or revise an entry on the prayer lists, please send an email to oakland@institute-christ-king.org. A longer list of the Apostolate's faithful departed is attached to the weekly Flocknote. *Thank you!*

UPCOMING EVENTS AND LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

January 10—Men's Group Dinner, 7:15-9:15pm at Fr. Kozina Hall; RSVP to Felipe Vásquez: MANofStJoseph@gmail.com or 510-432-8995

January 13*—Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions after Mass * instead of 3rd Saturday due to Walk for Life on January 20

January 20—Walk for Life West Coast

January 27—Blessing of Sacramentals after 10am Mass

January 29—Feast of St. Francis de Sales (Institute patronal feast)

February 2—Candlemas (end of Christmastide, blessing of candles)

MEN'S RETREAT - FEBRUARY 7

Our Men's Retreat will take place on Wednesday, February 7, 9am-2pm at St. Vincent School for Boys, 1 St. Vincent's Dr., San Rafael; Please **RSVP** to Felipe Vásquez: MANofStJoseph@gmail.com or 510-432-8995. Deadline for RSVP is January 31.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP MAKE THE LITURGY BEAUTIFUL?

There are many ways the faithful can support our liturgical celebrations, keeping them beautiful and dignified. In this new year, consider **joining the Altar Servers Corp**, by having you or your son(s) serve Mass, or **joining the schola** to sing the prayers of the Church in timeless Gregorian Chant, or **joining the floral team** which beautifies our altar with fresh flowers in accordance with the needs of each liturgical season and feasts. If you would like to support our liturgical celebrations in one of these ways, please email Canon Norman.

"ASK A PRIEST LIVE!" RADIO PROGRAM

Canons from the Institute of Christ the King participate in a new LIVE radio show on The Station of the Cross Catholic Media Network, at 6PM eastern time each weekday. <https://thestationofthecross.com/askapriest/>

SUNDAY SERMONS AND BULLETINS

Audio recordings of the Sunday sermons and digital copies of the Sunday bulletin can be found at the following links, respectively:

<https://institute-christ-king.org/oakland-sermons>

<https://institute-christ-king.org/bulletins-oakland>