



St. Christopher Catholic Church

629 S. Glendora Ave., West Covina, CA 91790

TEL: (626) 960-1805 FAX: (626) 851-0595

OFFICE HOURS: Mon - Sat: 9AM to 1PM and 2PM to 6PM
Sun: 8AM to 4PM

EMAIL: sccwestcovina@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.sccwestcovina.net

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

SATURDAY: 8:30 AM, 5:30 PM Vigil

SUNDAY: 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM,
10:15 AM, 12 Noon,
4:00 PM (Vietnamese), 6:30 PM

WEEKDAY: 6:30 AM, 8:30 AM

FIRST WEDNESDAY: 6:30 AM, 8:30 AM,
6:30 PM

FIRST FRIDAY: 6:30 AM, 8:30 AM,
6:30 PM, 8:00 PM (Vietnamese)

HOLY DAY:

8:00 PM Vigil (Vietnamese/English)
6:30 AM, 8:30 AM, 7:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SAT: 4:00 PM - 5 :00 PM,
6:30 PM - 7:00 PM, and by
appointment

Pastor

Rev. Joseph Dass

Associate Pastor/ Vietnamese Community Chaplain

Rev. Khoa L. Mai

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Douglas Moloney (Retired)
Deacon Loc Nguyen
Deacon Jesse Batacan
Deacon Andrew Cho

School Principal

Lucia Saborio

Director of Religious Formation

Judi Peña

Parish Secretary

Elizabeth Hudson

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 24, 2019



Give, and gifts will be given to you;
a good measure, packed together,
shaken down, and overflowing,
will be poured into your lap.

Luke 6:38

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**St. Christopher Church is a faith-community of
diverse people who gather to joyfully celebrate
life, faith and love in Jesus Christ through**



Reading 1 1 Sm. 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

In those days, Saul went down to the desert of Ziph with three thousand picked men of Israel, to search for David in the desert of Ziph. So David and Abishai went among Saul's soldiers by night and found Saul lying asleep within the barricade, with his spear thrust into the ground at his head and Abner and his men sleeping around him.

Abishai whispered to David: "God has delivered your enemy into your grasp this day. Let me nail him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I will not need a second thrust!" But David said to Abishai, "Do not harm him, for who can lay hands on the LORD's anointed and remain unpunished?" So David took the spear and the water jug from their place at Saul's head, and they got away without anyone's seeing or knowing or awakening. All remained asleep, because the LORD had put them into a deep slumber. Going across to an opposite slope, David stood on a remote hilltop at a great distance from Abner, son of Ner, and the troops. He said: "Here is the king's spear. Let an attendant come over to get it. The LORD will reward each man for his justice and faithfulness. Today, though the LORD delivered you into my grasp, I would not harm the LORD's anointed."

Responsorial Psalm Ps. 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13**R. (8a) The Lord is kind and merciful.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all my being, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills. He redeems your life from destruction, crowns you with kindness and compassion.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Merciful and gracious is the LORD, slow to anger and abounding in kindness. Not according to our sins does he deal with us, nor does he requite us according to our crimes.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has he put our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.**Reading 2 1 Cor. 15:45-49**

Brothers and sisters: It is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being", the last Adam a life-giving spirit. But the spiritual was not first; rather the natural and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, earthly; the second man, from heaven. As was the earthly one, so also are the earthly, and as is the heavenly one, so also are the heavenly. Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one.

Alleluia Jn. 13:34**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

I give you a new commandment, says the Lord: love one another as I have loved you.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Lk. 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples: "To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic. Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same. If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, and get back the same amount. But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you."

Your prayers are requested for the recovery of:

Irma Nava, Olga Gudino, Alisha Howard, Belen Holguin, Raymundo Espinas, Deacon Roland Abalos, Loan, Fielmia Cabasac, Estrella Balbuena, David Saucedo, Steven Berktold, Ana C. Rau, Douglas Francisco, Dionisio Antonio, Linda Arenas, Annie Cadampog, Christy Garcia, Raul Roldan, Felipe Asuncion Sr., Evelyn de la Cruz, Joe Tan, Sonia Soto, Lorenzo Dalia, Benita Rosales, Alex Asuncion, Virginia Moloney, Gina Priddy, Yvette Reyna, Mila Direcho, George Aquino, Rudy Aguero Sr., Jacqueline Tan, Corning Gutierrez, Cora Cruz, Teresita Mindaro, Ben Martinez, Violeta Abiad, Alex Espero, Romeo Guerrero Jr., Virgie Torres, Gloria Castillo, John Gozo, Toribio Alano, Espina Bartolome, Dan Batacan, Raymundo Espinas, Martha Rodriguez, Ezzy Hernandez, Kevin Alonso, Maria Moeller, Noel Tolentino, Gary Molato, Sheri Dungca, Estelita de Leos, Steve Ngo, Rose Corteza, Jessie Richards, Fides de Ramos.

If you wish to offer prayers for the recovery of your loved ones, please contact the parish office at 626-960-1805

Mass Intentions

Parishioners wishing to make an offering so that Mass can be celebrated for their intention or for their love ones - both living and the dead, can have their request be made known at the Parish Center office of St. Christopher Church.

Sunday Offering February 17, 2019

Sunday Envelope.....	\$ 7,333.48
Sunday Plate.....	\$ 4,918.70
Total	\$ 12,252.18
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Welcome!

We extend our hands and hearts in Christian fellowship to you here celebrating with us, whether long time residents or newly arrived in the parish. We thank God that you are with us. If you are not registered, or need to update your information, please fill out the form below and place in the collection basket or mail to the Parish Office.

NAME _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP CODE _____

New Parishioner ___ Change of Address ___ Name Change ___

Please Remove from Mailing List ___



- ◆ **Toribio Alano**
- ◆ **Tuan Trinh**

*Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord and let perpetual light shine
upon them.
May they rest in peace.*

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, February 23

5:30 p.m. (D) Pascual Caballero †
(D) Victoria L. Hernandez †
(D) Orlando Garcia †
— Josephine Asuncion

Sunday, February 24

7:00 a.m (D) Teodoro Pizarro Jr. †
— Garza Family
8:30 a.m. (D) Alejandro S. Salazar †
(D) Ferolina Eballe †
(D) Elpidio Padre †
— Jaysen Pepper Family
10:15 a.m. (D) Rostica Vitalez †
(D) Bill Estep †
(D) Mary R. Perez †
— Dr. Dennis Aguirre
12:00 Noon (D) Romberto Felix †
(D) Blas A. Perez Jr †
— Juliana Betancourt
6:30 p.m — St. Christopher Church Parishioners

Monday, February 25

6:30 a.m. (D) Ray Ed San Gabriel †
(D) Magnette San Gabriel †

8:30 a.m. (D) Evarista Carlos †
(D) Bill Estep †
— Raul Roldan
— Eileen Bicara

Tuesday, February 26

6:30 a.m. — Tom Riardon & Family
— Karen Riardon
8:30 a.m. — Albert / Melissa Escobar

Wednesday, February 27

6:30 a.m. (D) Joe J. Gomez †
8:30 a.m. (D) Jaime Angeles Calderon Sr. †
(D) Nestor Gonzales †
(D) Carlos Gonzales †
— Manuel Gonzales

Thursday, February 28

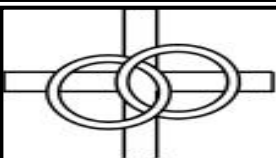
6:30 a.m. — Tom Riardon
8:30 a.m. (D) Mrs. Trini Ramos †
(D) James Delgado †
— Ferdinand Asuncion

Friday, March 1

6:30 a.m. (D) Leonardo Magbahat †
8:30 a.m. (D) All Souls †
6:30 p.m. — Angelica Mejia

Saturday, March 2

8:30 a.m. (D) Orlando Garcia †
— Susan Escalera
— Savannah Lujan



Holy Matrimony

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**For Weddings, please call the Church Office six months in advance.
(626) 960-1805**



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Compassion Versus Aggression

A popular legend has it:

Cain spoke to Abel and said:

- They say the world is ruled by mercy. That's wrong. They say that one's good deeds are taken into account. That's false. I say the Law of God is distorted, disfigured by flattery. You flatter God. That is why he favors you.
- Don't say that, replied Abel. God is justice and His justice is unalterable. If God favors me, it is because my deeds are better than yours.
- I refuse to believe this. There is no justice or judge in this world. And there is no world to come.
- God is just, said Abel. There is a celestial world corresponding to the one on earth. The just will be rewarded, the wicked will be punished.

It was during this conversation that Cain killed Abel.

Behavioral scientists like to argue about the origin of aggression. One school says that people are born with anger and aggression built in. Others say that murderous aggression is acquired. Hence one side maintains we are born wolves and hawks. The other claims we are born lambs and doves, but change as we get older. Both sides agree that, whether innate or acquired, the tendency to violent aggression must be tempered and re-directed to productive behavior.

Today's readings ponder the themes of aggression and compassion. The warrior David restrains his aggressive drive to kill and spares the life of Saul. Paul notes that we begin as natural people, but need to work to become spiritual people. Jesus asks us to love our enemies and imitate the compassion of our heavenly Father. The liturgy calls us to abandon an aggression that leads us to wipe out other persons--even when those persons are enemies. There is too much of the Cain and not enough of the Abel in all of us.

No one need look far to find plenty of evidence that aggression possesses a strong foothold among us: The echo of quarrels drifting from otherwise peaceful-looking homes, the news stories about murders, rapes, and muggings, the TV-on-site where battles are fought creating the "living room war." Stores sell coffee mugs that advise, "Intimidate someone today." The business world, always known for its aggressive methods, has yielded recently two gurus of aggression who claim that "push pays off." Their message is: Death will come soon. Meanwhile there is nothing left to believe in but success and power in a cruel world we never made.

Despite all this, the quality of mercy should still not be strained. Man may dismiss compassion from the heart, but not God. Alexander Pope writes:

*Teach me to feel another's woe ----- to hide the fault I see
That mercy I to others show ----- that mercy shown to me."*

An old farmer went to church alone.

When he returned, his wife asked:

“Was the sermon good?”

“Yes.” “What was it about?” persisted the wife.

“Sin.” “Well, what did he say?”

“He was against it.”

The mother was speaking to her 5-year old daughter about the Creation story in Genesis when the little girl said:

“Dad says we are descended from monkeys. But mom you say that we came from God.”

The mother said:

“My family members came from God; I don't know about your Dad's family.

Perhaps they came from monkeys.”

ADS

ADS

“Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you , pray for those who mistreat you.” _____ Luke 6:27

It would at first sight appear that the demands that Christ makes on our charity here are anything but easy. Loving one's enemies is asking a lot. Blessing them and praying for them might be all right for St. Francis but expecting it of us seems to be going very far. Asking for a blow on the second cheek while the first is still twinging with pain seems fit only for a martyr. Not to try to take back what was stolen from us looks very foolish. Yet it was Christ who made all these demands.

However, before we give up in despair, and decide that this type of Christianity is not for us, let us look a little more closely at the demands that are made. To love our enemy does not mean we must throw our arms about him every time we meet him (he would not let us anyway!). It means we must do all in our power to rid our minds of any hatred of him, and try to see the good that is in him. Not judging and condemning comes under this heading. Human sinful beings that we are, our faculty for seeing in our neighbor the real man as he is before God, is very limited and very prone to error. There are justly convicted robbers and murderers in our jails, in whom God can see a lot of goodness even now, and perhaps future citizens of heaven later on.

Not demanding back what was unjustly taken from us does not mean that we may not have recourse to the legal or other means available to us for obtaining compensation in such cases. What it does forbid is personal (generally forceful) restoration of our rights and property.

Another consoling point to bear in mind is that the vast majority of our fellowmen have no inclination to injure us in our person or our property and will never do so. If we feel we have a lot of enemies only waiting for the chance to pounce on us, we would do well to examine our own consciences very carefully and then look for the many good points there are in our neighbor's character.

"An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, life for life" was the practice amongst the Jews at the time of Christ and for centuries before (Ex. 21 : 23-25). Christ sets up the "golden rule" of fraternal charity in place of this Law of Talion. Every man should truly love his neighbor for he is his brother. What is more, Christ's mission on earth has made him a son of God and an heir to heaven. Our chief interest in our neighbor must therefore be a spiritual interest. If he offends us, he offends God which is much more serious. Our charity should help him to seek God's forgiveness. That he should seek ours is of very minor importance in comparison with that.

You would like your neighbor to help you to reach heaven. "You go and do likewise" to your neighbor and you will both get there.

RADICAL LOVE

Have you ever read or heard anything about Jesus being called a radical? What such a statement ignores is that God has been a radical all through salvation history. What kind of superior being forgives the kind of unloving actions humankind has committed through the centuries? Answer: a God of radical mercy, kindness, love. In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches that, like himself, like God, we must love with God-like radical compassion, even those who are our enemies. Didn't Jesus give us an extreme example, forgiving those who put him to death? How difficult it is to be like God, like Jesus, forgiving, even loving, the very people who have treated us badly!

The first reading gives another example. David was under a death sentence by King Saul, who had become David's enemy through jealousy. Given an opportunity to murder Saul in his sleep, David chose to let him live, out of respect for God's will toward Saul. David recognized that the only way for him to do God's will was to love Saul, his enemy, enough to refrain from being judge, jury, and executioner.