

Christ Child Catholic Church
Dedicated to Growth in Christ and to the Challenges of Loving Service
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THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH
December 27, 2020

First reading Genesis 15: 1-6; 21: 1-3

God's Covenant with Abram – Isaac Is Born
This is the first time **Do not be afraid** is recorded in the Bible. Fear comes when God's people take their eyes off of the One who promises and begin to worry about the promise. Because he had just refused great wealth and did not yet have an **heir**, Abram needed to know that God was his **shield** and **exceedingly reward** – his Protector and Provider.

Abram was **childless**, but for a man of extraordinary wealth, it was important to avoid dying without a plan for inheritance – ancient culture's mark of irresponsibility. So he did what others in his situation would do: HE ADOPTED A SERVANT, **Eliezer**, as his heir. This "quest for a son" motif underlines Abram's entire story.

"And Abram believed in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness."

These verses 21:1-2 mention the Lord's promise three times to illustrate that everything happens exactly as God says it will.

The Lord remembers his covenant forever!

Hebrews 1:1-2

God's Supreme Revelation

God spoke at **various times** – to Adam, to Noah, to Abraham, to Moses, and to the prophets – and in **various ways**, from thunder and lightning to the voice of a trumpet; in a still, small voice or in vision and dreams; in human form and angelic

visitations; through foreshadowing and parable and more.

All prior revelation pointed to God's final revelation in Jesus. **By His Son!** God the Father provided the perfect vehicle of expression: He translated deity into humanity, and this revelation was absolute, infallible, and authoritative.

The Gospel Luke 2:22-40

Jesus Presented in the Temple

When a Jewish couple brought their son for official presentation, OT law required them to bring an offering of a lamb or a goat. But if a family could not afford this, they could substitute two **turtledoves**, which is what Mary and Joseph did. The Savior was born into the poorest of peasant Jewish families so that He might identify with all people.

Simeon, mentioned only here in Scripture, was a righteous man who had focused everything on his anticipation of Christ, **The Consolation of Israel**, coming to free His people Israel and to be her Messiah.

For Pregnancy Support

Birthright 241-8444 or 800-550-4900

MASS INTENTIONS Dec 26 – Jan 1, 2021

Saturday 4:00 p.m. Ewa & Wlodek Kubalski
Sunday 10:00 a.m. Adrienne & Marc Guest
Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Susan Parker
Thursday 9:00 a.m. + Michael Glidden
Friday 9:00 a.m. Ewa & Wlodek Kubalski

Stewardship of Treasury December 19 & 20,

2020 Total \$1,445.00

Thank you and God bless your generosity!

Check out our Website

We would like to invite and encourage everyone to take a look at our Parish website at

www.christchild.org

Women's Club/Prayer Group

We meet 4th Wednesday of each month, **January 27th 2021 from 1 to 2:30 pm.** Our focus is social and spiritual at the same time!

We Need Your Support

The 2021 Collection Envelopes are in the entrance to the CHURCH. Please pick up your box if you had one for last year. **God bless you, Fr. Eugenio**

17th Annual Giving at Greenfield 12/21/2020

Dear Friends and Family at Christ Child and Holy Trinity Church.

Giving at Greenfield is an amazing way to end 2020. The pandemic has impacted our lives but we are tough! Our hopeful spirit rose to the occasion. I want to thank all of you for your participation in our **17th Greenfield Project**. Let's start with numbers:

We adopted 58 families.

Eight families received food organized by Caralie Olsen.

50 families received clothing and toys. Of the 50 families, we brought smiles to 222 individuals, 88 moms and dads and 134 children.

We could never accomplish this without the love, support and organization from our friends at Holy Trinity. I would like to extend a special recognition to Flora Chan and Dalia Espinoza and their amazing staff for signing up the families and organizing this event.

There were lots of changes this year! Our families were a bit smaller, we learned how to sign up virtually, and we had a "contactless" delivery of our gifts. We certainly missed seeing the happy smiles from our friends at Holy Trinity.

I would like to send a few special thanks to the following people: Father Eugenio, our spiritual leader, Rosanna Kennedy for taking care of our finances, Caralie Olsen for enlisting her sister Leslie. Together they adopted 7 families for gifts and 8 families for food! "Elf Mike" Hudson created wooden toy trucks and puzzles for our little people. Gina knit beautiful hats for our children. Several friends stepped up to help shop! Gina Boisvert, Tiana Freiri-Foley, Sam Maskell (Caralie's niece), Steph Lykam (my sister-in-law) and Pat McCrery who bought toys for 9 families. We had many friends and family join our community and adopted families. Joesten sisters

(Steph, Margo and Michele) all helped out! Sam Maskell's mother-in-law and friends of Steph Lykam (Katie Iyama and Chandra Frazer) also adopted families. Paul Boisvert sent gifts for a family. Danielle Martin (my daughter) also adopted a family and shopped for me.

From the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU for all the help. I realize it "takes a village" and you all help in different ways. The financial donations, adopting a family, driving your cars and the prayers all make this project work.

On a personal note, it appears the Joestens will be moving to West Sacramento to live near our daughter and baby Paige. I hope some of you will want to continue the Greenfield Project in 2021. Please contact me if you have an interest. God Bless to all of you!

Karen Joesten karengjoesten@gmail.com
408-375-0984

Life is giving us many opportunities for life and changes.

As some of you know, it's my turn to make a change. More than 16 years ago I arrived here for what was supposed to be a short time because there was no pastor. But in the province of God, I was given the Parish as Pastor. I have been very happy here with you. But now with age, reflection, prayers and seeking the will of God, it is my turn to leave the Parish.

The Bishop Daniel Garcia has allowed me to leave her and a new shepherd will come the first of February of 2021. It is not easy to put these words into a letter, but it's good for all of you. My friends, brothers and sisters, let me aside and start living my vocation in another way. I'll be close living in Santa Cruz, Ca.

I look forward to your understanding and help with this change. And please give the new Pastor all the help you've given me.

I love you and we'll pray together,
Fr. Eugenio

Thank you for your Faith, Hope and Charity!

Many of you have been quietly sending in donations over and above the Sunday collections since the start of the pandemic. In fact, we have received nearly \$40,000 since March 2020 in the form of donations. Your generosity has really helped the parish finances, but more importantly, your faith and hope for the future is so heartening. Let us all be ever hopeful for a beautiful and Holy Year!

With Love,

Rosanna Kennedy