

# Christ Our Light Catholic Church

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston  
9677 HIGHWAY 6 • NAVASOTA, TEXAS

**OFFICES AND MAILING ADDRESS**  
**510 Manley Street • Navasota, TX 77868**

**Phone:** 936-825-3920 • **Fax:** 936-825-7612

**Religious Education:** 936-825-1869

**After hour emergencies:** 936-825-3920

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

### Monday-Thursday

9:15am - noon & 1:00pm - 5:00pm

**Friday** 9:15am- noon

Other times by appointment

**Website:** [www.christourlight.org](http://www.christourlight.org)

## PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor Rev. Elias Lopéz

Grant Holt, Permanent Deacon

Gregory Jelinek, MD, Permanent Deacon (Retired)

Matthew Krusleski, Pastoral Year Seminarian

## ADMINISTRATION & BOOKKEEPER

Nelda Kurten

## COORDINATOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Carolyn Katkoski

## DIRECTOR OF LITURGY AND MUSIC

Susan Russell

## SACRISTAN

Samuel Pry

## PASTORAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Michael Culver (Chairperson), Teresa Morales, Jason Katkoski, Laura Quirino, Gerardo Olguin, Sam Pry and Larry Busa

## FINANCE COUNCIL

Teresa Morales, Ann Clark, Carolynn Katkoski

## DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN

Deacon Grant Holt, Jason Katkoski, Mitch Kroll, Gregorio Gonzalez

## RE BOARD

President: Brandi Tejeda, Vice President: Jessica Herrera

Secretary: Teresa Morales, Board Members: Lucy Coronilla, Jason Katkoski,

Allyson Sweeney, Den Grant Holt

## BUILDING COMMITTEE

Larry Busa, Danny Clark, Richard Krolczyk, and Joe Rangel

## YOUTH MINISTER COORDINATOR

Jessica Herrera

## SUNDAY EUCHARIST

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm

Sunday: (English) 8:00am

Sunday: (Spanish) 1:00pm

## WEEKDAY EUCHARIST

First Saturday 9am

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30am

Tuesday 6:00pm (English)

Thursday 6:00pm (Spanish)

## ROSARY PRAYED IN COMMON

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:40pm

Wednesday & Friday: 8:10am

Saturday: 5:15pm

Sunday: 7:15am & 12:15pm

## RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION

Tuesday, Thursday and

2nd & 4th Saturdays 5:00-5:45pm

and by appointment 936-825-3920

## RECONCILIACION/CONFESIONES

Los Martes, jueves y el

segundo y cuarto sábado a las 5:00-5:45pm

y por cita 936-825-3920

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time : July 5, 2020**



# Christ Our Light Catholic Church • Navasota, Texas

July 04 & 05, 2020

Under the Patronage of St. Patrick and Our Lady of Guadalupe

## MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTION

**MONDAY, JULY 06**

No Mass

**TUESDAY, JULY 07**

6:00 PM D. B. † and Mary † Mauro

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 08**

8:30 AM George Malek †

**THURSDAY, JULY 09**

8:30 AM Smith Family, Living and Deceased

6:00 PM\* Angelina Tenorio †

**FRIDAY, JULY 10**

8:30 AM Mary Ann Kimmey †

**SATURDAY, JULY 11**

6:00 PM Rodney †, Maggie † & Lambert †  
Laskowski

**SUNDAY, JULY 12**

8:00 AM Torres, Rangel and Baldobino Families

1:00 PM\* People of the Parish

\*Spanish

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

**TUESDAY, JULY 07**

5:00 PM to 5:45 PM Confession, CH

**THURSDAY, JULY 09**

5:00 PM to 5:45 PM Confession, CH

**SATURDAY, JULY 11**

8:30 AM English Baptism Class, CH

5:00 PM to 5:45 PM Confession, CH

## II Collections, in July

St. Vincent de Paul de Paul (Black Bag)

Peter's Pence July 4th & 5th

Maintenance Fund July 11th & 12th



## ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers this past weekend were in Memory of Barbara Thane. The parish thanks the Thane Family.

The following weekend is open to place flowers on the Altar.

August 29 and 30.

Call the parish office at 936 825-3920 to sign up to place flowers on the altar for one of the weekends open.



## E-Mail Addresses for the Parish

To e-mail Fr. Elias...fr.eli@christourlight.org

To e-mail Nelda: nelda@christourlight.org

To e-mail RE Board: reboard@christourlight.org

Christ Our Light web-site: www.christourlight.org

## BULLETIN DEADLINE TUESDAY 12:00 NOON

Announcements and or articles are to be submitted in writing to the Parish Office, or faxed to 825-7612 or e-mailed nelda@christourlight.org.

Events, meeting etc. for the Parish Calendar are to be submitted in writing to the Parish Office in advance.

## AFTER MASS WEEKLY PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENTS

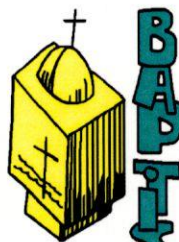
Deadline Tuesday, 12:00 Noon. Announcements are to be submitted in writing to the Parish Office. The Pastor reserves the right to pick and choose which announcements are made in this forum as there is a need to keep these to a minimum.

Todos los anuncios deben ser presentados por escrito en la oficina de la parroquia no mas tarde que los martes al mediodía. El Pastor decidirá si las noticias son de importancia para ser pronuncia das.

## PARISH REGISTRATION

To our new parishioner, we welcome you to Christ Our Light Parish. Please register at the parish office or ask one of the Hospitality Ministers to help you. For parishioners moving out of the parish or changing your address or phone number, please notify the parish office, 825-3920.

## Sacrament of Baptism Schedule



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English Baptism Class Schedule for 2020: 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM July 11th and Oct. 10th., 2020 **PARTICIPANTS MUST REGISTER AT LEAST 1 WEEK PRIOR TO CLASS.** To register please contact Deacon Grant Holt at 936-825-6448 or Lucy Coronilla at 936-419-9296.

Spanish Baptism Class Schedule for 2020: 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM, July 18th and Oct. 25th. For Information, call Rosa Torres at 936-419-8974

ALL DOCUMENTS AND FORMS must be completed and turned in before Baptism Date. SCHEDULED Baptism will be celebrated once a month at 12 noon every 3rd Saturday following completion of the baptismal classes the prior month and Fr. Elie has been informed in advance. The Sacrament of Baptism is a communal celebration. Therefore, private baptisms are not celebrated here.





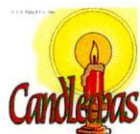
**PRAY for THE CONTINUING  
RECOVERY OR COMFORT OF  
the infirmed and homebound  
members of our community.**

Jo Ann Clepper, Frank Crouch, Herman Culmer, Eva Estrada, Liz Estrada, Lois Finke, Jerry Flores, Liz Johnson, Juanita King, Mary Ann Knowles, Liz Kubricht, Christian Mills, Leslie Mills, Leon Nowak, Victor Ostiguin, Leona Pasket, Angelina Peterson, Wallace Peterson, Irene Ramirez, Lucila Rivera, Rosalinda Salazar, Josh Sechelski, Dana Sowell, and Krysten Sowell, Jessie Valadez, III, Crystal Winkler.

**Call the parish office** when a member of our community has a need to be remembered in prayer, 825-3920.

Also, if you have added a name to the prayer list, **please call to let us know when to remove the name from the list.** Thank you.

**New Memorial Candles**



The new Candle Stands are electrical. Anyone wanting to light a candle may do so by pressing the red button and give an offering. The candle will burn for 12 hours. Memorial Candles burning for one year are \$150.00 each. Come by the parish office to schedule and pay your offering of \$150.00 for your Memorial candle.

**YOUR PARISH SUPPORT**

**SU APOYO  
PARROQUIAL  
TRESASURE YOU HAVE  
SHARED:**



**GIFTS FOR GOD — YOUR TITHE RESPONDS**

**June 27 & 28, 2020**

(64) Offertory Envelopes/Loose Checks  
On Live Giving, Mail Ins, & Drop Ins 5,699.00

Maintenance Fund 85.00

Thank you thank you for Mailing, Bringing In, and On Line Giving your Offertory. Thank you also for turning in your Offertory for the past weeks. Baskets will not be passed during the Offertory. You will be able to place your weekly gift in a basket by the Baptism Font before or after Mass.

**JUNE 29, 2020  
DIOCESAN SERVICE FUND—2020**

Goal: \$24,940.00  
Pledged: \$15,670.00  
Paid: \$12,489.00  
Total Registered Families: 675  
Number of Participant: 53  
Percent Paid: 50.08%  
Paid Over (Under) Goal: (\$12,451.00)  
Pledged Over (Under) Goal: (\$9,270.00)

**In Our Prayers**

We remember in prayer our friends and loved ones in active military duty, both in and out of harms way, in the service of their our country. Pray for peace in the world and for our leaders.

SSG Jorge Aguilar, Jr., Alexander Cortez,  
Jesus Cortez, SFC Antinia Franco, 1SG  
Jason Malek, Antonio Magallon, Jose Rene Milan  
Christopher Munoz, Javier Salinas,  
Sgt. Kevin Seigler, SSgt Allen Thane

**OUR HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS  
FOR JULY**

**General Intention — Our Families**

**We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.**



**P.E.R.A. (Perpetual Eucharistic  
Reparative Adoration)**

*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has resumed on Thursdays throughout the Summer following the 8:30 AM Masses on Thursdays and will be reposed before the 6:00 PM Spanish Mass.*

*The "Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic worship. Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, in contemplation full of faith, and open to make amends for the serious offenses and crimes of the world. Let our adoration never cease."*

Please call Mary Rangel @ 936-419-9024 to sign up for a time slot on Thursdays.

**THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND  
Web site is FORMED.ORG**

The Parish Code to access the website is

There are 2 easy ways to connect to  
**FLOCKNOTE (pick one):**

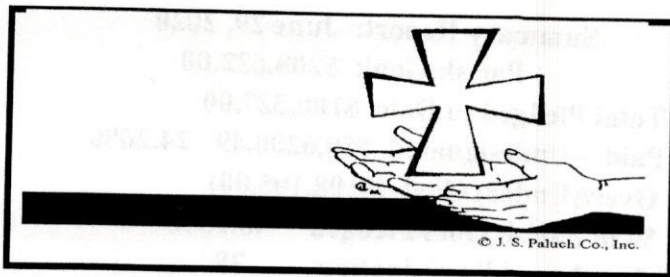
**MVMZKF**

Then register to create an account.

**NOTE: Do not use Mozilla Firefox browser.**

1. Visit our church at: [www.flocknote.com/christourlightchurch](http://www.flocknote.com/christourlightchurch)
2. Text SPOLG to 84576 from your phone to subscribe to updates.





**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
July 5, 2020**

**“Come to me, all you who labor and are  
burdened, and I will give you rest.  
—Matthew 11:28**

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

Every 1st weekend of the month (Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses) blessing of all who have a birthday or Wedding Anniversary during the month.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS  
to the Priesthood and Religious Life  
especially in our Archdiocese.**

**MEMORIALIZING THE SANCTUARY CANDLE**

If you are interested in memorializing the Sanctuary candle, in memory of, in personal reverence and petition or Special Intention for the week, stop by the parish office for more information.

**ParishSOFT  
Giving**

**SIGN UP NOW**

**Sign Up for Christ Our Light  
Online Giving Now**

Christ Our Light now accepts online giving. Parish Soft is our parish's online giving program. Enroll at the link below. It is secure and easy to use. You will be able to use Parish Soft for normal tithing and special collections throughout the year. Apps are available, so your cell phones/tablets can be used for online giving.

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/dl?uid=chri510191>

**GIVE BLOOD**

**Sunday, July 5th**

**8:00 AM—12:30 PM**

**At Christ Our Light Church**

**MONTHLY REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASSES**

Refreshment will be served after Masses the first Sunday of each month. The refreshments and service will be provided by the following:

Altar Society—January and July  
Pastoral Council—February and October  
Finance Council—March and September  
R.E. Board—April and August  
Stewardship—May and November  
Choir—June and December

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS**

**14th Sunday of Ordinary Times** — *“For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.” Matthew 11:30* When we think of being good stewards, we may think that God is asking too much of us when he calls us to generously share our time, talent and treasure. However, we must remember that we are not “owners” of anything, we are merely “stewards” of the gifts God has given us. All he is asking is that we give back a small portion, in gratitude, of what He has already given to us.

**Boletín de Mayordomía—Reflexiones**

**14º domingo del Tiempo Ordinario** — *“Porque mi yugo es suave, y mi carga ligera.” Mateo 11:30* Cuando pensamos en ser buenos administradores, podemos pensar que Dios nos está pidiendo demasiado cuando nos llama a compartir generosamente nuestro tiempo, talento y tesoro. Sin embargo, debemos recordar que no somos “dueños” de nada, somos simplemente “administradores” de los dones que Dios nos ha dado. Todo lo que está pidiendo es que le devolvamos una pequeña, en agradecimiento, de lo que ya nos ha dado.

**CCE ONLINE REGISTRATION  
GOES THROUGH JULY 31ST.**

**To register online go to the  
Church's website—  
[www.christourlight.org](http://www.christourlight.org)  
Click on Registration Form  
and select either English or  
Spanish**



## IGNITE: Our Faith, Our Mission

Summary Report: June 29, 2020

Parish Goal: \$208,632.00

Total Pledged to Date \$100,527.00

Paid—Undesignated \$50,6200.49 24.26%

Over/(Under) Goal (\$108,105.00)

% of Parish Goal Pledged 48.18%

Number of Participation 38

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### **“TEACHING, EVANGELIZING AND WORSHIP”**

#### **YOUR DONATION TO DSF WILL SUPPORT**

**Your Gift Touches Many Lives Throughout the Archdiocese**

**DSF programs served our local Church in many ways this past year with your help:**



**Office of Vocations** — The ministry assists men and women who are discerning a call to the priesthood and religious life. They provide retreats, mentoring and guidance for interested candidates. They also involve in a man's discernment, application and admittance into the seminary and journey to the priest.

**“The Office of Vocations helped me immensely in the process of my discernment, as well as in the different aspect of applying to the seminary. I am deeply grateful for everyone's encouragement through prayers and financial assistance for my education during my long journey to becoming a priest.”**

**—Fr. Justin Cormie, St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Church.**

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#### **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

**July 5, 2020: That, in gratitude for all that God has given us, we joyfully return a portion of His gifts to help build His kingdom on earth.**

#### **ORACIONES DE LOS FIELES**

**5 DE Julio de 2020: Que, en agradecimiento por todo lo que Dios nos ha dado, devolvamos con alegría una parte de sus dones para ayudar a construir su reino de la tierra.**

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#### **TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Rejoice heartily, O Jerusalem! For see, your savior comes (Zechariah 9:9-10).

**Psalm** — I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God (Psalm 145).

**Second Reading** — The one who raised Christ from death will give life to your mortal bodies also (Romans 8:9, 11-13).

**Gospel** — Come, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:25-30).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

#### **LECTURAS DE HOY**

**Primera lectura** — Nuestro Salvador es un pacificador que reina hasta los confines de la tierra (Zacarías 9:9-10).

**Salmo** — Siempre bendeciré tu nombre, mi rey y mi Dios (Salmo 145 [144]).

**Segunda lectura** — Si por el Espíritu matan las obras de la carne, vivirán en el Espíritu de Dios (Romanos 8: 9, 11-13).

**Evangelio** — Vengan a mí los que se sientan cargados y agobiados, porque yo los aliviaré (Mateo 11:25-30).

Salmo responsorial: Leccionario Hispanoamericano Dominical © 1970, Comisión Episcopal Española. Usado con permiso. Todos los derechos reservados.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 8am COL Fr. Eli <b>NO 8am Mass at St. Stanislaus</b> 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	6	7 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 6pm COL Fr. Eli	1 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	2 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 6pm COL Fr. Eli	3 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	4 <b>Independence Day</b> 9am COL Fr. Eli 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli
12 8am COL Fr. Eli 8am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	13	14 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli	15 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	16 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 6pm COL Fr. Eli	17 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	18 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Paul 6pm COL Fr. Eli
19 8am COL Fr. Eli 8am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	20	21 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 6pm COL Fr. Eli	22 <b>NO Mass at COL</b> 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam	23 <b>No Mass at COL</b> 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam	24 <b>NO MASS at COL</b> 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam <b>NO MASS at COL</b>	25 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli
26 8am COL Fr. Eli 8am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	27	28 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli	29 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	30 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 6pm COL Fr. Eli	31 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	
<b>Notes</b> Fr. Eli will be on vacation July 20-24, 2020						



# GIVE BLOOD.ORG

## Christ Our Light Youth Group

Sunday, July 5  
8:00 am - 12:30 pm  
Donor Coach  
Contact  
Nelda Kurten  
(936) 825-3920  
sponsor code: COLY

To sign up online  
please visit this link  
<https://tinyurl.com/ycbdc673>

**\*\*FREE COVID- 19  
anti-body testing for all  
successful donations!**

**\*\*This test is authorized by the  
FDA only for detecting the presence  
of antibodies against  
SARS-Co V-2, and is not intended  
for diagnosis of COVID-19**



Artemio, blood recipient



Gulf Coast Regional  
Blood Center

EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D.

Share your  
donation story



@commitforlife | #commitforlife



# Graceful Generosity

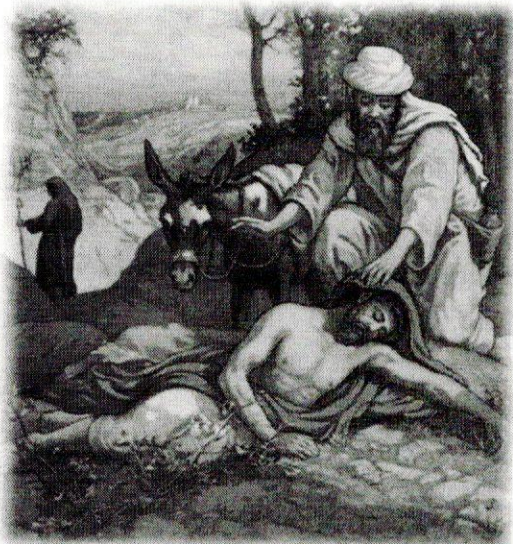
Published to help you grow as a steward of God's grace.

## Understanding Stewardship

- ✠ The motive for Christian stewardship is love and gratitude.
- ✠ The purpose is to glorify God.
- ✠ The guide is the revealed will of God.
- ✠ The efficiency is the power of God's grace.

## Testing your Knowledge of Scripture

Can you identify who the following person may represent in Scripture?



If you said the Good Samaritan, you were right. In the story of the Good Samaritan found in the tenth chapter of Luke, the Good Samaritan not only helped an injured person, he took him to an inn where he paid for his room and care. The Samaritan sacrificed money, time, and possessions for the wounded person, and he risked his own health and safety. He fulfilled the Golden Rule. By putting no limits on how far he was willing to go to help this stranger, the Samaritan demonstrated the love we should have for our neighbors. He followed Jesus' command to "Go and do likewise." Helping others may mean more than calling 911.

We may need to get involved, get our hands dirty, and go the extra mile.

## A Stewardship Thought

The God-pleasing steward is motivated by God's love to "surrender" his stubborn, independent, vain, selfish will and begin to conform to God's will. Living for self becomes secondary because Christ who died for him and rose again is now in control. *"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of the world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing, and perfect will"* (Romans 12:2). The Lord's will becomes our will.

## On the Lighter Side

The day the church treasurer resigned, the church asked the local grain elevator manager to take the position. He agreed under two conditions:

- ✠ That no treasurer's report would be given for the first year.
- ✠ That no questions be asked about finances during that year.

The people were surprised but finally agreed, since most of them did business with him and he was a trusted man. At the end of the year he gave his report:

- ✠ The church indebtedness of \$228,000 has been paid.
- ✠ The minister's salary has been increased by 8%.
- ✠ The Cooperative Program gifts (\$200) have been paid.
- ✠ There are no outstanding bills.
- ✠ There is a cash balance of \$11,252!

Immediately the shocked congregation asked, "How did you do it? Where did the money come from?"



He quietly answered, "Most of you bring your grain to my elevator. Throughout the year, I simply withheld ten percent on your behalf and gave it to the church in your name. You didn't even miss it!"

"Do you see what we could do for the Lord if we were all willing to give at least the tithe to God, who really owns it?" he asked. And so the new treasurer had made his point.

### **Giving an Opportunity or Obligation**

As the Apostle Paul traveled to churches, he collected offerings for the Christians in Jerusalem who were experiencing hard economic times. When Paul was speaking to the Corinthians, he used the Macedonian believers as an example of people who, in spite of their own economic troubles, gave joyfully to the people in Jerusalem. The Macedonians' love for Christ and their concern for their fellow believers moved them to give beyond their ability. The Macedonians gave themselves first to the Lord, and then, Paul said, they *"urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints"* (2 Corinthians 8:4). In Christ, they saw their giving as an opportunity



to help other believers in need.

Does someone who views giving as an obligation plead for the opportunity to give? Probably not. When giving is an obligation, we will give, but giving as an obligation will not give us the joy or the attitude of pleading for the privilege to give that the Macedonians had. As God's people, we have both an obligation and an opportunity. Scripture is clear that we are called to give. Paul said:

*"On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made" (1 Corinthians 16:2).*

Giving is an obligation, but, just as God changed the hearts and minds of the Macedonian people, he changes us so our attitude toward giving can change from being an obligation to an opportunity. As renewed and changed people, our attitude toward giving changes from a "got to" to a "get to" attitude. We stop giving grudgingly, and we start giving willingly and cheerfully. We want to give, because giving is an expression of our love and gratitude to God for who he is and what he does for us.

The more we give of ourselves and our gifts, the closer our relationship with Christ becomes, and the more we want to give, and the more God blesses us which enables our continued giving. *"You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God"* (2 Corinthians 9:11). We thank God that he fills us daily with his love so that we as members of his Church here on earth see giving as a privilege and an opportunity to praise and thank him.

***Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!***



# Stewardship

**T**ed Knutson grew up on a farm in a rich agricultural community. When he married, he operated a farm a few miles from his father's farm. A short distance away was a rural church where he worshipped regularly with his family.

Knutson was a sincere Christian who had served on various boards in his congregation. He had always gone to this rural church and was unfamiliar with the stewardship programs in other churches. In his congregation the support came from the "membership dues." When the crops had been harvested and sold, these "dues" were collected. The church finance committee would then retire their obligations hoping there would be enough left in the bank to keep up expenses until the next fall. If they ran short during the year they would borrow from the bank, or else visit the members to collect the amount they were short.

Mr. Knutson was confused and perplexed when he listened to a visiting speaker at the men's group in his church. The subject was stewardship. The speaker said that in many town and country churches, the standard of giving was abnormally low. He also said that Christian people ought to make weekly pledges in support of the Lord's work in their parish and throughout the world. He stressed emphatically that pledges should be based on a proportion of one's income, and that they should be given regularly.

As he listened to the speaker many thoughts went through his mind, such as: "How can a farmer make a pledge when he doesn't know what his income

will be?" "How can a farmer make weekly payments when his income does not arrive until the end of the season?" "Wouldn't it be easier to write a check that would cover his annual pledge right after he received the money for his



harvest?" "Why should the congregation give so much for World Missions when they have so many needs in their own church?" "Why should a farmer be expected to contribute as much as city folks who had a much larger income?"

These and many other thoughts kept continually going through his mind, but having learned as a Christian that he must talk things over with God, he went home that night to meditate on what he had heard.

He could not go to sleep until he decided to talk the matter over with his wife the next day. After breakfast he started asking his wife some of the questions that had troubled him the night before. Having told his wife about the guest speaker, he asked her, "How can

*Bring the tithes into the treasure ... Put me to the proof, says the Lord of Hosts, and see if I do not open windows in the sky and pour a blessing on you as long as there is need. Malachi 3:10*



(Continued on page 4)



## Love and Stewardship

A wise man named Richard Braunstein once made the following statement:

"It is possible to give without loving, but it is impossible to love without giving."

Because God's nature is to love, God constantly reaches out to us with grace we do not merit and love which is without restraint.

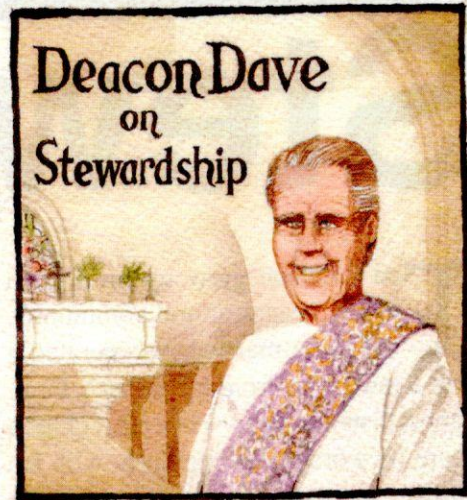
In fact, God's love is so unrestrained that God gave the world the best gift known to humankind. As the Gospel of John puts it: "God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

In short, God's love inspires us to love and give even as God has given to us. That is how stewardship comes alive within ourselves. As Braunstein said, "It is impossible to love without giving."

Traveling through old Jerusalem with a tour group, I noticed that a doctor's wife could not pass by a beggar or handicapped person without showing love to them in one way or another. A small monetary gift, a warm smile, a show of concern came easily, even eagerly, from her loving body and spirit. Seeing her love and caring was a memorable exhibit I can never forget. It truly was impossible for her to love without giving, without practicing stewardship. ☩

*When we trust in the Lord, we receive the name tag "Child of God." No one is excluded from that. God's plan is to bring everyone to him. God loves everyone so much, and desires that all accept Jesus Christ to be made fully whole in their lives. But that only happens when all of us are involved.*

*When you know that you are loved and special, and when you realize you have unique talents to give to God, then you can see that your involvement in winning the world to Christ is crucial. When we begin to do that as a church, as a people, and as a congregation, hell cannot prevail in our lives or anyone else's.*



## The Tie That Binds Us

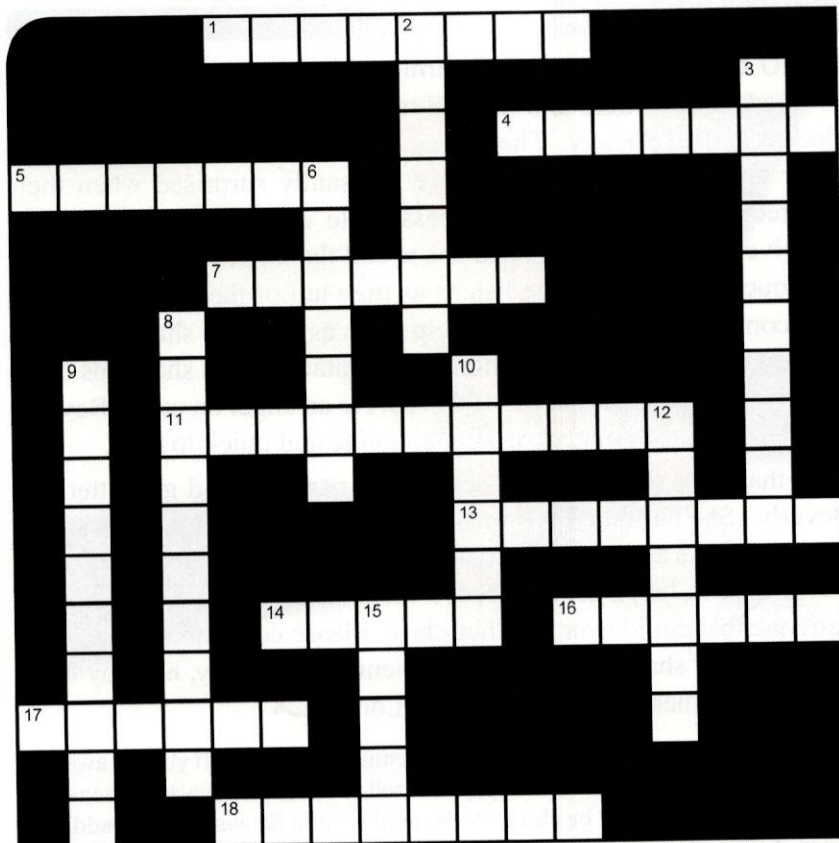
Christian commitment is the tie that binds us to the purpose and power of God. The Apostle Paul describes the commitment of Christ: He "humbled himself" ... "unto death, even death on a cross." God still did this because of the commitment to enter our world and reveal God's love and our need of God.

Now you and I are challenged to be of this same "mind" or commitment. Sometimes the tie that binds us to God's purpose is a sort of slip-knot arrangement, allowing slack for our own desires. Paul urges us to tie our commitment tightly and squarely as Christ.

A real test of our commitment is stewardship. Paul says, "Let each of you look not only to his interests, but also to the interest of others." When we consider how Christ humbled himself, how the needs are just as desperate today, and how we are called to have the same mind ... even a tithe seems small, doesn't it? The discipline of tithing is the square-knot by which God blesses the tie that binds us to him and to others. If, as a Christian, you haven't tried tithing, do it now and ask God to bless you! ☩



## STEWARDSHIP CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### Across

1. Attitude of a faithful stewardship.  
(Luke 6: 38)
4. An unfaithful steward is guilty of this sin.  
(Malachi 3:8)
5. Giving is an act of \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Manager of God's property.
11. Living in extreme poverty, they made others rich through their giving.  
(2 Corinthians 8:1-2)
13. Your freewill gift to God.
14. 10% of your increase belongs to God.
16. A woman steward in the Bible.  
(Luke 8:3)
17. An act of worship.
18. Characteristic of a good steward.

### Down

2. Frequency of your giving.
3. Giving as God has blessed you.
6. Faith commitments to stewardship.
8. Belonging to the body of Christ.
9. Demonstrated in our consistency to ministry.
10. An increase in our wages.
12. The most common word in the Bible for a steward.
15. The essential idea of stewardship.

*Christ has no body now but yours.*

*No hands, no feet on earth but yours.*

*Yours are the eyes through which he looks  
compassion on this world.*

*Yours are the feet with which he walks to do  
good.*

*Yours are the hands with which he blesses all  
the world.*

*Christ has no body now on earth but yours.*



# Steward of the Month

## Love Knows No Bounds

Submitted by: Louise Eastlake OH

In these days of economic stress and turmoil many turn for help and guidance to our St. Vincent dePaul Society. They place a call and leave their stories and requests on our answering service. They are pleasantly surprised when their requests are answered by the patient and compassionate voice of Beverly Pecjak. Sometimes she receives many calls a day and has to call them back numerous times before she gets in touch with them. She listens as they tell of their hardships and time after time she consoles them and tries to help them as much as she can. Some of the requests cannot be answered due to monetary limitations and she helps them understand other ways to meet their needs. If there were an angel on earth, Beverly would be that person. She never angers, is slow to judge and quick to help.

One would think that after doing this for several years one would get bitter and just quit. Not Beverly. She has taken this on as her ministry and for that we are all blessed. Beverly never wants any recognition and day after day she calls and checks the voice mail, returns calls, helps get the needed food, and the list goes on and on. I can't think of anyone that could ever take her place. Please consider our quiet angel as a person who is truly sharing her gifts and talents, day by day, hour by hour, minute by minute to help others in the name of the Lord. ☩

"Steward of the Month" is an exciting way to recognize exemplary stewards. If you are aware of someone who has exemplified Christian stewardship, please tell us about it at [stewardofthemonth.com](http://stewardofthemonth.com). Once a month, one submission will be chosen to be published in *Stewardship*. In addition, if your story is chosen, \$100 will be given to the church or organization of your choice.

Continued from page 1...

## Ted Knutson grew up...

we make a pledge when we don't know what our income will be?" To his surprise she answered, "When we bought the new tractor we signed a promissory note to the bank agreeing to pay \$22,000 in three different installments. How could we do that without knowing what our income would be?" He then raised another question: "How can we make weekly pledges when we don't sell our crops until fall?" This time she responded, "We have many other obligations to meet before our crops are harvested and we pay them. Why should we neglect the church? Besides, didn't you say that you agreed with the speaker when he said that our giving really should be a part of our worship of God?"

Out of the discussion came the conclusion that the question of the stewardship of their means had never been a subject of prayer with them. They agreed to pray about this until the end of the week when they would again attend church. On Sunday morning at breakfast he said, "Today we are going to give an offering in the spirit of worship. Let's ask our pastor for a set of offering envelopes, too." Knutson had learned through prayer and honest soul-searching that the most important thing with stewardship is not the support of a church budget. Real stewardship rather demands a dedication of all that we have to the Lord. Like the Macedonians, we must give ourselves unto the Lord. ☩

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- Crossword Answers**
- Across**
1. Generous
  4. Robbery
  5. Worship
  7. Steward
  11. Macedonians
  13. Offering
  14. Tithes
  16. Joanna
  17. Giving
  18. Faithful
- Down**
2. Regular
  3. Proportion
  6. Pledges
  8. Membership
  9. Dedication
  10. Income
  12. Servant
  15. Trust





# Co-Responsabilidad

Julio 2020

**T**ed Knutson creció en una granja de una rica comunidad agrícola. Cuando se casó, empezó a operar una granja a unas millas de la de su padre. A corta distancia había una iglesia rural a la que él siempre había acudido junto con su familia.

Knutson era un buen cristiano que había participado en varios comités en su congregación. Habiendo sido toda su vida miembro de esta congregación rural, no estaba familiarizado con los programas de corresponsabilidad de otras iglesias. En su congregación, el apoyo a la iglesia provenía de las llamadas “cuotas de membresía”. Una vez levantadas y vendidas las cosechas, estas “cuotas” eran recolectadas. Entonces el comité financiero de la iglesia pagaba las deudas, esperando dejar lo suficiente en el banco para mantener los gastos corrientes hasta el otoño siguiente. Si no les ajustaba el presupuesto durante el año le pedían prestado al banco, o visitaban a los miembros para recabar la cantidad que les faltaba.

No fue sorprendente por tanto que el Sr. Knutson quedara confuso y perplejo cuando escuchó al predicador visitante hablar en su nueva iglesia. El tema fue la corresponsabilidad y el predicador dijo que en muchas iglesias rurales el nivel de recaudación de fondos era anormalmente bajo. Dijo también que se debían hacer compromisos de donación semanal para apoyar la obra del Señor tanto en su parroquia como en el resto del mundo. Y explicó muy enfáticamente que los compromisos de donación deberían basarse en una proporción definida del ingreso y darse en forma regular.

Mientras escuchaba al predicador, por su mente pasaron muchos pensamientos, tales como este: “¿Cómo puede un granjero hacer un compromiso de donación cuando no sabe cuál será su ingreso?” “¿Cómo puede hacer donativos semanales cuando su ingreso no llega



sino hasta el final del ciclo agrícola?” “¿No sería más fácil hacer un cheque que cubriera su donación anual en cuanto recibiera el dinero de su cosecha?” “¿Por qué la congregación tenía que dar tanto para las Misiones Mundiales cuando tenía muchas necesidades no resueltas en su propia iglesia?” “¿Por qué debía un granjero contribuir tanto como los de la ciudad, que tienen ingresos mucho mayores?”

No pudo irse a dormir hasta que resolvió hablarlo con su esposa a la mañana siguiente. Después del desayuno le empezó a hacer algunas de las preguntas que lo habían inquietado durante la noche. Le platicó lo que había dicho el predicador visitante y le dijo, “¿Cómo podemos establecer un compromiso de donación cuando no sabemos cuál será nuestro ingreso?” Para su sorpresa ella le

(Continúa en página 4)

*T*raed, pues, los diezmos a las arcas... Después ponedme a prueba, dice el Señor de los ejércitos, a ver si no abro para vosotros las compuertas de los cielos y derramo sobre vosotros mis bendiciones hasta colmar vuestra necesidad.

Malaquías 3:10





## Amor Y Corresponsabilidad

Un hombre sabio llamado Richard Braunstein en alguna ocasión hizo la siguiente declaración: “Es posible dar sin amar, pero es imposible amar sin dar”.

Dado que la naturaleza de Dios es el amor, él siempre llega hasta nosotros con una gracia que no merecemos y con un amor sin restricciones.

De hecho, el amor de Dios es tan irrestricto que le dio al mundo el mejor regalo conocido por la humanidad. Como lo dice el evangelio de San Juan: “Dios amó tanto al mundo que le dio a su Hijo único, para que todo el que crea en él no perezca y tenga vida eterna”. (Juan 3: 16)

En breve, el amor de Dios nos inspira a amar y a dar con generosidad, como él nos ha dado a nosotros. Es así como nace la corresponsabilidad entre nosotros. Como lo dice Braunstein, es imposible amar sin dar.

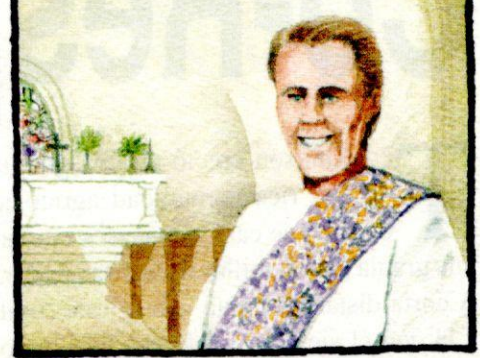
En una ocasión, viajando con un grupo por la antigua Jerusalén, noté que la esposa de un doctor no podía pasar frente a un mendigo o persona desvalida sin mostrarles amor de una forma u otra. Una pequeña ayuda monetaria, una sonrisa cálida, una muestra de interés, surgían con facilidad e incluso con verdadero placer de su gentil cuerpo y espíritu. Ver su amor y sus atenciones fue una demostración memorable que nunca olvidaré. Para ella era verdaderamente imposible amar sin dar, sin poner en práctica su corresponsabilidad comprometida.



*Cuando confiamos en el Señor, recibimos la etiqueta de “Hijos de Dios”. Nadie queda excluido de esto. El plan de Dios consiste en atraernos a todos hacia Él. Dios ama a cada uno tanto, que desea que todos aceptemos a Jesucristo plenamente en nuestras vidas. Pero eso solo sucede cuando todos nos involucramos.*

*Cuando sabes que se te ama y que eres algo especial, cuando te das cuenta de que tienes talentos únicos para entregarlos a Dios, entonces puedes ver que tu participación en la empresa de ganar el mundo para Cristo es crucial. Cuando empezamos a hacer esto como iglesia, como pueblo y como congregación, el infierno no puede prevalecer en nuestra vida ni en la de nadie más.*

## El Diácono David habló de co-responsabilidad



## El Lazo Que Nos Une

El compromiso cristiano es el lazo que nos une al propósito y al poder de Dios. El Apóstol Pablo describe lo que es el compromiso de Cristo. “Se humilló a sí mismo hasta la muerte, y muerte de cruz”. Y lo hizo por su compromiso de entrar a nuestro mundo y revelarnos el amor de Dios y nuestra necesidad de él.

Ahora estamos ante el reto de adoptar esa misma “mentalidad” y asumir ese compromiso. A veces la atadura que nos une al propósito de Dios es una especie de nudo corredizo, que se afloja a favor de nuestros deseos. Pablo nos urge a atar nuestro compromiso fuerte y firmemente como el de Cristo. ¿Lo hemos hecho?

Una buena prueba de nuestro compromiso es la corresponsabilidad. Pablo nos dice, “Que cada quien veamos no solo por nuestro interés sino por el interés de los demás”. Cuando consideramos cómo Cristo se humilló, cómo las necesidades hoy día son tan desesperadas como entonces y cómo somos llamados a adoptar la misma actitud...incluso pagar el diezmo parece poco, ¿no les parece? El diezmo es la atadura firme mediante la cual Dios bendice el vínculo que nos une

(Continúa en página 3)




## Una Semillita

**L**a Biblia nos enseña que si tenemos fe aunque sea del tamaño de una semilla de mostaza podemos mover montañas. La semilla de mostaza es muy pequeña, pero la planta que produce es bastante grande. Dios nos trataba de decir con esto que un pequeño acto realizado o una palabra dicha en su nombre puede hacer una gran diferencia en la vida de otros.

Cada miembro del cuerpo de Cristo tiene dones que ofrecer. Construimos una iglesia local más alta, más fuerte y más profunda en la medida en que cada quien hacemos lo que nos corresponde en cuanto a ofrecer a los demás los dones que Dios nos ha dado para el bien común. Para algunos puede ser el canto, para otros la enseñanza.


Algunos han sido bendecidos abundantemente con riquezas materiales y en verdad pueden ayudar a otros menos afortunados. Para otros es el don del tiempo para ayudar donde se

requiera. Ningún cristiano puede decir que carece de dones.

La Biblia nos enseña que todos los cristianos hemos recibido varios dones para construir el cuerpo de Cristo localmente. No tenemos que esperar que el mar se abra y el cielo se parta. Encontremos hoy una necesidad y ayudemos a resolverla con los dones que Dios nos haya dado, y ¡veremos cómo Dios nos los multiplica en forma abundante! 

Viene de página 2...

## El Lazo Que ...

con él y con nuestros hermanos. Si, como cristianos, no han empezado a pagar el diezmo, ¡empiecen a hacerlo y pídanle a Dios que los bendiga! 

*D*ios les dio a los seres humanos una ment superior... para que la usaran a su máxima capacidad en descubrir el plan de Dios y en entenderse a sí mismos y a los demás. También se nos dio un cuerpo para poder realizar el trabajo de Dios... Usa ambas cosas plenamente para fomentar la co-responsabilidad en tu iglesia y comunidad.

*Crísto hoy día no tiene más cuerpo que el tuyo.  
Más manos, más pies sobre la tierra que los tuyos.*

*Es a través de tus ojos que se da su mirada compasiva en este mundo.*

*Son tus pies con los que él camina para hacer el bien.*

*Son tus manos con las que él bendice al mundo entero.*

*Crísto no tiene hoy en la tierra otro cuerpo que el tuyo.*



# Co-responsable del Mes

## El amor no conoce límites

Enviado por: Louise Eastlake OH

**E**n estos tiempos de penuria y confusión económica, muchas personas acuden a nuestra Sociedad San Vicente de Paul en busca de ayuda y orientación. Llamam por teléfono y explican su situación y sus peticiones, muchas veces en la contestadora automática. Y se sorprenden gratamente recibir la respuesta a sus peticiones en la compasiva y paciente voz de Beverly Pecjak. Hay días en que recibe muchas llamadas y tiene que llamarles varias veces para poder localizarlos. Ella escucha sus penurias, los consuela y hace todo lo que puede por ayudarlos. Algunas de las peticiones no las puede satisfacer por limitaciones económicas, pero los ayuda a encontrar otras soluciones. Si hubiera un ángel sobre la tierra, sin duda sería Beverly. Se podría pensar que después de hacer esto durante varios años uno se hartaría y simplemente renunciaría. Pero Beverly no. Ella lo ha adoptado como su ministerio, mediante el cual todos somos bendecidos. Beverly nunca quiere ningún reconocimiento, y día con día checa su correo de voz, regresa las llamadas, ayuda a conseguir la comida requerida, y así una y otra vez sin descanso. No me imagino quién podría tomar su lugar. Por favor consideren a nuestro ángel silencioso como alguien que realmente está compartiendo sus dones y talentos para ayudar a otros en nombre del Señor. ☩

“Co-responsable del mes” es una forma emocionante de reconocer a los co-responsables ejemplares. Si conoces a alguien que sea modelo de co-responsable cristiano, por favor haznos saber de él o de ella, en [www.stewardofthemonth.com](http://www.stewardofthemonth.com). Una vez al mes se escogerá una de las propuestas, la cual será publicada en nuestro boletín. Además, si se escoge tu propuesta, se le darán \$100 dólares a la iglesia u organización que tú escojas.

Viene de página 1...

## Ted Knutson Creció ...

respondió, “Cuando compramos el nuevo tractor firmamos un pagaré con el banco, comprometiéndonos a pagar \$12,000 en tres abonos. ¿Cómo pudimos hacerlo sin saber cuál sería nuestro ingreso?” Enseguida le hizo otra pregunta: ¿Cómo podemos hacer compromisos semanales si no vendemos nuestra cosecha sino hasta el otoño?” Y ella le respondió, “Tenemos muchas otras obligaciones que pagar mucho antes de levantar nuestra cosecha, y lo hacemos. ¿Por qué no habríamos de cumplir igual con la Iglesia?”

Discutieron todas y cada una de las dudas de Knutson y llegaron a la conclusión de que la corresponsabilidad sobre sus bienes nunca había sido

un tema en sus oraciones. Entonces acordaron orar por esto durante el resto de la semana hasta su nueva visita a la iglesia. Y el domingo en la mañana en la mesa del desayuno él dijo, “Hoy vamos a hacer nuestra ofrenda como una forma de adoración a Dios. Pidámosle a nuestro pastor una serie de sobres de ofrenda”. Knutson había aprendido mediante la oración y un honesto examen espiritual que lo más importante en cuanto a corresponsabilidad no es el apoyo al presupuesto de la iglesia. La verdadera corresponsabilidad más bien exige la dedicación de todo lo que poseemos al Señor. Como los macedonios, primero debemos entregarnos a él. ☩





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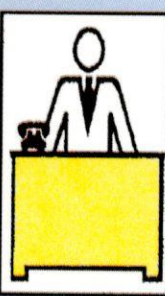
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