



The Open Door

Open wide the door to Christ! - St. John Paul the Great

JULY 2019

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Art and beauty

Pointing us beyond ourselves

by Claudia Burns

I have always been passionate about art-making and creativity. While studying art in college, I chose to be an art teacher, putting aside my longing to be a working artist. In the years prior to retirement, I dreamed of painting my way to art success, exhibiting my work in local galleries.

Yet, as I have drawn closer to Jesus over the last few years, doing artwork with a spiritual focus has become more central. Sacred art had

been part of my art life, but with the prompting of grace, my paradigm has shifted and it is now the central focus. As I desire more of God, I desire more of His will for my life. I still want to paint, grow in my skills, and exhibit my work. It has simply become less important.

Ever since I read Pope St. John Paul II's *Letter to Artists* (1999), I have experienced a call to serve God as an artist. Both he and Pope Benedict quote Pope St. Paul VI: "The

Church needs you."¹ Pope Benedict invites me to be "fully conscious of my great responsibility to communicate in and through beauty."² In fact, Pope St. John Paul II says I should be "passionately dedicated to the search for new epiphanies of beauty."³ Pope St. Paul VI instructs, "Do not refuse to put your talents at the service of Divine Truth. Do not close your mind to the breath of the Holy Spirit."⁴ Pope Francis reminds me to

"We exist to joyfully worship God and carry out the mission of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit." - *Mission Statement of Christ the King*

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*This is singing
well to God,
just singing with
songs of joy.*



St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430), bishop and doctor of the Church, was converted to the Faith through the prayers of his mother, St. Monica, and the ministry of St. Ambrose of Milan. His many writings explaining and defending the truths of Christianity continue to guide Christians today. His feast day is August 28.

Photo at top of page by Melanie Reyes.
Artwork: *Saint Augustine* by Philippe de Champaigne (1602-1674). From Wikimedia Commons.

Sing to God with songs of joy!

by St. Augustine of Hippo



Editor's note: The following is taken from the Office of Readings for the feast of St. Cecilia, patron saint of music.

Praise the Lord with the lyre, make melody to Him with the harp of ten strings! Sing to Him a new song. Rid yourself of what is old and worn out, for you know a new song. A new man, a new covenant—a new song. This new song does not belong to the old man. Only the new man learns it: the man restored from his fallen condition through the grace of God, and now sharing in the new covenant, that is, the kingdom of heaven. To it all our love now aspires and sings a new song. Let us sing a new song not with our lips but with our lives.

Sing to Him a new song, sing to Him with joyful melody. Every one of us tries to discover how to sing to God. You must sing to Him, but

**Let us sing a new song
not with our lips
but with our lives**

you must sing well. He does not want your voice to come harshly to His ears, so sing well, brothers!

If you were asked, “Sing to please this musician,” you would not like to do so without having taken some instruction in music, because you would not like to offend an expert in the art. An untrained listener does not notice the faults a musician would point out to you. Who then will offer to sing well for God, the great artist whose discrimination is faultless, whose attention is on the minutest detail, who ear nothing escapes? When will you be able to offer Him a perfect performance that you will in no way displease such a supremely discerning listener?

See how He Himself provides you with a way of singing. Do not search for words, as if you could find a lyric which would give God pleasure. Sing to Him “with songs of joy.” This is singing well to God, just singing with songs of joy.

But how is this done? You must first understand that words cannot express the things that are sung by the heart. Take the case of people singing while harvesting in the fields or in the vineyards or when any other strenuous work is in progress. Although they begin by giving expression to their happiness in sung words, yet shortly there is a change. As if so happy that words can no longer express what they feel, they discard the restricting syllables. They burst out into a simple sound of joy, of jubilation. Such a cry of joy is a sound signifying that the heart is bring to birth what it cannot utter in words.

Now, who is more worthy of such a cry of jubilation than God Himself, whom all words fail to describe? If words will not serve, and yet you must not remain silent, what else can you do but cry out for joy? Your heart must rejoice beyond words, soaring into an immensity of gladness, unrestrained by syllabic bonds. *Sing to Him with songs of joy.*

Art and beauty

Continued from page 1

“work without letting (myself) be dominated by the search for a vain glory or easy popularity, and even less so by ... personal profit.”⁵

It’s beauty that I seek to communicate in my artwork.

- Beauty stirs us to wonder.⁶
- Beauty, like truth, brings joy to the heart.⁷
- Beauty is an invitation to savor life.⁸
- This world in which we live needs beauty in order not to sink into despair.⁹
- Beauty will heal many wounds that mark the hearts and souls of men and women.¹⁰
- Genuine beauty gives man a healthy “shock,” it draws him out of himself, wrenches him away from resignation and from being content with the humdrum.¹¹
- Beauty opens up and broadens the horizons of human awareness, pointing us beyond ourselves, bringing us face-to-face with the abyss of Infinity.¹²
- Beauty stirs a hidden nostalgia for God.¹³
- Beauty opens the human soul to the sense of the eternal.¹⁴
- Sacred art is true and beautiful when its form corresponds to its particular vocation: evoking and glorifying, in faith and adoration, the transcendent mystery of God.¹⁵



If I am capable of creating beauty, if I can bring joy and dispel despair, if I can create sacred art for the Church and draw the viewer “to adoration, to prayer, and to the love of God”¹⁶, then I should. With such an invitation, how can I refuse?



This world in which we live needs beauty in order not to sink into despair.

Pope St. Paul VI

Claudia Burns chairs the Christ the King Liturgical Art Committee at Christ the King and designed the beautiful mosaic behind the Tabernacle. If you are interested in working on future projects to beautify the interior of Christ the King, please contact her at claudiaburns52@gmail.com.

¹ Paul VI, *Address of Pope Paul VI to Artists*, Closing of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, Vatican website, December 8, 1965, http://w2.vatican.va/content/paul-vi/en/speeches/1965/documents/hf_p-vi_spe_19651208_epilogo-concilio-artisti.html.

² Benedict XVI, *Address of His Holiness Benedict XVI: Meeting with Artists*, Vatican website, November 21, 2009, http://w2.vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en/speeches/2009/november/documents/hf_ben-xvi_spe_20091121_artisti.html.

³ John Paul II, *Letter to Artists*, Vatican website, April 4, 1999, http://w2.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/letters/1999/documents/hf_jp-ii_let_23041999_artists.html, introduction.

⁴ Paul VI, *Address to Artists*.

⁵ Francis, *Address of His Holiness Pope Francis to Members of the Movement “Diaconie de la Beauté,”* Vatican website,

February 24, 2018, http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2018/february/documents/papa-francesco_20180224_diaconie-de-la-beaute.html.

⁶ John Paul II, *Letter to Artists*, no. 16.

⁷ Paul VI, *Address to Artists*.

⁸ John Paul II, *Letter to Artists*, no. 16.

⁹ Paul VI, *Address to Artists*.

¹⁰ Francis, as quoted by Diane Montagna, “Sparks of beauty’ Pope Francis says can change the world,” *Aleteia*, Dec. 8, 2016. Retrieved online June 20, 2019.

¹¹ Benedict XVI, *Meeting with Artists*.

¹² *ibid.*

¹³ John Paul II, *Letter to Artists*, no. 16.

¹⁴ *ibid.*

¹⁵ *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2nd ed. (Vatican City: Vatican Press, 1997), 2502

¹⁶ *ibid.*

Page 1: Image of the interior of the dome of St. Peter’s Basilica. Image by Websi from Pixabay, www.pixabay.com.

This page: Image of the rose window at the Strasbourg Cathedral. Image by skeepz from Pixabay, www.pixabay.com.

Staff Profile

Peter Kadeli



CTK Choir Director Peter Kadeli and his wife Annie came to Ann Arbor in 2018 so that he could pursue a Master's degree in Choral Conducting at the University of Michigan.

Please tell us a little about your background.

I was born in Northern Virginia, the oldest of four children. I grew up in an Albanian Catholic home. I'm very proud of my Albanian heritage

—my great-grandmother was a schoolmate of Mother Teresa! It was a multigenerational home; my grandparents lived with us and lots of other relatives lived nearby.

How did you get involved in the Charismatic Renewal?

My family was part of a charismatic ecumenical community associated with the People of Praise in South Bend.

How did you decide to pursue a career in music?

My family members on my dad's side are amateur folk musicians. My earliest memories are of my grandfather playing a two-string Albanian guitar called a çifteli. My dad was a worship leader in the charismatic community.

We all took piano, and I started writing my own music in 7th grade. My music teacher in middle school and high school was also a real inspiration to me.

When I was a junior in high school and started to think about what I was going to do with my life, the two things I

most enjoyed were art and music. I was most passionate, though, about music, so I started my undergraduate degree in music.

After my first year, I was encouraged by a professor to consider a path as a choral music educator. Around the same time I had the opportunity to conduct my first performance. I really fell in love with conducting at that moment. As I continued my choral studies, I felt that this was what the Lord wanted. I completed my undergraduate studies in composition and choral music education.

After graduating, I taught at my high school, Trinity School at Meadow View, for a year while my high school music teacher was getting his master's degree. I then served as choir director for four more years at Bishop O'Connell High School in Virginia. During that time, I met and married my wife Annie.

Why did you decide to pursue a Master's degree in Choral Conducting at U-M?

It was on my heart to pursue the Master's degree, and U-M is one of the top programs in the country. I applied to five different schools and was invited to interview at three of them. When I visited U-M, I loved it. When I got the email just before Christmas saying that I had been accepted at U-M, I jumped 20 feet!

How did you come to Christ the King?

When someone from our community in Virginia found out I was going to Ann Arbor, they said that we should check out Christ the King. I was interested in continuing my work as a church musician while in school, so I emailed Martin Doman, saying that, I knew he didn't have a position, but explaining my background and expressing my interest if he had a need. Little did I know that Martin had been praying for that very thing. Annie and I had been praying, too, so we really felt the Lord's leading.

What have been your favorite parts about your time in Ann Arbor so far?

U-M has exceeded my expectations: the quality of the faculty, the relationships with my colleagues... They come from a variety of backgrounds, but they're all good people—conscientious and loving.

The CTK choir has been so loving, so welcoming. It's a blessing to work with people who have such an intense faith and a deep passion for worship and music.

The fact that Annie and I came here not knowing anyone has also made it a good year to grow in our marriage. And now we're expecting our first child on June 26!

Using our talents to seek and save the lost

Theater is not only a beautiful outlet for evangelization, but also it is, in and of itself, inherently holy

by Jessica Dudek

Carefully avoiding the sticks

and bugs on the ground, I pranced barefoot through the Nichol's Arboretum. My flower crown was in place, my green makeup was painted on, and I was struck with the question, "What is wrong with me that I love theater so much?"

I was playing a fairy in an outdoor production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. After spending weeks in rehearsal learning how to move, sing, and speak like a woodland sprite, I was hit with the oddity of my surroundings and wondered what on earth drew me to this bizarre world.

Coming to no solid conclusions on my own, I decided to pray. What moved in me then was a deep understanding that theater is not only a beautiful outlet for evangelization, but also that theater is, in and of itself, inherently holy.

You may wonder, how could theater be inherently holy? I'm so glad you asked!

In the beginning of a production is the word. An actor is handed a script and told to learn the story and the character. The actor must study this word, commit it to heart, and know and embody the character. To know and embody the character is to first find the person inside the written word. Once that person is found, the actor must put off their own characteristics that conflict with the person in the



Performing in theater illustrates discipleship.

Christ is the Word.

When we seek Him, we meet the Man Who is the Word.

word and take on the character's mannerisms instead. It is a proverbial death to self to become like someone else.

The actor then receives direction from a superior and works alongside fellow castmates and crew to tell the story. Most importantly, the story has to be told! The message has to go out to the audience in hopes that you are able to reach and change them.

Performing in theater illustrates discipleship. Christ is the Word. When we seek Him we meet the Man Who is the Word.

After we encounter Christ, we are called to put off the elements of ourselves that do not align with Him—sin, bad habits, etc.—and take on His characteristics. We learn from the Church and rely on one another in community to proclaim the message of truth to the world.

Too often Christians grow complacent and decide that we don't need to evangelize. But no actor would ever be satisfied with practicing a play without performing it. Proclamation of the Gospel is pivotal to discipleship.

It grew clear to me that God created the theater to allow His Gospel to be preached. Yet even as we glance down the streets of Broadway, it's obvious that this is not the current reality. Rather, our beautiful theater is more often used as an outlet for debauchery. But

No actor would ever be satisfied with practicing a play without performing it. Proclamation of the Gospel is pivotal to discipleship.

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Photo on this page and page 6:
Image by Mary Bettini Blank
from Pixabay,
www.pixabay.com.

The call of a Christian is not to shy away from the dark parts of the world and create our own silos of art. Instead, like Jesus, we are called to enter into someone else's pain and sin and bring love and healing to the mess.



Jessica Dudek is Christ the King's Director of Evangelization. She continues to indulge her love of theater, most recently appearing in the Shakespeare in the Arb 2019 production of *Twelfth Night*.

Using our talents to seek and save the lost

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the call of a Christian is not to shy away from the dark parts of the world and create our own silos of art. Instead, like Jesus, we are called to enter into someone else's pain and sin and bring love and healing to the mess.

Jesus did not back away from our sin, but instead gave us His Flesh. We are likewise required to give of ourselves, becoming all things to all people, in order to save a few.

Yet in doing so, there are a few boundaries. First, as a Christian you are obligated to speak only truth. That means that you must limit yourself to performing in productions that ultimately exhibit what is true.

Truth is not always pretty or uplifting, and someone usually has to play the bad guy. As a Christian, you are likely to perform in a show that is dark or contains heavy themes. Yet as long as evil is depicted as evil, you are allowed to perform because you are proclaiming truth. However, when a play glamorizes evil and says that something immoral is good, then the play is not speaking truth and a Christian is morally obligated to step away.



An example would be playing a Nazi in *The Sound of Music*. The musical is historical and the Nazi regime is portrayed as being unethical. Therefore, as a Christian actor, you could play a Nazi.

Your second responsibility as a Christian performer is to yourself. As described above, there may be space for you to perform in a show that depicts what is evil. In doing so, though, remember your own dignity. Particularly in scenes that contain sexual content, you have a responsibility to yourself to not engage beyond the lines of your own health. These boundaries are partly internal and will be different for each person. One person may be able to perform in a show without compromising integrity, while another may experience a deeper level of emotional engagement that may be problematic.

If or when you find yourself negatively emotionally impacted by a scene, it is time to stop and talk to your director. An understanding director will re-choreograph a scene. If they do not, it may be best to walk away.

How do we return to the beauty God created in theater? As Christians we are called to enter the mess. Every time I join a production I pray for opportunities to minister, and God has never failed. I always find myself forming unlikely friendships and ultimately discussing faith. I believe this is the case because no matter how far the theater world strays from morality, God still created it for good and He is always able to reach people through it.

God loves His children and aches for them. As Christian artists it is time for us to use our passions and talents to seek and save the lost. Together let's allow Jesus to break the fourth wall and minister to those whom He loves.

New CBSM format coming to CTK

by Aimée Godfrey

Have you ever considered joining the Catholic Biblical School of Michigan (CBSM), but didn't think you could make the commitment? If yes, then you'll be excited to hear about the new partnership between Christ the King and CBSM.

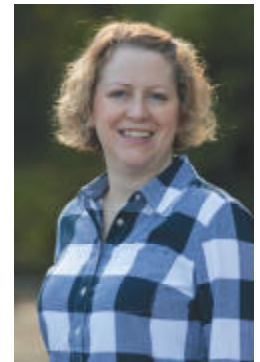
The Catholic Biblical School of Michigan exists "to invite Catholics to encounter Jesus in and through the inspired Word of God and grow as missionary disciples, fueled by daily connection to God in His Word" (from the CBSM mission statement). In the past, the only way to participate in CBSM classes was to commit to a 30 week course each year over the course of four years. However, CBSM wants to make their classes more accessible to those whose schedules do not permit them to take such a long class.

Christ the King has partnered with CBSM to provide the same

content, but broken down into three 8- to 10-week sessions per year. The sessions build on each other, but are also separate, so you don't need to attend all the sessions each year. You can attend all of them or just the ones that work for your schedule. If you attend all of them, then at the end of four years, you will have covered the whole Bible.

This Fall, we will begin our journey through the Bible with the Catholic Biblical School of Michigan. I encourage you to consider joining us!

For information and to register, contact Aimée Godfrey (agodfrey@ctkcc.net) or go to www.ctkcc.net/discipleship. To learn more about CBSM, go to www.cbsmich.org.



Aimée Godfrey is Director of Adult Discipleship at Christ the King.

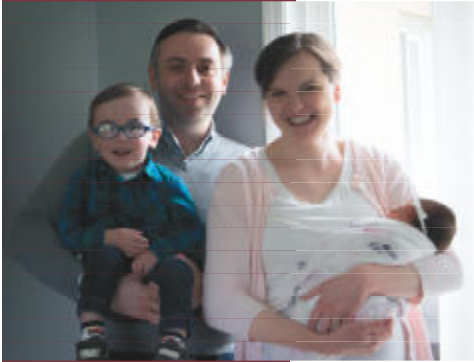


*There is a time to weep,
and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and
a time to dance...*

Ecclesiastes 3:4

Discipleship Group testimony

Christian Fenton



Christian Fenton, his wife Jenny, and children Peter and Elizabeth are members of Christ the King. Christian works in the auto industry as a mechanical engineer and is a member of the Parish Pastoral Council. He writes, "Life with two young kids leaves no dull moments."

Why did you decide to get involved with the *Oremus* discipleship group?

I wasn't immediately drawn to *Oremus* when it was first adver-

tised (I know how to pray!), but my thoughts kept bouncing back to it. A gentle nudge from my father-in-law, Phil Fleming, who led the group, sealed the deal. It ended up being a great decision.

How is *Oremus* set up?

Oremus is an eight-week program that aims to foster closer intimacy with God through practical instruction, guidance, and encouragement in prayer. It draws from the heritage of wisdom we have in the Church on prayer: the *Catechism*, popes (both past and recent), and the saints, especially Ignatius. At each meeting, there is a 20- to 30-minute video and a time of sharing both reactions and reflections on the video, as well as experiences from the previous week of prayer and Scripture reading. Between the meetings, there is a daily Scripture verse with prompts that are designed to help you enter into the reading more fully and open yourself up for what the Lord wants for you in prayer.

What was your favorite part about that group?

I really enjoyed and benefited

from the group discussions. The smaller size (there were seven of us) allowed each of us time to share and express what was on our hearts, what the Lord had been saying to us that week, and the joys and struggles of our times in prayer and Scripture.

Were there any challenges that you had to overcome in going through the study?

Absolutely. In addition to the classic obstacles to prayer (distraction, dryness, laziness, etc.), I experienced Satan upping his game when I would really dig into a Scripture passage and start trying to live out the fruits of it. For me, that usually meant a softening of my heart towards others. Satan would then appeal to my well-entrenched sense of justice and try to show me how my often judgmental response was "what that person deserved." The practical teaching of *Oremus*, time in prayer and Scripture, and time of sharing with the group really helped me identify and isolate those lies. I found new promptings to seek the Holy Spirit for the grace to see those around me as the Lord sees them.

What lessons did you learn that you've been able to apply to your relationship with the Lord?

I really started experiencing the Lord in a new way. My whole life, the entire premise

of my relationship to God has reflected the commander/soldier model: Jesus is the leader, equipping me for battle, and I'm following orders, putting my head down, and going out to fight the good fight. Truth, justice, and victory over the enemy are the objectives.

There's certainly a place for that type of spirituality, but warped and taken too far, such an attitude leaves too little room for love and mercy, which is closer to the Heart of Jesus and the fundamental message of the Gospel. Through *Oremus*, I experienced the Lord inviting me to draw closer to Him in a more intimate way than I had before and to reflect that love and mercy to those around me.

What would you say to other men who might be considering a discipleship group?

I can't recommend it enough. Discipleship groups are a great way not only to learn practical knowledge about a topic, but also to share and receive in a small group setting. The Lord will often speak to us through the experiences of others, and He may want to speak to someone else in your group through your sharing. It's encouraging to learn and grow in the Lord alongside other brothers.

The most astounding miracle I've ever seen

I don't know if I will ever see the Lord raise someone from the dead, but this was very close

by John Kazanjian

I have a cousin in California named Nadin, who is married with two young sons. Because we were close in age, her father, Sebu, was like a brother to me.

Five years ago, Sebu died of lung cancer. Through his illness and in the months after his death, Nadin came to faith. This was great news for me since, besides my brother and I, there were no active believers in our family. Nadin became a very effective evangelist for the next generation.

About two years ago, Nadin was diagnosed with a very aggressive form of breast cancer. There are only a few chemotherapies known to work against it, and none was effective. In fact, scans they took after six weeks of each treatment showed that the tumors were growing. Now the only possible medicines were trials.

Nadin would regularly send emails to the whole family so that we knew what to pray for. On every occasion, it was more bad news, but she continued to express her trust in the Lord and would gently attempt to call her family and friends to faith.

Her more recent communications, though, were much more somber and dire. In January, she wrote:

Many of you have already heard, but for those of you who haven't, we learned just after Christmas that the cancer has progressed. The news was strangely both

shocking and expected. Shocking because I truly believed in my healing, yet expected because I've been in pain since October. I am resuming treatment, which will be a combination of weekly chemotherapy and bi-monthly immunotherapy. I will have another scan in 6-8 weeks to assess where we are and go from there.

As you can imagine, the last few weeks have been intense! A lot [of] tears, heightened emotions and passionate prayerful time. During one of my mornings of prayer and meditation on God's word, I felt impressed upon me that this time around, I am to focus much less on all the medical minutia, and instead fix my eyes unwaveringly on God's unchanging character and on His promises and covenants to me. In obedience to that, I will not be pouring energy in these updates or otherwise on every micro detail of my diagnosis or the treatment. Instead, I will meditate on the truths I know about my Heavenly Father. He is faithful. He is all powerful. He loves me and weeps alongside me. He upholds me in His righteous right hand. Nothing is impossible with God. ...

Then on March 15th came the following text:

I was going to call you, but the news is too raw and I'm still in ugly heaving cry mode. I had a CT scan yesterday, and



John Kazanjian's cousin Nadin had an extremely aggressive form of breast cancer that didn't respond to treatment. Shortly after this picture was taken, her oncologist recommended moving to hospice care and estimated that she had only 2-3 weeks to live.

they were shocked to see the dramatic level of progression I've had. They said that my entire left lung is full of tumors, much of my spinal cord seems to be impacted, and all of the pressure from the left side of my body has pushed my heart out to the right and surrounded it with fluid. They are concerned that they have not been able to find a chemo regimen that even puts a dent in it. They told us that unless something miraculous happens, we're looking at a few months at best.

I immediately made plans and left for LA on March 27th. My brother also flew in and we went with her to her appointment the next day. The rapid progress and destructive nature of the disease were frightening. I privately asked the nurse practitioner if I could leave LA and get back before the end. She said, "Don't go far."

They told us that unless something miraculous happens, we're looking at a few months at best.

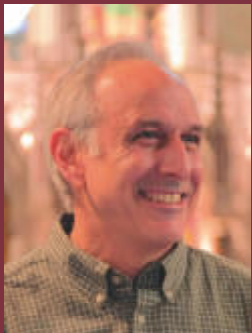
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The most astounding miracle I've ever seen

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When John Kazanjian's daughter Ani visited Nadin on April 12th, just one week after the oncologist recommended hospice care, she thought she would be at a death bed. Instead, Nadin was improving each day. The transformation was shocking. Nadin looked nothing like what John had described.



CTK parishioner John Kazanjian is an Armenian-American entrepreneur who loves people, preaching, and great coffee. He and his wife Michelle coordinate a deliverance prayer ministry in lower and mid-Michigan based on Neal Lozano's Unbound model. They have five beautiful daughters who are busy adding sons and grandchildren to the family.

We went to church together on Sunday, and many of our cousins were there at Nadin's request. These are people who pretty much never go to

church other than Christmas, Easter, baptisms, weddings, or funerals. I'm sure they came only because this was the last request of a dying loved one. They were all obviously struggling, but had never come face-to-face with this level of faith in the midst of imminent death.

I returned to Michigan on April 1st with a very heavy heart, convinced it was probably the last time I would see her until Heaven. My daughter Ani, who loves Nadin very much, decided to fly out the following week, despite being in her surgery rotation in medical school.

Two days after I left, Nadin had another MRI. On April 5th, the oncologist called with the results and recommended moving to hospice care. She felt that Nadin had 2-3 more weeks before she died.

A couple of weeks earlier, just as things began to deteriorate at an alarming rate, Nadin woke up around 2-3am and sat up in bed. She said she received a word

from the Lord. He told her not to pay any attention to anything that was happening or would happen to her lungs, spine, general health, or to any test results or news from her doctors. He told her to pay attention only to the skin metastases that had grown to cover her entire left breast. If she saw healing to that skin, the Lord would unleash healing to her body. But if she did not see healing there, she should be ready to be called home. She shared the news with her husband, her mother, and my brother.

You have taken away my clothes of mourning and clothed me with joy.

By the time Nadin's oncologist called to recommend hospice care, the skin metastases on her breast had already begun disappearing. As she hung up the phone, she felt the Lord's peace and a total confidence. She told her husband and others that the doctor was wrong. The doctor's voice was loud, but the Lord's voice was louder. She would stand firm on the Lord's promise to her.

By Sunday, two days later, the skin metastases were **healed** and the visible tumors along her side were **gone**. At church that day, family members gathered

once again. (Three weeks in a row!) They were surprised to see that she wasn't wearing oxygen. By the end of that day, her color had improved and there was no swelling. Had these relatives not seen her over the last few weeks, they would not have been able to witness the stark change.

On April 8th she went back to see the nurse practitioner. Upon listening to her lungs, she said, "These are not the same lungs I listened to last week." She continued the examination and then called the doctors to come and see. They were all in shock—laughing, crying, hugging!

Almost every day since, we've spoken or texted. Nadin is feeling better and stronger each day. Recently, she texted to say:

Praise God, my tumor marker is down from 435 to 170!

The verse that keeps coming to mind is from Psalm 30:

You have turned my mourning into joyful dancing. You have taken away my clothes of mourning and clothed me with joy.

I don't know if I will ever see the Lord raise someone from the dead, but this was very close. The resurrection has taken a new depth of meaning for me this year. Jesus is alive. He is acting in the present and He's changed everything.

Schedule of Major Events

- 7/4: Independence Day
Parish Offices closed
 - 7/6, 8/3: First Saturday Holy Hour
 - 7/12, 26: Upper Room
 - 7/13: Growing Up:
Mother-Daughter Tea
 - 7/14: Growing Up:
Father-Son event
 - 7/19-21: Steubenville High School
Youth Conference
 - 7/24: DSMME Final Profession Mass
 - 7/26: DSMME First Profession Mass
- For more information about these and other events, check the bulletin or go to www.ctkcc.net.

MAJOR EVENTS—JULY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	July 1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	Aug 1	2	3

Save the Dates!

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Holy Day of Obligation
Thursday, August 15
Masses at 6:45am, 10am, 12 noon, 7:30pm



Fall 2019 Alpha!
Sunday evenings,
September 15-November 24
Start praying now about who the Lord might want you to invite to a potentially life-changing experience through Alpha—or just come yourself! For more information and to sign up, go to www.ctkcc.net/alpha. Questions? Contact Jessica at alpha@ctkcc.net.



Walking with Purpose Women's Bible Study: Opening Your Heart
Mondays starting September 16
This 22-lesson Bible study will take you on an exciting journey closer to the heart of God! For more information and to register, go to ctkcc.net/opening-your-heart.



Check future bulletins for more details about these and other great events!

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Christ the King Catholic Church

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Coming in future issues...

- RCIA
- Hospitality
- Vocations

Look for this and more in future issues of

The Open Door

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We welcome your comments. Please send them to Theresa Hofer at thofer@ckcc.net.

The Open Door is the monthly newsletter of Christ the King Catholic Church.



*Sing to God,
sing praises to
His name;
lift up a song
to Him who
rides upon
the clouds!*

Psalm 68:4