



# The Open Door

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

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The True Missionary Is the Saint	2
Reflections on serving on Alpha	4
Christ the King Alpha schedule, February to June 2020	5
The kerygma in catechesis	6
Alpha Testimony	7
Parish Mission	8
2019 CTK Communications Survey report	9
Calendar	11



## Fear or faith?

*Shortly after becoming pregnant with our daughter, we were faced with a terrible choice*

by Rafael Chavez

**I'm originally from Peru.** My father died when I was about 3 years old. My mother never remarried, so I grew up without a real father figure in the home. My family attended Mass regularly, and my mom had a special devotion to the Divine Mercy. When I finished high school, I came into a personal relationship with God through the group Encounters of Youth Promotion. I became very active in my faith, reaching out to others to help them come to the Lord.

I initially studied pharmacy. After I became a pharmacist, I decided to study medicine also. I had studied medicine for about five years when I was approached by my professor about going to the United States as part of the Latin American Pharmacy Internship Program. I didn't really want to go. I was very involved with my church, and my faith was very important to me. I was told, "Try it for a time. If you don't like it, you can always come back." So in 2003, I moved to Boston, Massachusetts.

Although I liked the city, I found the style of worship in the Catholic churches to be very dry compared to what I was used to in Peru. In addition, I found that some of the people could be quite abrasive. For example, one day a customer at the pharmacy was angry that we didn't have what she wanted, so with her arm she swept all the eye drop bottles stacked on the counter onto the floor!

**I was thinking of** returning home when a friend of mine

Continued on page 3

"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

*The missionary is a person of the Beatitudes. ... By living the Beatitudes, the missionary experiences and shows concretely that the kingdom of God has already come, and that he has accepted it.*



Pope St. John Paul the Great was the 264<sup>th</sup> Roman Pontiff, serving from 1978-2005. This article is taken from his 1990 encyclical *Redemptoris Missio* (On the permanent validity of the Church's missionary mandate), numbers 90-91. It is available on the Vatican website, [w2.vatican.va](http://w2.vatican.va).

## The True Missionary Is the Saint

*The universal call to holiness is closely linked to the universal call to mission*

by Pope St. John Paul the Great

**The call to mission** derives, of its nature, from the call to holiness. A missionary is really such only if he commits himself to the way of holiness: "Holiness must be called a fundamental presupposition and an irreplaceable condition for everyone in fulfilling the mission of salvation in the Church."<sup>174</sup>

*The universal call to holiness* is closely linked to the *universal call to mission*. Every member of the faithful is called to holiness and to mission. This was the earnest desire of the Council, which hoped to be able "to enlighten all people with the brightness of Christ, which gleams over the face of the Church, by preaching the Gospel to every creature."<sup>175</sup> The Church's missionary spirituality is a journey toward holiness.

The renewed impulse to the mission *ad gentes* demands holy missionaries. It is not enough to update pastoral techniques, organize and coordinate ecclesial resources, or delve more deeply into the biblical and theological foundations of faith. What is needed is the encouragement of a new "ardor for holiness" among missionaries and throughout the Christian community, especially among those who work most closely with missionaries.<sup>176</sup>

Dear brothers and sisters: let us remember the missionary enthusiasm of the first Christian communities. Despite the limited means of travel and communication in those times, the proclamation of the Gospel quickly reached the ends of the earth. And this was the religion of a man who had died on a cross, "a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles" (1 Cor 1:23) Underlying this missionary dynamism was the holiness of the first Christians and the first communities. ...

*Every member of the faithful is called to holiness and to mission*

**For their part**, missionaries should reflect on the duty of holiness required of them by the gift of their vocation, renew themselves in spirit day by day, and strive to update their doctrinal and pastoral formation. The missionary must be a "contemplative in action." He finds answers to problems in the light of God's word and in personal and community prayer. My contact with representatives of the non-Christian spiritual traditions, particularly those of Asia, has confirmed me in the view that the future of mission depends to a great extent on contemplation.

Unless the missionary is a contemplative he cannot proclaim Christ in a credible way. He is a witness to the experience of God, and must be able to say with the apostles: "that which we have looked upon...concerning the word of life,...we proclaim also to you" (1 Jn 1:1-3).

The missionary is a person of the Beatitudes. Before sending out the Twelve to evangelize, Jesus, in his "missionary discourse" (cf. Mt 10), teaches them the paths of mission: poverty, meekness, acceptance of suffering and persecution, the desire for justice and peace, charity - in other words, the Beatitudes, lived out in the apostolic life (cf. Mt 5:1-12). By living the Beatitudes, the missionary experiences and shows concretely that the kingdom of God has already come, and that he has accepted it. The characteristic of every authentic missionary life is the inner joy that comes from faith. In a world tormented and oppressed by so many problems, a world tempted to pessimism, the one who proclaims the "Good News" must be a person who has found true hope in Christ.

<sup>174</sup> Apostolic Exhortation *Christifideles Laici* (December 30, 1988), 17: AAS 81 (1989), 419.

<sup>174</sup> Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, *Lumen Gentium*, 1.

<sup>176</sup> Cf. *Address* at CELAM Meeting, Port-au-Prince, March 9, 1983: AAS 75 (1983), 771-779; *Homily* for the Opening of the "Novena of Years" promoted by CELAM, Santo Domingo, October 12, 1984: *Insegnamenti* VII/2 (1984), 885-897.

## Fear or faith?

Continued from page 1

who lived in Ann Arbor said, “You should come to Ann Arbor. The people in the Midwest are not like those in Boston.” So in 2005, I came to Ann Arbor.

Not long after I came to Ann Arbor, I found Christ the King. Although I liked the style of worship, it seemed to me like I was the only Latino in the parish, that there was no diversity at all. Then Fernando and Olga Ortiz reached out to me and I became acquainted with other Latinos.

In Ann Arbor, I also met my wife, Gina, who is from Venezuela. She is my soulmate. She grew up in a churchgoing family but did not have a personal relationship with the Lord. Then, Gina and I went through a Holy Spirit Seminar with the Ortizes, and her faith too came alive. We got married in 2009 and bought a house on the west side of Ann Arbor. At that point, we stopped coming to Christ the King.

**We had our son** Sebastian in 2011. Then, shortly after Gina became pregnant with our daughter, she developed a mass on her back. At first we thought it might be a pulled muscle, so we went to a chiropractor. He, with our doctor’s permission, took an x-ray. This led to some other tests and the discovery that it was cancer.

The first doctor we went to, after telling us everything that the surgery would involve, presented it to us a choice between Gina’s life and the baby’s. At that point, Gina was eight weeks pregnant. He kept repeating,

“The sooner [you have the abortion], the better.”

We went to the Adoration Chapel to pray and plead with the Lord to give us direction. We didn’t want to have an abortion, but we didn’t want Gina to die, either! I pleaded with God to show us what to do.

As we were getting ready to pull out of the Adoration Chapel parking lot, we saw Dcn. Lou pull in. I asked if we could talk to him. He said yes, so we pulled back in and gave

***Surrender to God in your troubles.***

***He loves you. He is love.***

***Trust in God.***

him the whole story. When we were done, Dcn. Lou encouraged us, saying, “Your choice is between fear and faith.”

**So we went back** to the Cancer Center and said that we wanted a different doctor. Our new doctor respected our wishes and also gave us hope that the surgery might be less invasive than we had been told. We decided to wait as long as possible before delivering our daughter to give her the best chance possible of a healthy birth.

During this time, we started going to Upper Room. Upper Room was our safe place, our place to recharge. God gave us the grace there to leave everything to Him.

Four weeks after our daughter Sophia was born, an MRI showed that the tumor had grown, so Gina underwent a 13-hour surgery to remove it. There was some nerve damage, but nothing as extensive as had been originally presented to us.

We then decided not to do radiation treatment. The doctor clearly thought that we were crazy, but we felt like it was the right thing to do. Gina just passed her five-year anniversary of being cancer-free.

**With everything going on** with the cancer, the kids, etc., we started sometimes missing Mass. God wasn’t at the center of our lives anymore.

Back when we were attending Mass more regularly, we had invited Peter and Daniela Sabatini to come to CTK. They were now regular parishioners and involved with Alpha. So in Fall 2019, they invited us to attend the Alpha course.

We loved the intimacy of the Alpha course. We had excellent food and the videos had specific questions to discuss. You felt free to express your thoughts and beliefs.

The Alpha course reinvigorated us. When it was done, we felt ready to announce the wonders of the Lord.

If there was one thing I could say to those reading our story, it would be, Surrender to God in your troubles. He loves you. He is love. Trust in God.

***The doctor presented it to us as a choice between Gina’s life and the baby’s. Dcn. Lou encouraged us, saying, “Your choice is between fear and faith.”***

Front page photograph: Gina Martorano and Rafael Chavez with their children Sofia and Sebastian. When Gina was diagnosed with cancer while pregnant with Sofia, their faith gave them the courage to leave everything to God.

Front page photograph courtesy of Rafael Chavez.

## Reflections on serving on Alpha

*Giving back to the Lord for the sake of His Kingdom*

by Theresa Hofer



Terry Dishneau is a founding member of Christ the King. He's active in many ministries, including the Adult Choir and the Knights of Columbus.



Josh LaFave works as a Public Health Nurse for Wayne County. He currently resides in Livonia. Josh loves playing the guitar and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati.



Theresa Hofer is Editor of *The Open Door*.

**At first glance,** Josh LaFave and Terry Dishneau may seem very different. Josh is a young adult who grew up in the parish and is near the beginning of his discipleship walk. Terry is a founding member of the parish who has been faithfully following and serving the Lord since long before Josh was born. But they have this in common: they have both served on Alpha.

You might call Terry an Alpha veteran. He served during Christ the King's first Alpha season in Fall 2017, helping with set up and takedown at Hope Clinic. He has served on three other Alphas since then. On the other hand, Josh served on his first Alpha in Fall 2019, leading worship with Rachel Hartfield and serving as one of the MCs.

I recently asked them a few questions about their experiences serving on Alpha.

**How did you get involved with serving on Alpha?**

**Terry:** Because I was asked. And (he chuckles) the free food didn't hurt.

**Josh:** After helping with worship for a course on evangelization this summer, Jessica Dudek asked if I was interested in serving on the Alpha team. I was feeling like God was calling me to give my time back to Him through serving the Church, so I agreed to the invitation.

**What was your favorite thing about serving on Alpha?**

**Terry:** I've gotten some great support from people on Alpha, especially the first Alpha. Also, on one of the recent Alphas on the night people were getting prayed with for healing, Jessica invited the team members to pray over one another. That felt really good to pray as I felt led and get a positive response.

**Josh:** I really loved serving on Alpha! It was entirely a brand new experience for me each week, as I had never gone through an Alpha course before. I loved working alongside Rachel and the rest of the Alpha team. I definitely feel like I developed a close community with them.

**What challenges have you encountered?**

**Terry:** When I first heard about Alpha, it felt so "Protestant" to me. I needed a real attitude adjustment. Fr. Cantalamezza's contributions to the videos were significant for me. They helped me bridge the gap. Also, Alpha is a great way to meet other parishioners, but as someone who's older, it can be intimidating working with these youngsters.

**Josh:** The main challenge of serving on Alpha was feeling so unfamiliar with the Alpha process. To try and lead others in something I had never done

myself definitely presented its difficulties. Fortunately, the rest of the Alpha team was incredibly helpful and supportive whenever I had questions.

**How has serving on Alpha impacted your own walk with the Lord?**

**Terry:** Some of the ways that the points are made [in the videos] are good reminders. I need to be encouraged in the little things.

**Josh:** I think Alpha has helped me to become more in touch with the Holy Spirit, especially in worship, and has deepened my belief that God is real and that He loves me.

**What advice would you have for anyone considering serving on Alpha?**

**Terry:** Take the chance. Don't just say, "I don't have the time." When my hot water heater went out, I rearranged my schedule and made the time to be there when the repair person arrived. If one person from Alpha is converted, then it's worth any sacrifice to see that happen.

**Josh:** Give it a try. No matter where you come from in terms of faith background, the Lord has something just for you in Alpha.

# Christ the King Alpha schedule, February to June 2020



All are welcome to join us for Alpha and are encouraged to bring friends!

Along with this, as Christ the King moves forward in evangelization, one of our goals is to equip parishioners in the skills and tools

to aid them in sharing Christ with others. Following this season of Alpha we will be offering an extended Alpha training focusing on long-term evangelistic relationships and leveraging Alpha to serve the parish and the world.

For more information, go to [ctkcc.net/alpha](http://ctkcc.net/alpha) or contact Director of Evangelization Jessica Dudek (734-929-0972 or [jdudek@ctkcc.net](mailto:jdudek@ctkcc.net)).



## FEBRUARY

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## JUNE

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### Event Type

- Alpha Session
- Alpha Weekend Away
- Alpha Training Track 1
- Alpha Training Track 2

*The kerygma is proclaimed as the first step in leading a person to conversion. Catechesis, then, follows along as a way to deepen and develop this fledgling faith.*

## The kerygma in catechesis

*The kerygma is the necessary foundation on which catechesis builds*

by Susan Perrier

**I learned how** to share the “Four Spiritual Laws” on a mission trip in college. That little booklet was the tool we used to introduce students to Jesus and invite them to respond by placing their faith in Him.

Booklets like this have their limits, to be sure, but they also can be a handy tool. They are a means for presenting what is referred to as the *kerygma*, “the initial ardent proclamation by which a person is one day overwhelmed and brought to the decision to entrust himself to Jesus Christ by faith.” (CT 25)

That definition of the kerygma was written by Pope St. John Paul the Great in his apostolic exhortation *Catechesi Tradendae* (On Catechesis in Our Time). He explains that ordinarily the kerygma is proclaimed as the first step in leading a person to conversion. Catechesis, then, follows along as a way to deepen and develop this fledgling faith.

**Catechesis is** an essential part of the discipleship journey where we get to know the Teacher in a deeply personal way and dive into the richness of His teaching. John Paul explained that “at the heart of catechesis [is] a Person, the Person of Jesus of Nazareth ... [the] object of catechesis is ... ‘the mystery of Christ.’ ... [The] aim of catechesis is to put people not only in touch but in

communion, in intimacy, with Jesus Christ.” (CT 5)

Yet the pope is not naïve; he knows well the sad reality that many children come to their faith formation classes with “only ... the capacity to believe placed within them by Baptism” (CT 19) and have never been invited into a personal relationship of intimacy with Christ. They need the kerygma

**Kerygma:**  
*the initial ardent proclamation by which a person is one day overwhelmed and brought to the decision to entrust himself to Jesus Christ by faith*

**Pope St. John Paul the Great**

to help awaken faith and stir up those baptismal graces so that they can then go deeper and begin following the Lord as a disciple.

**At Christ the King** I have the privilege of supporting our catechists who assist our parents in serving on the front lines of this evangelistic work. How do they bring the kerygma to life in the context of their efforts to teach and form disciples?

**The first** is their personal witness of enthusiasm for the Lord and testimony of a life lived for Him. We all know that joy is contagious and children are attracted to people who

are authentic witnesses. All our catechists strive to deepen their walk with the Lord through continued spiritual formation and are selected because of their ability to shine with the light of Christ.

**The second** means of kerygmatic catechesis at CTK is to proclaim the Truth of the Church’s teachings in a dynamic way using God’s own pedagogy. The aim of this method is conversion. Here children are invited to listen, consider, assent, and obey, as Our Lady did when she said YES.

In first grade, each lesson is built around a proclamation of Truth and each child is invited to consider and engage that Truth through singing, pondering, prayer, and various activities. Each year a deacon comes to class, dressed as Jesus, and calls each child by name to “follow Him.” One year, as the deacon was referring to Baptism as the time when Jesus first came into their lives, a child who was not yet baptized cried out, “I have not been baptized! Can you baptize me now?” It was a very beautiful moment.

**The third** is by using creative means to weave the kerygma into the fabric of the lessons and to be intentional about doing so. In fifth grade, Juliet Bogan teaches a lesson

*Continued on page 7*

## Alpha Testimony

# God does answer our prayers

by an Alpha team member

**I have served** on several Alpha teams and have enjoyed the opportunity to get to know new people as well as deepen relationships with members of the parish. At a recent Alpha session, I received much more.

The video that evening was titled, "Does God Heal Today?" I wasn't experiencing any physical maladies at the time, but my heart was heavy from a phone conversation earlier that day with a dear friend who suffers from severe depression. She lives several

hours away, so I am limited in my ability to help her.

After the Alpha video that evening, we had the opportunity to pray over one another for healing, and I sensed that God wanted to relieve this heaviness in my heart. Members of the team prayed over me, and I experienced a physical lightening in my chest.

**Later that week**, I talked with my friend again. She was very down, but suddenly she asked, "Will you pray

for me?" This was a bit surprising, as she has been resistant to faith in God. I said, Sure. Then she asked, "Will you pray for me right now?" So I said a quick spontaneous prayer, then said, "Our Father, who art in heaven," and she joined in!

After this phone call, I sat before the crucifix in my living room and said, "Thank you, Jesus." God does answer our prayers, and He is able and ready to do far more than we ask or expect (Ephesians 3:20).

*Editor's note:*

*Because of the delicate nature of the relationship described, the author has asked to remain anonymous.*

## The kerygma in catechesis

Continued from page 6

on the gift of Faith, especially the importance of accepting and using it. One student described it this way:

She gave some kids bags of candy; some bags had smiley faces and some didn't. Some kids didn't get a bag at all. If your bag had a smiley face you could open it, but if it didn't you couldn't.

She asked how do you feel if you didn't get a bag or if you couldn't open it? You felt sad for those kids. So sad that you wanted to share your bag with them. She said that was like our faith. We need to share it with those who don't have any or don't know how to open theirs.

Coming out of class that day, this student said to his mother with great excitement, "That was amazing!"

**The fourth** and most important means to ensure that catechesis is evangelistic is to expect that God will show up! The Holy Spirit is indeed the "Hound of Heaven", the One who never ceases to pursue each person with His love and mercy. Our catechists strive to make room for Him and to undergird their ministry with expectant faith and prayer.

For example, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program is designed to provide an environment where children can encounter the Holy Spirit and hear Him speak. Even the

youngest children have deep experiences and receive profound insights. Emily Allis recounts a time when her class was pondering the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase. The children were considering the words "Our Father" when a young girl cried out, "that means Heaven is our home!" She made a very meaningful connection that was not previously voiced by the teacher.

**It takes constant prayer** and effort to make sure that each child receives the Good News and is invited to follow Jesus. Thankfully, this is the work of the Holy Spirit and we leave the results up to Him. St. John Bosco, great catechist saint and evangelist, pray for us!



Susan Perrier is Assistant Director of Youth Discipleship at Christ the King.

## Parish Mission

# “Healing the Whole Person” retreat and “Day of Equipping” coming in April

by Aimée Godfrey

*Not only did Jesus invite Thomas to touch His wounds, but He guides Thomas' finger directly into the wound. It is as if He is saying, “Here are My wounds, come and touch My wounds and find healing.”*



**This picture**, *The Incredulity of Saint Thomas*, is by one of my favorite artists, Caravaggio. It is the image used by the John Paul II Healing Center in their “Healing the Whole Person” retreats.

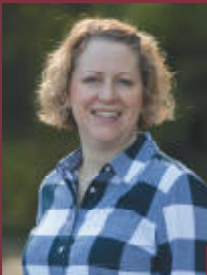
Caravaggio was known for his use of light and dark to draw the eye into the part of the painting that he wanted to highlight. In this case, the eye is drawn to Jesus as He places Thomas' finger into the wound in his side. Not only did Jesus invite Thomas to touch His wounds, but He guides Thomas' finger directly into the wound. It is as if He is saying, “Here are My wounds, come and touch My wounds and find healing.”

**Have you ever** longed for that kind of healing? I know that I have. Now I can say, however, that not only have I longed for that healing, but I have received it. In the beginning of December, I was able to attend a “Healing the Whole Person” retreat and “Day of Equipping” in Brighton in order to prepare for our upcoming Parish Mission. At the retreat, I experienced the release and healing for which I have been longing. This retreat isn't only for those who desire healing; it is also for those who want to take a step further in their walk with the Lord and understand more deeply the love of the Father and the power of the Spirit.

**Our mission** will take place April 2-4, 2020, and will include both a “Healing the Whole Person” retreat and a “Day of Equipping.” The retreat will take place on Thursday and Friday evenings and during the day on Saturday. The “Day of Equipping” will be during the day on Friday.

I encourage everyone to consider attending these events and to pray about inviting those you know to attend as well. In order to help as many parishioners as possible attend, we will be providing a Kid Mission for children during the retreat (but not during the Day of Equipping). The Kid Mission will help children enter more fully into the events of Holy Week, which begins right after the Mission.

This event will be open to everyone in the diocese and beyond, and space and scholarships are limited, so please plan to register as soon as registration opens on Jan. 6! To register, go to [ctkcc.net/parish-mission-2020](http://ctkcc.net/parish-mission-2020). May God bless you as we begin this new year.



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

*The Incredulity of Saint Thomas* by Michaelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio (1603). Courtesy of [www.Caravaggio.org](http://www.Caravaggio.org). This work is in the public domain.

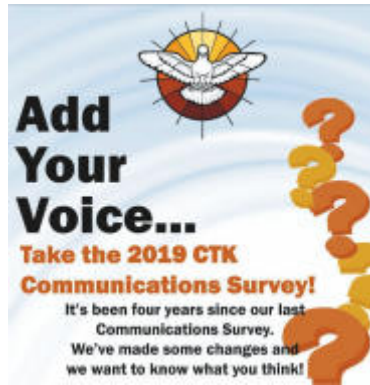


# 2019 CTK Communications Survey report

Many thanks to all who participated in the Christ the King Communications Survey that was conducted in October 2019. Special thanks go to Greg Stout for his invaluable help in analyzing the survey data.

It has been four years since our last communications survey. These results will be helpful for understanding the effectiveness of our current forms of communication, identifying trends, and planning for the future.

The results are summarized below in three sections:



- **Demographics** Provides some basic information about the survey and those who responded.
- **Summary analysis** Summarizes key information gleaned from the survey.

- **Action items** Lists actions that the parish staff and parishioners can take to address some of the communications issues identified in the survey.

If you are interested in more detailed survey data, check the Christ the King website at [ctkcc.net/2019commsurvey](http://ctkcc.net/2019commsurvey). There you will find detailed survey statistics broken down by gender, age, length of membership at CTK, weekend Mass attended, and distance travelled to CTK.

Please direct any comments or questions to Communications Coordinator Theresa Hofer ([thofer@ctkcc.net](mailto:thofer@ctkcc.net)).

## Section 1: Demographics

For comparison, results from the 2015 survey appear in parentheses.

### Total number of respondents

371 (vs 519 in 2015)  
This is about 27% of the adults registered at Christ the King vs 30% in 2015.

### Gender of respondents

- Female: 66% (64%)
- Male: 34% (36%)

The parish-wide ratio at Christ the King is about 53% female to 47% male.

### Ages of respondents

- Under age 25: 2% (2%)
- Age 25-44: 22% (23%)
- Age 45-74: 64% (69%)
- Age 75 and older: 12% (6%)

Although the percentage of respondents under age 45 remained stable, the percentage 75 and older doubled. In the parish as a whole, only 5% of registered parishioners are 75 and older.

### Length of CTK attendance by respondents

- 5 years or less: 16% (21%)
- 6 years or more: 84% (79%)

In the parish as a whole, about 22% of parish households have been registered 5 years or less. (The question asked respondents how long they had been attending, which may be longer than how long they have been registered.)

### Mass attended by respondents

- Saturday 4:30pm: 15% (13%)
- Sunday 9:00am: 41% (43%)
- Sunday 11:00am: 44% (44%)

This breakdown closely mirrors Mass attendance by the parish as a whole.

### Distance traveled to CTK

- 1-10 miles: 61% (64%)
- 11 miles or more: 39% (36%)

Continued on page 10

*For the parish overall, the most important communication channel continues to be the weekly bulletin, followed by the Mid-Week Notes and the CTK website. However, for those under age 45, the order is reversed.*

## 2019 CTK Communications Survey report

Continued from page 9

### Section 2: Summary Analysis

- We received many positive comments indicating that communications have improved since the last survey in 2015.
- Overall, most respondents feel adequately informed about most areas of parish life, with the exception of strategic areas. A number of people want to hear more from the leadership about parish priorities, mission, vision, the status of the capital campaign, etc.
- For the parish overall, the most important communication channel continues to be the weekly bulletin, followed by the *Mid-Week Notes* and the CTK website. However, for those under age 45, the order is reversed: first the website, then the *Mid-Week Notes* and bulletin.
- There were many positive comments about the two newest communications channels: the weekly *Mid-Week Notes* email and the monthly *Open Door* newsletter.
- Although 92% of respondents use text messaging daily, the majority (59%) do not want to receive text messages from the parish.
- Although more than half of respondents use Facebook at least once a week, 37% of respondents, and 21% of those under 45, do not use Facebook. That is up slightly from 35% and 17%, respectively, in 2015.
- Only 22% of all respondents use Instagram, but 36% of those under 45 use it.
- The top three most important categories of information are:
  - ~ Event cancellations/facility closures
  - ~ Urgent prayer requests
  - ~ Upcoming events at Christ the King
- A number of people would like to see less paper and more electronic communication. In particular, flyers stuffed in the bulletin were seen as one of the least important communication channels and a waste of paper.
- A number of people want to see more information about events for specific demographic groups: young adults, families, moms, singles, seniors.

### Section 3: Action Items

#### Parish Staff

- In an effort to accommodate more electronic communication, we will try whenever possible to upload bulletin flyers and inserts to the CTK bulletin website.
- We will try to upload bulletins to the myParish app in a more timely way.
- While many people are asking for fewer announcements at Mass, announcements at Mass continue to be cited as one of the top five most important forms of communication—one of the top three for those who have been members of CTK five years or less. The Liturgy Planning Team is well aware of the challenge of balancing these needs and will continue to work to keep announcements at Mass concise and restricted to the most important and time-sensitive information.

#### Parishioners

- A number of respondents would prefer to receive the bulletin and *Open Door* electronically. You can sign up to receive an email message from our printer when these publications are available online. Go to [parishesonline.com/find/christ-the-king-church-48105](http://parishesonline.com/find/christ-the-king-church-48105) and click on the “Subscribe” button.
- Several respondents were unaware that it is now possible for multiple household members to receive the *Mid-Week Notes* and other all-parish emails (funeral announcements, etc.). To have your email address added to our list, please contact Sharon at [smessiter@ctkcc.net](mailto:smessiter@ctkcc.net).
- If you have a smart phone and would like to receive text messages from the parish, please download the CTK myParish app. Go to [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com) and click on the App Store or Google Play button.

**Schedule of Major Events**

- 12/30/19-1/3/20: Parish offices closed
- 12/31/19-1/1/20: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God  
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
- 1/4, 2/1: First Saturday Holy Hour
- 1/5-10: Religious Education classes resume this week
- 1/10: Upper Room
- 1/11: Called and Gifted Workshop for Young Adults
- 1/13: Walking with Purpose Winter session begins
- 1/15: Discernment of Spirits Discipleship Group begins
- 1/18: Alpha Celebration
- 1/24: Upper Room & Upper Room Kids' Series
- 1/31: Men's Prayer Night

For more information about these and other events, check the bulletin or go to [www.ckkcc.net](http://www.ckkcc.net).

**MAJOR EVENTS—JANUARY 2020**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Dec. 29	30	31	Jan. 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	Feb. 1

**Save the Dates!**

**Winter Alpha**

Wednesdays, Feb. 12-Apr. 15  
Have questions about the most important things in life? Try Alpha! For more information and to sign up, go to [www.ckkcc.net/alpha](http://www.ckkcc.net/alpha). For more information, contact Jessica at [jdudek@ckkcc.net](mailto:jdudek@ckkcc.net).



**Parish Mission:**

***Healing the Whole Person***  
Thursday-Saturday, April 2-4, 2020  
This mission, led by Dr. Bob Schuchts and the team from the John Paul II Healing Center, is sure to be a powerful opportunity to go deeper with the Lord. *Pre-registration is required.* Registration opens Jan. 6, 2020.



**Parish Mission:**

***Day of Equipping***  
Friday, April 3, 2020  
9:00am-2:30pm  
This optional event with Bart Schuchts is designed to equip and prepare you to live more fully the mission of Christ. *Pre-registration is required.* Registration opens Jan. 6, 2020.



Check future bulletins for more details about these great events!

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## Christ the King Catholic Church

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## Coming in future issues...

- Inner Healing
- Parenting
- Our Charismatic identity

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.

**Jesus said,  
"Put out into the deep  
and let down your nets  
for a catch."**

Luke 5:4

