



The Open Door

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

JUNE 2020

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Report from the frontlines

CTK parishioners share their experiences of caring for COVID-19 patients

The word "unprecedented" has been used repeatedly to describe the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on people worldwide. Among those most directly affected, after the patients and their families, are medical personnel caring for the victims. We asked three of the many medical professionals in our parish—Ellen Donnelly Myers, Joe Miller, and Rosemary Thornton—to share some of their experiences.—TH

Please tell us a little about yourself and your medical career.

Ellen I've been a parishioner at Christ the King almost

since the beginning when we were affiliated with the Word of God. Chris and I were married at CTK; our eight children, ages 19 to 5, all still live at home. I began working at St Joe's in Ann Arbor in 1998. I'm currently the Nurse Manager of the Medical ICU and the COVID ICU.

Joe My wife, Emily, and I have been married for almost 17 years. We have six children, all of whom are home doing remote/home learning. I've been part of the faculty in Emergency Medicine at Henry Ford

Hospital in Detroit for the past 11 years.

Rosemary My husband Bob and I have been married for 33 years, have four adult daughters, two sons-in-law, and a new grandson. We have been members of CTK since its inception and were married at CTK. We are also members of Word of Life community. I went to Physician Assistant school "later in life" and have been practicing since 2008, mostly in an Emergency Department in southeastern Michigan.

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"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

"Be still and know that I am God!"

by Fr. Ed Fride



So we go, in a very short span of time, from hearing that some weird things are coming out of a marketplace in Wuhan to a widespread planetary shutdown! In what seemed like almost overnight, an issue that was barely getting any press whatsoever took over our lives. Theories, conspiracy and otherwise, abounded and continue to. Fortunately, it's not my job to sort all that out. I have a hard enough time just trying to keep up with the ongoing, constantly shifting information concerning the medical realities of this virus and what are the most appropriate ways to deal with it, especially in terms of the different aspects of our life here at Christ the King.

There was a joke told in my Jewish studies classes that if you have four rabbis, you will have five opinions. That joke

The Good News is that the King of Kings is unwavering in His Presence and His love for us and continues to send us the Holy Spirit to provide us with the guidance that we need.

seems to have assumed reality and apparently applies across the board to every area of so-called expertise that we would typically lean on to guide our lives in times of crisis. So how do we respond when the so-called stable areas of our lives, where we look for guidance, all seem to be enveloped in this chaos?

The Good News is that the King of Kings is unwavering in His Presence and in His love for us and continues to send

us the Holy Spirit to provide us with the guidance that we need. All of those ordinary things that we do to continue to deepen our relationship with Him we try to do now: Scripture, prayer, the charismatic gifts, devotions to the Lady and the Saints are all things we can and must take advantage of.

However, it is very difficult, as so many have expressed, when the source and summit of our Christian life, the Presence of the Eucharistic Lord, is so unavailable, at least until recently. Our ability to gather in prayer with brothers and sisters at Upper Room, in other prayer meetings, etc., also being constrained has been a great burden as well. Technology has helped with some of that. Last Sunday both prayer communities live-streamed their prayer meetings at the same time, so I tuned into both, one on my laptop, one on my phone. Lots of praise and worship! Our attempts to live-stream the Masses have hopefully helped with some of that as well. But this has been very, very, hard. I know it has been far harder on most of the people of Christ the King than it has on me, as I still celebrate Mass for you every day and so continue to receive Him, but to say that it is not the same without you there would be a galactic understatement! The Triduum itself was very, very, difficult. In par-

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Page 1: Image by Bernhard Brenner
Page 2: Image by Pexels
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CTK parishioners share their experiences

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When did you first start seeing patients who were suffering from COVID-19?

Ellen We received our first patient in the middle of March but began planning for it weeks before. St Joe's is a tier one special pathogens hospital for the State of Michigan, and we keep our eyes on the horizon.

Joe I went on a beautiful ski trip with my daughters to Caberfae with a large group of CTK families the first weekend of March. That following week in our ED, we began seeing a surge of patients with severe respiratory symptoms from COVID-19.

Rosemary Being near the hot spot of Detroit, we started seeing COVID-19 patients in March. The first weeks were quite intense, making adjustments in the ED and the hospital to accommodate the great influx of sick patients. It was scary certainly and there were many unknowns, but that time was also filled with a sense of great purpose and determination to care for the sick in the best ways we could.

How has dealing with COVID-19 been different from your past experiences caring for the seriously ill?

Ellen This is nothing like we've ever seen before. To manage the sheer number of patients, we had to expand my ICU capacity from 20 to 64 beds in a little less than a week. Patients came in incredibly ill and stayed incredibly ill for weeks.

The emotional toll has been the hardest part. Because of both



the governor's executive order and to protect health care workers from unnecessary exposure, we had to strictly limit visitation to all patients. This means our normal practice of allowing visitors 24/7 because it's good for the patients and the visitors couldn't happen. It's painful to see lonely and isolated patients and their families. Thankfully, we used technology to keep people connected, but it's not the same. We also lost more patients than we usually would.

Joe What was so different was the risk to my trainees and my colleagues. While we occasionally see patients with contagious meningitis or toxins that could affect other healthcare providers, never had we encountered such risk to ourselves. I particularly worried about my senior colleagues, those approaching retirement and how they were truly putting their lives at some risk, especially early on when no one was fully ready

with adequate PPE (personal protective equipment).

Rosemary During that first phase, we were all trying our best to educate ourselves and our patients on treating this novel virus. There were many people who were mildly ill, but very many who were quite sick, needing intubation quickly after arriving in our department, and numbers who did not survive. We were all doing our best to protect ourselves while we cared for them, but we were unsure how well that was happening and hoping that we weren't going to get sick also.

Of high concern for almost all of us was our families at home, praying we would not be infecting them. A number of my co-workers have lived apart from their families, either within a secluded place in their home, or at a hotel or dorm. Bob and I discussed whether I should do this, but I felt I could not survive, frankly, to live apart from

Because of her work with COVID-19 patients, Ellen Myers isolated herself from family and friends and avoided going out. She's pictured here with her family: (back row) Her husband Chris, John Paul, Benjamin, Christian; (middle row) Gemma, Ellen, Veronica, Olivia; (front row) Francis, Chiara, Ellen's mother, MaryEllen Donnelly.

This is nothing like we've ever seen before.

To manage the sheer number of patients, we had to expand my ICU capacity from 20 to 64 beds in a little less than a week.

Patients came in incredibly ill and stayed incredibly ill for weeks.

Ellen Myers

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CTK parishioners share their experiences

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As part of the faculty in Emergency Medicine at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Joe Miller faced challenges, not only in caring for the patients, but in making sure that his residents, students, and colleagues were safe as well.



The ongoing challenge is to figure out how to take care of critically ill people with COVID-19 when you know so little about the illness and have a flood of information coming in on theories but not much solid evidence.

Joe Miller

my supportive family for so long. Fortunately, none of us has gotten sick so far, and for that we are very grateful.

What has been the biggest challenge that you have faced in caring for COVID-19 patients?

Ellen For me, it hasn't been the actual care of the patients. It's how politicized and adversarial this has become. Mainstream media is politicized at baseline, and people have become used to distrusting it (with good reason). So they look elsewhere for information, but there isn't a good enough general understanding of the world of research and science to fact-check effectively.

Fellow parishioners have stated in social media that they're not going to wear a mask because they don't feel they need to. (I'm assuming they will comply with the bishop's directives, of course.) That's hard for me to hear since ignoring prudent and simple safety measures (social distancing, wearing a mask, cleaning your hands) could lead to a second surge.

Caring for these patients puts health care workers at risk, in addition to our neighbors in the community. This virus is now endemic to our state and it won't go away.

Joe The biggest challenge was making sure that my residents, students, and colleagues were safe taking care of these patients. The ongoing challenge is to figure out how to take care of critically ill people with COVID-19 when you know so little about the illness and have a flood of information coming in on theories but not much solid evidence. Another huge challenge was comforting patients who were sick, alone, sometimes dying, and had little access to family.

Are there any situations that stand out for you that you can share?

Ellen People have been wonderful in supporting our staff. They've donated meals, masks, Chapstick, breath mints—all sorts of sweet and thoughtful things. There's a spiritual adoption group and people have been actively praying for us. And I'm incredibly proud of my team. They've done a phenomenal job of responding to this crisis and keeping their vision focused on the humans entrusted to our care.

Joe In the midst of a great deal of suffering in Detroit, many of us were blessed to

see an incredible sense of unity among healthcare workers. Doctors and nurses removed from the frontlines did all they could to either help frontline clinicians directly or to offer support in other ways. The Detroit community also supported our group each day; the ER had meals delivered almost continuously for five weeks straight. One of the greatest blessings was seeing a physician colleague recover and leave the hospital after being on a ventilator and hospitalized for over three weeks.

Rosemary For most of this crisis, I have been working our curbside patient evaluation and testing and have talked to many people who are concerned, scared, and vulnerable. I have been most struck with elderly patients who were quite sick and needed to go into the main department to receive more care and evaluation than I could give at curbside. The fear that some of them had, going into the emergency room without their loved ones and family, not knowing for how long or what may happen, was palpable. My heart always went out to them as I assured them that we would take great care of them.

How has it been for your family knowing that you are dealing with COVID-19 patients?

Ellen I've isolated myself from family and friends and avoided

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CTK parishioners share their experiences

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going out. I don't know that my kids were negatively impacted by worry about me; I think they missed their cousins more!

Joe My wife Emily and children have been incredibly supportive and such a blessing. I did not isolate at home, and my family has constantly sacrificed for me and taken the small risk that I could bring COVID-19 home.

Rosemary My grandson was born right before this all started, so I did spend time with him then. However, I could not see him for two months due to my work. Also, I have not seen my daughter with diabetes for months. This has probably been the hardest part for me personally.

How has your faith helped you during this time?

Ellen I keep trying to stay in the moment and ask the Lord to put me where I need to be. This has been such demanding work that it's been impossible sometimes to even pray other than just ask for mercy in the moment.

Joe Thanks to a group organized by John Millard, who also has been on the frontlines caring for COVID-19 patients, I was in the middle of an Exodus 90 spiritual exercise when COVID hit. This exercise, plus the Liturgy of the Hours and Psalm 23, went a long way towards getting me through the crisis.

Rosemary I feel my lifelong faith and relationship with the Lord has helped me through this time. All the past times of learning how to

trust Him when I am afraid or anxious, asking for help to do His will despite my feelings on the matter, trusting that He will bring good out of everything for those who love Him: these things have helped me to entrust myself, my family, my patients to our faithful Creator. And now, as health care jobs are insecure, and my future work is unsure, I work to place my hope on the Rock Who does not change, does not shift, does not disappoint. Also, I had just started a one year Bible reading plan, and reading His Word every day like that has been a great strength and joy for me.

Where do things stand now in your department?

Ellen Patient loads are beginning to lessen and we're beginning to be able to move forward. We will almost certainly see more cases, but now we know better what to do.

Joe COVID has subsided, thank God! Things are slow now, and a nice respite, although the big slowdown in healthcare (EDs and everywhere else) is creating another crisis, leading to job-cuts throughout healthcare.

Rosemary We have significantly fewer COVID patients per day than before, thank God, but also fewer patients overall. We are concerned about the people who have put off coming to the ER due to fears of COVID and are reassuring people that we are keeping patients safe



Rosemary Thornton enjoys a snuggle with her grandson Louis. Not being able to see him and other vulnerable family members due to her work with COVID-19 patients was one of the challenges that Rosemary had to deal with.

when they come in. The staff in our department came together so heroically at the time of crisis, and now there are other concerns and anxieties about their job security.

How can your brothers and sisters in the parish support you in prayer?

Ellen Just pray for continued health and healing for the teams caring for patients and for more peace around general safety behaviors.

Joe Keep praying for the people of Detroit. Because of the social circumstances and burden of chronic disease, the people of Detroit are suffering at higher rates than other parts of Michigan. May God protect and heal His children in Detroit.

Rosemary Maybe for a good healing and growth among the staff in our ER, that they would come out of this stronger and open to the Lord, Who loves them so very much.

All the past times of learning how to trust Him when I am afraid or anxious, asking for help to do His will despite my feelings on the matter, trusting that He will bring good out of everything for those who love Him: these things have helped me to entrust myself, my family, my patients to our faithful Creator.

Rosemary Thornton

"Be still and know that I am God!"

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ticular, I love washing the feet of brothers in the parish. I particularly love watching as our kids and teens reverence the Crucified on Good Friday, and the explosive joy of the Vigil's alleluias are decidedly just not the same without you. The Triduum is usually a huge shot in the arm for me spiritually; not so much this year.

The resurgence of grace that I experienced when we could start to do the Sacrament of Initiation Masses was a God-send and just in time. I have also been blessed and humbled watching the absolutely heroic response of the Christ the King staff to these difficult times, trying to do what they can to serve you in a constantly changing situation. You have no idea how much they lay down their lives for you! I hope your gratitude for their actions can be expressed at some time.



Fr. Ed Fride is Pastor of Christ the King.

"Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today, and forever."

His profound love is unwavering for us.

Now during times of crisis we need to cling to Him more than ever and cry out:

"Come, Lord Jesus, come!"

It is ironic that several of the complaints I hear most often were addressed by this current situation: "I never have time to pray," "we never spend any time together as a family," "our Sundays have been taken over by sports and everything else," etc., etc. I hope you have done a better job than I have in taking advantage of the opportunities offered by this strange

turn of events. As life slowly returns to normal, it is particularly crucial to not abandon newfound, or at least more strongly developed, approaches we may have taken to prayer, Scripture and other spiritual reading, etc. The closer we cling to the Lord Jesus, the less the crazy circumstances of life can dislocate our hearts and minds from where they need to be focused and the less we will be robbed of our peace and joy.

"Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today, and forever." His profound love is unwavering for us. Now during times of crisis we need to cling to Him more than ever and cry out: "Come, Lord Jesus, come!"

Lessons learned in lockdown

"I rediscovered the joy of a generous spirit when, since the start of the lockdown, I get up early each morning to prepare and bring to my wife, Katena, of 30 years (so far) a hot breakfast in bed for her at 7:00am."

John Presutti

Image by Anrita1705 from Pixabay, www.pixabay.com

Lessons learned in lockdown

Zoom isn't just a noise your car makes

Technology turns the coronavirus separation blues into gold

by Dan Miekstyn

If you're a grandparent, then you probably share the separation blues that the coronavirus has brought into your life. Even our five-year-old grandson greets his mom most mornings with, "Is the coronavirus gone yet?"

We are so grateful that all our family members, including four who are serving as heroes in the medical field, appear to be healthy. The truth is, though, we miss the grandkids. Fortunately, between our Texas-based daughter-in-law and my wife (a.k.a. Grandma), we've managed to check in with our ten special gifts, all ages eight and under, on a regular basis.

In early April, I learned that Zoom wasn't just a noise my car engine made when I tried to show off as a teenager. On Easter Sunday, our entire crew met via a Zoom appointment. We visited for a while and then played a number of games created by my daughter-in-law and Grandma. After closing with prayer, we left the meeting and then continued individual Skype meetings with several of the couples just to catch up adult-style.

Since those initial technology-based contacts, we've enjoyed a large number of Masses, prayer meetings, including the recent Renewal Ministries Conference held at CTK, and special times

with each set of the grandkids. It's so much fun playing games with the kids, such as scavenger hunts. Other games, such as Password, based on the old TV show, have been fun to do with various family members and on a few occasions with couple friends.

Our grandkids really enjoy having Grandma read books to them while I serve in the vital role of holding the book open so they can view the pictures. (On occasion I might get into a role such as huffing and puffing as the Big Bad Wolf.) My favorite thing about those book-share times is watching the kids' faces as they hear Grandma give a dramatic presentation. It's also fun when one or more of them decide to read a book to us.

As I write this, all the women in my family are engaged in a "Zooming" get together. Both my wife's women's group and my men's group hold our

meetings via the Zoom platform. Our men's group is enjoying our sharing times and our ongoing study of Fr. Jacques Philippe's *Searching for and Maintaining Peace* (well-timed indeed). All these experiences, along with our new "free membership" at the Planet Fitness parking lot near our house—allowing us a good place to walk—and our daily dose of a few rounds of dominoes, have really helped the blues turn more to gold.

Through it all, a theory I've believed since our marriage in 1976 is now a fact. If I'm ever a castaway, I know who I want to be stranded with. Thank you again, Lord, for blessing me with my most wonderful wife and for the many joys You bring to us through our spiritual support groups, our children, their spouses, and, of course, our grandkids.



Despite the restrictions imposed by distance and the pandemic, Dan and Lauren Miekstyn's family were able to get together for Mother's Day, thanks to the Zoom platform.



Dan Miekstyn and his wife, Lauren, are founding members of the parish. Dan was a teacher for over 40 years, split fairly closely between the public and Catholic Schools systems. He is so grateful that Lauren said "Yes" to him nearly 44 years ago.



Claudia Burns is a former art teacher-turned liturgical artist and painter. She also loves being creative in the kitchen, especially with her four children and their families.



Linda Horning and her husband Bob are founding members of Christ the King and have one adult son, Rob. She is a Secular Discalced Carmelite and serves as Formation Director for the Our Lady of Victory community that meets at St. Thomas.



Samantha Toma came into the Catholic Church 10 years ago. She is a social worker, artist, wife, and mother of four young children.

Lessons learned in lockdown

"Come away by yourselves..."

Parishioners in lockdown share the fruits of what the Lord said to them in prayer

Last month when I invited readers of the Mid-Week Notes to share with me lessons that they were learning in lockdown, several spoke about things they sensed the Lord saying to them in prayer —TH

Faith, not fear

by Claudia Burns

The world is afraid. Afraid of catching the virus, of family and elders and friends catching the virus, but most of all, of dying from the virus. Don't get me wrong—I sympathize deeply with you who have lost loved ones.

Five years ago, in shock after the death of my husband, this was the only coherent thought I had: "For both in life and death we belong to God." It is faith, not fear, that needs to take hold of our emotions.

How can we build our faith and conquer our fear? "Faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ." (Romans 10:17)

Death, where is your victory?
Death, where is your sting?

We got this. Jesus has got this.

"In all the uncertainty that envelops your world what is certain is My love. My victory over death is certain.

"Let Me draw you to Myself. Let Me show you the path of life. Let Me reveal My way, My love to you."

I believe He spoke those words to me yesterday. I intend to

hold onto those words every moment of every day because no matter what happens in the world I look forward to eternal life with the only true God and Jesus Christ whom He has sent, rooted in His divine power.

Remaining through trust

by Linda Horning

Lockdown has been a time of growth in faith and trust for me. During Lent the Holy Spirit had been working with me to get more free of my germ complex. Then when Covid came to our state followed very shortly by the lockdown, I had to turn more earnestly to the Lord concerning the above.

When I asked Him how He wanted to help me concerning contagion, He said that He was going to take care of everything and told me to read Psalm 91. This is the perfect Scripture for a pandemic. When we remain under the shadow of His wings through trust, He promises that no plague will come near us. Then at the end of the psalm, it says "because he clings to me in love, I will deliver him."

So every time I would begin to get anxious about coronavirus on the groceries or whatever, when I read or thought of Psalm 91, He would give me peace. Otherwise, I would have been a nervous wreck, constantly wiping down everything, all the groceries, etc. But

through His word and clinging to Him, I was saved from much mental and emotional torment, praise be to God! He is so faithful!

Seeking God's Heart

by Samantha Toma

The Lord has placed a burden on my heart in prayer for the issue of modesty in dress. It's been surprising, it's been inspiring, it's been painful. It's also led to a Scripture study on what God says about clothing and hearts.

This journey has taken me in surprising directions. For example, I've encountered a young woman I used to go to Sunday school with who's now posting nude photos on social media. I've talked with Catholic women who have felt embarrassed by their clothing but had to rely on handouts; one had a friend return to Church after years only to be shamed by a priest for her outfit. I shared the experience of a young man wearing a pink pop star shirt to school, only to have his teacher discover he wore it because it was the only shirt his size at the shelter.

We can all read about clothes in the Bible, but do we search our hearts? If we do, do we find compassion and gentleness of judgment there? Or are we just trying to follow the rules? For me, I'm still actively seeking the Lord for His heart.

Staff Profile

Kelley Burns

Kelley Burns started as our new Director of Worship on June 1.

Please tell us a little about yourself.

I grew up in Columbia, Missouri. My husband, Mike, grew up in the same parish, but we went to different schools and weren't both in youth group, so we didn't meet until we were in college. I have a BS and an MA in Music Education from the University of Missouri in Columbia. I was a public school teacher for several years before moving into parish ministry.

How did you get involved in parish ministry?

I've been in Music Ministry my whole life, initially leading the contemporary Mass at our parish as a volunteer from the time it started. I've also done youth ministry at three different parishes. For the last two years, I was the Director of Music and Liturgy at my parish, St. Thomas More Newman Center.

How did you get involved in the Charismatic Renewal?

About three years ago I was on a plane coming back from a campus ministry convention, and I felt this desire growing in my heart for a personal Pentecost. On that same plane ride, a friend sent me a podcast by Fr. Mathias Thelen, and what he said just cut me to the heart. I felt like I really needed to pursue this. My husband and I ended up going to the Encounter School of Prophetic Ministry in Brighton, which had a profound impact on both of us.



Kelley Burns and her family—her husband, Mike, and their children Andrew (14), Emma (16), Luke (6), and Reece (10)—stand in front of their new house in Saline. Selling their Missouri house in one day in the midst of a pandemic was just one of the ways that the Lord confirmed that He wanted them at Christ the King.

How did you hear about Christ the King?

I met some folks from CTK at Encounter. I thought, "That's interesting. I think I could find a home there." When we came home from the conference, I said to my husband, "We should move to Michigan!" He replied, "You're crazy!" (He's the more logical, rational one. We balance each other well. 😊)

So I started following CTK on Facebook, thinking, "Well, if anything ever came up, I could maybe look into it." But I never saw anything on Facebook.

Then in January, I attended a chant conference, where I met some other charismatics, who told me that CTK was looking for a Director of Worship. So I looked it up on the CTK website and spoke to my husband about it. We both prayed and felt like we should at least look into it, so I sent an email to inquire. Then, when we came up for the on-site interview, we both felt like, "Yes, this is it."

And the Lord confirmed it for you in other ways, too.

Yes, we sold our house in one day in the midst of a pandemic. Then, we bought a house we had never seen in a town we had never been to and we love it. We just asked God to make the path straight, and He did.

What was it like telling your family?

There's always loss, but the kids were excited about the adventure. Also, we took our teens to the Encounter Conference in January, and they loved being in a community with other teens. It's been hard for my parents, especially my mom, but she'll come around.

So now that you're here, what are you most looking forward to?

The thing we want most for our family is a really strong, Holy Spirit-filled community. I want some people running alongside us who are after the same thing. It makes it a lot easier.

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Kelley Burns

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Also, I'm so excited to get started. There's nothing I love more than leading worship and music ministry. I was longing for a way to use my gifts in a way that they could flourish.

If you could say just one thing to those reading this interview, what would it be?

I want to be able to share my gifts with everyone, but I also want the people in this commu-

nity to share your gifts with me. If you have ideas, please pass them on!

Kelley can be reached by email at kburns@ctkcc.net.

For such a time as this

By Doug Helderop

Interim Director of Worship Doug Helderop has been a Godsend for the parish, especially when the pandemic suddenly launched us into live-streaming Masses and Upper Room. We asked him to share with us his experience of the last several months.

Last summer I was preparing to move to a new career. Little did I know that the Lord would have me assume the role of Interim Director of Worship at Christ the King.

I started in September and began praying about whether or not I should apply for the permanent position. A good friend suggested that I not try to discern the outcome but ask God for the next step, so I applied.

As the parish began to narrow its field of candidates, I sensed that the Lord was saying "no" to the position. I couldn't understand why because it was my dream job, something I had wanted to do since my teens. During the Encounter Conference in January, though, my sense was confirmed that this was not the position for me. Other confirmations followed.

It was disappointing and hard to understand, not only for me, but for the clergy and staff, why God had asked me to pull my application. However, the very afternoon that I retracted my application, I received an email from Kelley Burns, now our incoming Director of Worship, asking about the position and if there was still time to apply.

Your lives light up the world. Let others see your light from a distance, for how can you hide a city that stands on a hilltop? Mt 5:14 (The Passion Translation [TPT])

God has prepared me for such a time as this. My many years as a television producer/director, worship leader, and musician have been used during the pandemic to live-stream our Masses and other events, keeping our community connected and establishing our new international, digital community. I've always sensed that God has wanted Christ the King to live out

before the Church our charismatic and full, conscious, and active expression of worship in the Mass and other events like Upper Room. God is using our parish to be an encouragement to our brothers and sisters around the world, calling the Church into an ever deeper and life-changing encounter with Christ. The love of Christ, poured into our hearts, compels us to evangelize our communities through the power of the Holy Spirit.

For you see, even though I proclaim the good news, I can't take the credit for my labors, for I am compelled to fulfill my duty by completing this work. It would be agony to me if I did not constantly preach the gospel! 1 Cor. 9:16 (TPT)

Please join me as I prayerfully seek the Father's will for my life and for our parish. He loves to partner with us, just as He did with our Mother. Let's ask Him for the courage to say, without hesitation, "Yes!"



Doug Helderop has been a member of Christ the King since he entered the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil in 2004. He is active in music ministry, heads our media ministry, and co-directed for several years our Friday night Upper Room prayer meetings.

Please Note:

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, this schedule is subject to change.
Please check our website, ctkcc.net, for the latest information.

Schedule of Major Events

- 5/31: Pentecost
- 6/7: Trinity Sunday
- 6/12, 26: Upper Room
- 6/14: Corpus Christi
- 6/24: 19th Anniversary of the Dedication of the Church
- 7/3: Office closed in celebration of Independence Day
- 7/4: First Saturday Holy Hour: Independence Day

For more information about these and other events, check the bulletin or go to www.ctkcc.net.

MAJOR EVENTS—JUNE 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
May 31	June 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	July 1	2	3	4

One thing I do,
forgetting what lies behind
and straining forward
to what lies ahead,
I press on toward the goal
for the prize of the upward call of
God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13-14

This page: "Empty Mountain Road," image by Circe Denyer.
Back page: "The Tree on the Bank," image by Larisa Koshkina.
Both images available from www.publicdomainpictures.net.



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Coming in future issues...

- Hospitality
- Welcome our new Catholics!

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@ckkcc.net.

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Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.
He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out
its roots by the stream and does not fear when
heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and
is not anxious in the year of drought,
for it does not cease to bear fruit.

Jeremiah 17:7-8