



The Open Door

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

JULY - AUGUST 2020

VOLUME 3.9

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Michael Schultz—shown here with Dcn. Larry Randolph, his sponsor Anita Janiszewska, and Fr. Ed Fride—was one of eight people who entered the Church on Pentecost Sunday at Christ the King this year.

Michael Schultz

Search for happiness & purpose finds its goal

On Pentecost Sunday, May 31, eight people—Cory Gaw, Anna Jones, Mark Rogers, Michael Schultz, Stephen Slattery, Jim Thurman, Ryan Wensley, and Grayson Wilcox—celebrated the Sacraments of Initiation and entered the Catholic Church at Christ the King. In this issue, three of them share their stories with us.

Michael, please describe your background and faith experience, if any.

Since my childhood I always yearned to understand what our purpose on Earth was. I craved to know what we are all doing here; my soul felt there was something so much more than just this life.

I was raised with a basic understanding of Jesus and attended a Methodist church a handful of times growing up, mostly on holidays. My faith in God was praying to Him when I was desperate and needed His help.

In college, I traveled to the Vatican, Jerusalem, and Bethlehem, searching for my own answers. I pushed away teachings related to Jesus, thinking it was an antiquated perspective on life. I lived a completely secular lifestyle, although I continued searching for that happiness I never truly felt.

When did you first start getting interested in Christianity?

My Mom was in hospice care for a couple of years with a terminal illness. During that time, she attended a Protestant church regularly, was involved in prayer groups, and always invited me into a relationship with Jesus. I was focused on myself and pushed away the idea of Jesus being our Lord and Savior.

When my Mom passed away, my life changed completely. I wasn't satisfied with my

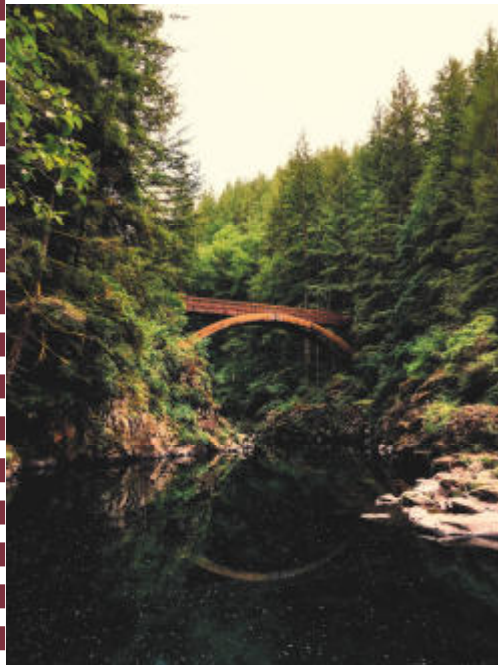
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“We exist to joyfully worship God and carry out the mission of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.” - Mission Statement of Christ the King

“Be still and know that I am God!”

by Fr. Ed Fride

There are no circumstances or events that are possible in the universe that are greater than our Triune God's ability to handle and to handle for us.



This was the title of my last newsletter article, and it seems particularly appropriate to use it again. During times of chaos and confusion, where do we go for our anchor? The bigger the storm, the greater is our need for stability and trust.

I'm reminded again of that great line from Corrie ten Boom: “There is no pit so deep, that God is not deeper still.” This can be very reassuring because sometimes we can fall into the trap of thinking that the mess or confusion we are in is now even greater than what God can handle. While it is obviously the case that in theory probably none of us believe that, when times get crazy challenging it's easy to fall into a sort of pragmatic agnosticism

about what we actually think He can or will do.

Corrie's example was not wistfully dreamed up during some mountaintop spiritual experience but rather was forged in the fires of a Nazi death camp. If she can maintain her faith after all she went through, then we need to pay attention to her comment and recog-

nize that there are no circumstances or events that are possible in the universe that are greater than our Triune God's ability to handle and to handle for us.

We see in this month's newsletter in particular testimonies to faith and to His action even in the midst of the chaos. The wonderful testimonies by folks who were received into the Church at Pentecost should give all of us a renewed sense of hope. When people examine the Church—not in some theoretical vacuum approach, but in the lived experience of our parish—and after prayer, discernment, evangelization, and catechesis, decide that they want to join their lives to ours, this is a great blessing for us and a sure sign of the ongoing blessing and presence of our King

of Kings, Who is constantly with us even in, or perhaps, especially in, the storm. The fact that they had to face the additional challenge of seeing their entry delayed and their ability to gather circumvented and yet joyfully persevered is a testimony to both their faith and the quality of their preparation. It also is a testimony to the parishioners they experienced as welcoming them and witnessing to a vibrant relationship with the Lord Jesus. We owe a debt of gratitude to all who served them on their journey, being wonderfully used by the Lord Jesus to build His Kingdom!

We are also very grateful for the adjustments that were made, that some of those testimonies spoke to, concerning Alpha, that this excellent vehicle for folks to grow more deeply in love with the King of Kings was successfully adjusted to these trying circumstances and so could continue to be a great source of grace for all who take advantage of it, as we hope all parishioners eventually will. And speaking of making adjustments, I am also particularly grateful to all the parishioners who have been exhibiting such patience and cooperation with the dictates of our Bishop as we try to navigate these challenging times, especially in terms of its impact on our celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Another great sign of hope is the vocational flowering that

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Image on this page and detail on page 6 by David Mark from Pixabay, www.pixabay.com

Michael Schultz: Search for happiness & purpose...

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understanding of our existence and what our purpose is on Earth. I knew there had to be more.

The first Sunday after my Mom passed, I attended the church she went to. They happened to be doing a series on taking communion. To them, it was a symbolic representation, not the true presence of God, but it's interesting looking back that my first time at a non-Catholic church in my adult life involved this idea of communion.

While going through my Mom's stuff, I found many books on Jesus and numerous Scripture references written in notebooks. Going through her phone, I saw that she had mostly Christian playlists saved. This was a side of her I never knew. It was inspiring and has always stuck with me.

Back in Ann Arbor, one Sunday I was prompted to pull into a Protestant church that I was driving by. It was right at the start of their service, and it also happened to be communion day at this church. Looking back now, it was like Jesus was preparing me for actual Communion with His Body.

At work on Monday, I shared these experiences with a religious colleague who happened to be Catholic. She invited me to Mass next Sunday, which I politely declined. On Saturday morning, there was a news special about St. Anne Parish in Detroit. I couldn't believe how beautiful it was and so close to where I lived. I had to go check it out and went alone for Sunday

Mass the next day. During Mass I didn't really understand what was going on, but I knew I was meant to be there.

The next day, I shared my experience with my Catholic colleague. The following week I joined her for Mass at OLG (Our Lady of Good Counsel) in Plymouth.

How did you initially learn more about Catholicism?

My Catholic colleague, Anita, was the biggest contributor to my understanding of the Catholic faith. She taught me the basics of Catholicism. Fr. John Riccardo was pastor of OLG at this time; he was a huge inspiration to my understanding of the faith. My soul was finally getting the answers it had craved since my childhood.

A few weeks later, Anita invited me to a three-day conference on prophecy that Encounter School of Ministry was hosting in Brighton. Eager to learn all I could, I happily agreed to attend.

That weekend changed my life. I had no idea Catholics were so loving and joy-filled. I had never experienced the love of God like this before. Over the weekend, I remember uncontrollably crying, pouring out tears of joy. I never cried this much before, especially in public surrounded by people I didn't know. Lots of people prayed over me, and I remember weeping on the floor for what seemed

like hours, overcome by happiness. My entire being was filled with a love that I never experienced before. My heart physically hurt from the love I felt in my soul.

From that weekend forward, it was as if Jesus gave me a new heart. He renewed my mind, and I craved a deeper and deeper relationship with Him. I started praying and talking to Jesus regularly, something I never did before. I read countless blogs, watched videos, and searched out all the questions I could think of pertaining to Jesus and His Church. I knew Catholicism was the truth, and I wanted nothing more than to be baptized and officially part of the Church.

It was around Easter, which made it too late for me to join RCIA. I knew I had a lot more to learn and continued to attend Mass regularly. I went to a couple of more Encounter School events over the summer and signed up for their School of Ministry in the fall. It has had a huge influence on my understanding of Scripture and what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

Why did you decide to explore entering the Church at Christ the King?

After the Encounter School weekend, I craved to have more of Jesus in my life. Anita introduced me to the 24-hour Adoration Chapel at Christ the King. This changed my relationship with Jesus. I constantly went to

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Keep evangelizing. I came across countless individuals while on the path of conversion who shared their love of Christ and provided invitations, prayers, words of encouragement, seeds of faith, and inspiration to continue on my journey into the Church. I'm so grateful to be part of the Catholic Church and to have Jesus in my life

Michael Schultz: Search for happiness...

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the Chapel to sit in His Presence and pray, sometimes for hours at a time. It's difficult to put into words but my soul was drawn there and craved to be there. I felt such a draw and connection to CTK, I joined RCIA in the fall.

What was your experience with RCIA?

When I started RCIA, I felt more than ready to enter the Church. My excitement to be a Catholic was off the charts. To be honest, I partly didn't want to go through RCIA; I just wanted to be baptized and fully receive the other sacraments.

Looking back, I'm grateful I went through the process. There was so much more I learned and got to experience than I could have imagined at the time. The slower route allowed me a much deeper understanding of the Catholic faith and teachings.

Mike Donnelly, my catechist, was incredible. He led the group of other people my age joining the Church and provided a great foundation for the Church's teaching. There was so much I thought I knew but didn't fully comprehend. It was great to be in a group setting to share our experiences and questions about the faith. The most exciting part was learning that there is eternal life with Jesus Christ!

What was the reaction of your family and friends to your decision to become Catholic?

This has been the most difficult part of my conversion, growing away from my old social life and friends. The majority of my family and friends are not Catholic and do not believe in Jesus. At times I felt incredibly alone and as if I had no one to relate to. God provided new people and friendships forged in my life. My family was supportive; however, some still have a sense of doubt. I always try to plant seeds of faith in their lives when we talk.

What was it like to be just a few weeks from entering the Church at Easter and then suddenly have to put on the brakes because of the pandemic?

I was surprisingly okay with it. I had already waited so long to enter into the Church; I knew this is where I wanted to be. I was okay with waiting a little bit longer. I knew God had an ultimate plan for us.

What stands out in your mind about entering the Church on Pentecost?

This happened much more unexpectedly than I was anticipating. I was getting ready to pick a date for a smaller private Mass. But what better day than Pentecost? There could not have been a more perfect day for me, considering my whole conversion was by the Holy Spirit working in my life. I'm grateful God allows us to see how His grace

works throughout our lives when we put our trust in Him.

As you start life as a Catholic, what are you most looking forward to? What questions or concerns do you have?

I'm so grateful to finally be able to fully experience all the sacraments, and I'm looking forward to a deeper relationship with Jesus. My mind continues to be renewed as I find there is more and more to learn and gain by the teachings of the Church. My biggest concern is that I'm not sure yet on which path my discipleship will take, but I continue to trust in the Lord.

How can the parishioners at Christ the King best support you going forward?

The parishioners at CTK are always inspiring in their dedication to God and the Church. I'm happy to have a home here and I always feel the love and connection that we all have with each other as the Body of Christ.

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

Keep evangelizing. I came across countless individuals while on the path of conversion who shared their love of Christ and provided invitations, prayers, words of encouragement, seeds of faith, and inspiration to continue on my journey into the Church. I'm so grateful to be part of the Catholic Church and to have Jesus in my life.

Anna Jones

Going deeper in her relationship with God

Anna, please tell us a bit about your background. Were you raised in a Christian family?

Overall, my family is very strong in their faith. Throughout most of my childhood, I was raised in the Baptist church. In middle school, I made the decision to switch to a Methodist church in my hometown. I ended up being very active in their youth group and had the opportunity to go on two mission trips in the US.

How did you first start getting interested in Catholicism?

A few months into our relationship, my boyfriend requested that I begin attending Mass with him at Christ the King. The more I attended Mass, the more I felt at home with the Catholic faith. I knew that joining the Catholic Church would allow me to deepen my personal relationship with the Trinity.

Author Sherry Weddell talks about one of the thresholds of conversion as moving from curiosity about the faith to openness to it. Was there a point looking back when you can say that you moved from curiosity to openness?

I was initially thrown off by the rituals done during Mass because I was not used to them. When I learned more about why they were done and how they helped to deepen your connection to God, I became more open to them and saw their value/place in praising God.

I've noticed with some people that there comes a point in their discernment where they "get cold feet," so to speak, and run away from Catholicism, sometimes for years. Did that happen to you?

Honestly, no.

I take all big decisions in my life seriously. I spent a good amount of time thinking about whether joining the Catholic Church was the right decision for me. In my heart, I knew that it was. Once I made that realization, there was no other option. I wanted to become part of the Church and looked forward to the day of my Confirmation.

Why did you decide to explore entering the Church at Christ the King?

Christ the King has many elements that remind me of the Protestant churches I have attended in the past. I also really appreciate the emphasis placed on praise through music. One of the ways I feel the most connected to God is through singing. Plus, everyone I have met at the church has been so incredibly kind and welcoming. Why wouldn't I want to join this community?



Anna Jones initially began attending Mass at Christ the King at the request of her boyfriend. The more she attended Mass, the more she felt at home with the Catholic faith.

What was your experience with RCIA? What was most exciting as you learned more about Catholicism and what was most challenging?

I really enjoyed RCIA. Michael Donnelly was my RCIA leader. He does such a phenomenal job explaining every aspect of the Catholic faith and relating it to our personal lives. The most exciting part was deepening my faith. The different topics each week allowed me to see what areas of my faith were strong and which areas needed work. Honestly, the most challenging part was the realization that I was not prioritizing God in my life prior to RCIA. That realization was painful.

As you start your life as a Catholic, what are you most looking forward to? What questions or concerns do you have?

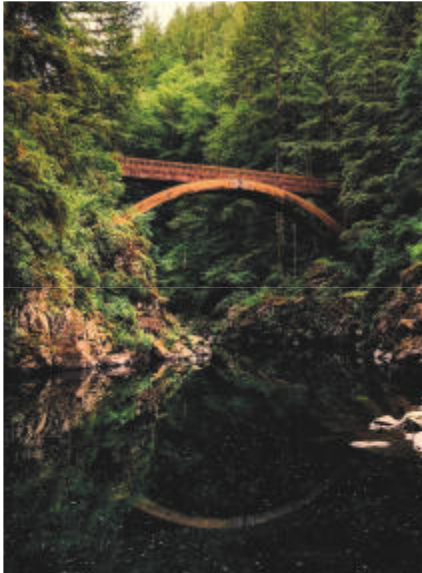
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“Be still and know that I am God!”

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The King has called us to be bridge builders, but always, necessarily, in a way that is consistent with the values that He has proclaimed in the heart of His Church.



also a great source of inspiration. It is personally for me a great source of inspiration when I see our young people embracing these sacraments and laying down their lives to continue to build the Kingdom in our midst, either starting families that you know will be centered on the Lord Jesus or giving themselves to serve parishes so that the Kingdom will be built in that way as well.

continues to happen at the parish. In particular, the couples, who had hopes and dreams for what they wanted their wedding to be like, had to deal with those hopes being massively adjusted to accommodate the health and safety needs we are all facing. Receptions cancelled or seriously downsized, honeymoon plans greatly altered, etc., etc., all provided serious challenges to what is always a very challenging time, even in the best of times. To see the faith and perseverance of our couples as they joyfully moved ahead, embraced the circumstances, and were able to focus on the gift of their deeper union with each other and the Lord Jesus was very inspiring to me.

At the same time to witness four more of our young men willing to enter a time of discernment as they considered a vocation to the priesthood is

The hope and joy that you see expressed in our ongoing Masses for First Communions and Confirmations is also a source of great joy. The Lord Jesus is richly present, showering His blessings on all who will receive them—from our younger kids receiving Him for the first time, to our older kids proclaiming their willingness to receive His Spirit that they may truly live for Him, to our even older ones entering into vocational Sacraments with faith and joy. Even in the midst of all else, Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today, and forever. All who wish to receive more of Him have merely to open their hearts to His constant ongoing presence in the heart of the Bride that He loved enough to die for! He is truly with us!

That presence is particularly crucial during this time of great racial unrest. It broke my heart to see one of my hometowns in flames. Equally heartbreaking

were the tragic circumstances surrounding George Floyd's death. The subsequent conflagration enveloping so many of our urban centers has brought into sharp focus the ongoing need for a far greater penetration of the Gospel into our culture. It is only when all men and women can see each other as truly being made in the image and likeness of God that the most necessary foundation for healthy relationships, especially among the different races, will be present and informing our choices for justice and equality.

This is why the Catholic Church has always been active in the movement for racial equality and justice, because of what we believe about the dignity and worth of each and every human person. In that vein, it is particularly crucial that Catholics' participation in these actions for social justice is always done in a way that is consistent with the Church's teaching in these and related areas. The King has called us to be bridge builders, but always, necessarily, in a way that is consistent with the values that He has proclaimed in the heart of His Church.

Even as we build bridges, we are also very conscious of those who have chosen to

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Mark Rogers

After a lifetime, a secular humanist returns

Mark, please describe for us your background.

My mom was Catholic, so I was baptized Catholic. However, with five kids, including twin boys, she couldn't get us to Mass, so I was never really catechized in the Catholic faith.

On Sundays, when we were old enough, my father would drop us off at Sunday School at First Presbyterian Church in Ann Arbor. Public school in the 1950s was all about control and structure, so the last thing I wanted to do on Sunday was go to school. I was "schooled out" and didn't really get anything out of Sunday School. After junior high, I stopped going altogether.

Then the 1960s came along, and everyone became a humanist. Living in Ann Arbor, the "Midwest Capital of Secular Humanism," I had a secular humanist worldview. I went to Eastern Michigan University for my degree, then trained in New York on Wall Street. After that, I went to work in Metro Detroit, since that's where the money was. When my company opened up an office in Ann Arbor, I came back here in 1979.

So what prompted your interest in coming back to church?

Sheer terror! I'm now 75 years old, and a couple of years ago I started contemplating my mortality. I started talking to several people, including CTK parishioner Bob Magill, and was invited to several churches. The per-

son who was the most helpful was my friend Anita, who took me to a variety of Catholic churches.

Why did you decide to complete your Sacraments of Initiation at Christ the King?

At one point, Anita thought that I should talk to Dcn. Larry Randolph. He suggested that I first go through Alpha.

At that time, I was a secular Christian. I had no concept of a personal relationship with Jesus. I thought that I was signing up for a bunch of rules of good behavior!

In Alpha, Nicky [Gumbel] is enormously convincing. I'm sure he was a great trial lawyer! The woman [Gemma Hunt] was excellent, too. Brigid Kowalczyk was our group leader.

After Alpha, I started RCIA.

What was your experience with RCIA?

The Symbolon series that we used is really good. They ask the hard questions. At first I didn't understand the Holy Spirit, the Eucharist. I had to accept the divinity of Jesus.

[Editor's note: Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained is a video series put out by the Augustine Institute. It's available to all CTK parishioners through the parish's subscription to FORMED.]



What was most exciting as you learned more about Catholicism?

The Catholic Church is 2,000 years old. It's stood the test of time. It's genuine. It's sincere.

What was the reaction of your family and friends to your decision to return to the Catholic Church?

My sister was all for it, although she died before it was done. One of my brothers has been attending a Lutheran church. The other one is hostile to all religions; I haven't told him.

What was it like to be just a few weeks from completing your Sacraments of Initiation and then suddenly have to put the brakes on because of the pandemic?

I wasn't too surprised. When I saw that the Market crashed, I thought, "Wow, this is going to be like the Spanish flu."

After being baptized Catholic as an infant, but receiving no training in the Catholic faith, Mark Rogers returned to the Church after a lifetime of espousing a secular humanist worldview.

I had no concept of a personal relationship with Jesus.

I thought that I was signing up for a bunch of rules of good behavior!

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I really look forward to having the sacraments in my life to help strengthen my faith.

I just know that I need more of the Holy Spirit. That's sort of the driver for everything else.



Fr. Ed Fride is Pastor of Christ the King.

Anna Jones: Going deeper...

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I really look forward to having the sacraments in my life to help strengthen my faith. I believe that was one of the major aspects I was missing in my journey prior to joining the Catholic Church. Honestly, at this point, I do not have any questions or concerns that immediately stick out.

How can your fellow parishioners at Christ the King best support you going forward?

Christ the King has already been so supportive. I think I really just need to take advantage of the opportunities offered through the church. I have already joined a Bible study, which has been such a great experience so far!

If there was one thing that you could get across to the folks reading this interview, what would it be?

The entire RCIA program has been such an amazing experience. I am so appreciative that I made the decision to join the Catholic faith.

Mark Rogers: After a lifetime...

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What stands out about completing the Sacraments of Initiation at Pentecost?

It was nice to sit in front and enjoy the service. I was enjoying it so much, I forgot some of the things that I was supposed to do!

Who did you pick as your Confirmation saint and why?

St. Joseph. I spent years working at St. Joseph Hospital.

As you continue your life as a Catholic, what are you most looking forward to and what questions or concerns, if any, do you have?

I just know that I need more of the Holy Spirit. That's sort of the driver for everything else.

How can your fellow parishioners at CTK best support you going forward?

I need to help them! I'm interested in finding out how I can best serve the church.

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

Faith is a good basis on which to build. It offers a broader dimension, a broader view of life. You can't explain everything by physics and math. You need faith.

"Be still and know that I am God!"

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serve us for the sake of our own protection and safety, frequently at great cost to themselves and with regretably less and less thanks for doing so. Our police and all of our other first responders deserve our gratitude.

Have some horrendous mistakes, even criminal acts

been committed by some? Yes, but as a member of a profession disproportionately vilified because of the actions of some clerical criminals in our midst, I would urge great care be exercised in identifying problems and appropriate responses so that our actions provide solutions,

and not even greater problems.

We are now, perhaps more than ever, in desperate need of the wisdom and grace of the King of Kings. Thanks be to God, He is here for us! Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come!

A time to focus on your relationship

Whether live or online, The Marriage Course helps strengthen marriages

By Aimée Godfrey

For the last few months, my husband and I, like many of you, have spent an unusual amount of time together. However, if you're like us, not all of that time can actually be described as quality time. Much of it is time spent trying to teach children, get our work done, and keep the house from falling apart! Therefore, when the opportunity to help facilitate *The Marriage Course* presented itself, we jumped at the chance to spend at least one evening a week focusing on our relationship.

As originally created, *The Marriage Course* is designed to be a date night experience. It includes talks on strengthening connection, communication, forgiveness and the impact of family. Each of the talks are presented in an engaging way, with witnesses from married couples about each issue and insight from experts. The course also usually includes a nice dinner and time to fellowship with other couples before watching the video.

Given the unique situation in which we currently find ourselves, we had to participate in the course online via Zoom. I must admit that I



Paul and I have been married for almost 10 years. ... Both of us wished that we had taken this course earlier in our marriage!

was a bit skeptical about doing the course online. However, I was pleasantly surprised to find that it worked well, and Paul and I looked forward to each night that we were able to spend together working on our relationship.

We were joined by several other couples. Some had been married for decades, some for a few years. It was good to get to know the other couples a bit, although it

This seven-week course will start Saturday, Sept. 12, and run through Saturday, Nov. 7 (skipping Oct. 10 and Oct. 31).

7:30-9:00pm; appetizers and desserts will be served.

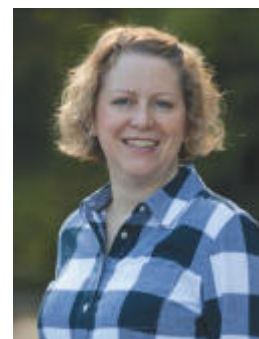
We'll move online if we are unable to meet in person.

For more information, contact Aimée Godfrey (agodfrey@ctkcc.net).

would have been even better to meet in person.

Paul and I have been married for almost 10 years, and *The Marriage Course* was the first "formal" marriage enrichment that we had done since completing our marriage prep. Both of us wished that we had taken this course earlier in our marriage! We found that through attending the course our communication improved and our connection to each other was strengthened.

I would like to invite all married couples—whether you've been married for one year, ten years, or 40 years—to attend *The Marriage Course* that we'll be starting in September. You won't regret the time spent growing closer to your spouse and learning how to make your marriage stronger.



Aimée Godfrey is Director of Adult Discipleship at Christ the King. She and her husband, Paul, have two children, Olivia and David Peter.

When nothing in the world was certain, Alpha remained a safe place for anyone to come, explore life in Jesus, and be filled with the Holy Spirit.



Jessica Dudek is Director of Evangelization at Christ the King.

Alpha Online: a bright spot in the crisis

Alpha was and always will be a place for anyone to come who wants more out of life

By Jessica Dudek

Wednesday night meant Alpha night, and I was absolutely loving Alpha! Bill and Cindy Pressprich opened up their home to the group, and every person who walked through their door felt the warmth of hospitality and knew that they belonged.

From the very first night, groups connected in profound ways. Christians and non-Christians bonded together as guests shared honestly about their lives, their struggles, and their doubts. We laughed, we cried, we listened, and we loved one another. Week after week, I heard guests telling me that they couldn't wait to return, and I knew that we had something very special.

When COVID-19 cases were first reported in Michigan and we transitioned to Alpha Online, a part of my heart broke. I didn't know how our guests would take to the new format, and I was deeply sad that I wouldn't be able to journey with them the way that I had hoped to. The only thing we knew about doing Alpha Online was that we had no idea what we were doing. Alpha Online formerly never existed, and everything we did from that moment forward was trial and error.

But despite the uncertainty and technical difficulties, Alpha Online remained a bright spot

Are you looking to draw closer to the Lord or have your faith reignited after a hard time?

Do you have a friend or loved one searching for Jesus or asking questions about truth?

Are you looking for a space to belong?

through the COVID-19 crisis. As schools, churches, and workplaces shut down, Alpha Online gave the consistency of community. When the headlines reported hospitalizations and death tolls, new life was born in the spirit as Alpha guests encountered the presence of God. When nothing in the world was certain, Alpha remained a safe space for anyone to come, explore life in Jesus, and be filled with the Holy Spirit. As we suffered from isolation, fear, and even the loss of loved ones, we witnessed Jesus reaching out to His beloved children, giving comfort and hope.

Alpha was and always will be a place for anyone to come who wants more out of life. It is there that we gather to listen, to learn, to be heard, and to be

loved. It is there that we invite the Holy Spirit into our hearts and feel Him change us, even when we are praying over a computer screen. At Alpha all are welcome and anyone can belong.

More so than ever before, this is the community that we need. Over the past several months, our faith has been tested and those who haven't had a relationship with God are asking if He exists.

As we head towards the coming season, ask the Lord what He is inviting you into. Are you looking to draw closer to the Lord or have your faith reignited after a hard time? Do you need the peace of the Spirit to comfort and to guide you? Do you have a friend or loved one searching for Jesus or asking questions about truth? Are you looking for a space to belong?

Even though we cannot be sure of what lies ahead, we can be sure that Christ's love remains the same and that our mission as a church is clear. Come join us on Alpha and bring a friend. There's a place for you at the table.

Plans are in the works for Fall Alpha. For more information, contact Jessica at 734-929-0972 or jdudek@ctkcc.net

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

- 8/3, 17: Fuel meeting
- 8/4, 18: A1:8 meeting
- 8/14, 28: Upper Room
- 8/15: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary; not a Holy Day of Obligation in 2020

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

MAJOR EVENTS—AUGUST 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
July 26	27	28	29	30	31	Aug 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	Sept. 1	2	3	4	5

Save the Dates!

The Marriage Course

Seven weeks starting Saturday, September 12 7:30-9pm

Join other couples in this enjoyable way to strengthen your marriage! To learn more, read the article on page 9 or contact Aimée Godfrey (agodfrey@ctkcc.net).



Fall Alpha

Starting in September

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 ctkcc.net/alpha. Questions? Contact Jessica at jdudek@ctkcc.net.



Stephen Minister Training

Starts Monday, Oct. 12

Stephen Ministers are trained to provide one-on-one comfort and support to people after a life crisis. To learn more, contact Ann Fons (734-224-8505) or go to ctkcc.net/stephenministry.



Check future bulletins for more details about these great events!

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Christ the King Catholic Church

4000 Ave Maria Dr.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
734-665-5040
www.ckcc.net
Facebook.com/ckcc

Senior Leadership Team

Fr. Ed Fridé, Pastor: pastor@ckcc.net
Ken Bogan: kbogan@ckcc.net
Dcn. Dan Foley: dcndan@aol.com
John Hoving: jhoving@ckcc.net
Sharon Messiter: smessiter@ckcc.net
Bill Pressprich: wpressprich@comcast.net

Deacons

Dcn. Dan Foley: dcndan@aol.com
Dcn. Pete Hansen: dcnpete@ckcc.net
Dcn. Gerry Holowicki: dcngerry@ckcc.net
Dcn. John Ozog: dcnjohn@ckcc.net
Dcn. Larry Randolph: dcnlarry@ckcc.net
Dcn. Lou Russello: dcnlou@ckcc.net

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr. Ed Fridé, President: pastor@ckcc.net
Bill Pressprich, Chair: wpressprich@comcast.net
Veronica Cherney Betty Meredith
Pete Cooney Greg Stout
Christian Fenton Colleen Vermeulen
Nuala Holowicki

Newsletter Contributors

Theresa Hofer, Editor: thofer@ckcc.net
Jessica Dudek Anna Jones
Fr. Ed Fridé Mark Rogers
Aimée Godfrey Michael Schultz

Coming in future issues...

- Hospitality
- Parishioner profiles

Look for this and more in future issues of

The Open Door

Parish Staff

Ken Bogan, Director of Operations: kbogan@ckcc.net
Kelley Burns, Director of Worship: kburns@ckcc.net
Jessica Dudek, Director of Evangelization: jdudek@ckcc.net
Caroline Gambale-Dirkes, Upper Room Coordinator: cdirkes@ckcc.net
Teresa Gjernes, A1:8 Intern: teresafastinajean@gmail.com
Aimée Godfrey, Director of Adult Discipleship: agodfrey@ckcc.net
Doug Helderop, Director of Communications & Technology: dhelderop@ckcc.net
Mac Hilliard, Janitor
Theresa Hofer, Communications Coordinator: thofer@ckcc.net
Bruce Hohnke, Maintenance
Cathi Horning, Janitor
John Hoving, Director of Youth Discipleship: jhoving@ckcc.net
Sharon Messiter, Parish Secretary: smessiter@ckcc.net
Susan Perrier, Assistant Director of Youth Discipleship: sperrier@ckcc.net
Lauren Sauter, Youth Discipleship Administrative Assistant: lsauter@ckcc.net

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

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



**For I know the plans I have
for you, says the LORD,
plans for welfare and
not for evil, to give you
a future and a hope.**

Jeremiah 29:11