



## THE CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIGHT

November 1, 2022

Dear Cathedral Parishioners,

The Cathedral Parish is becoming a dynamic, evangelization and mission-centered parish in the Diocese of Oakland. We do Church “differently” in that we are focused on transforming the community through the ardent proclamation of the Gospel. We exist to help people realize that there is more to being Catholic than just simply routinely fulfilling a Sunday obligation.

Despite the unprecedented impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on the wider Church, the Cathedral Parish emerged stronger than ever. In fact, the pandemic made us healthier and enabled us to focus on the most important tasks at hand. It forced us to move from maintenance to mission.

As the Cathedral Parish grows, it is critical that we align our available resources for missionary success. Although we have the best Catholic missionaries in the East Bay on our Cathedral Parish team, we remain understaffed. While their talent and generosity have allowed us to accomplish many things with limited resources, being spread too thin prevents us from fulfilling our current priorities and also leads to burnout. It is then imperative that our available resources, both human and temporal, are geared toward making the biggest impact on the further growth of the Cathedral and the forming of missionary disciples.

Therefore, we are aligning our resources to adequately support the worship and outreach experience on Sunday. Sundays at the Cathedral are very special. Besides a beautiful liturgy, ministered by an extraordinary choir and a growing team of volunteers, there are other opportunities for growth through fellowship in the Upper Room, accessible confessions, and The Rescue Project.

To best maximize the impact of the Sunday experience, we have decided to indefinitely suspend the 5:00 pm Vigil Mass on Saturdays, effective November 26, 2022, the First Sunday of Advent. **The final 5:00 pm Mass will be on Saturday, November 19, 2022, the Vigil of Christ the King.** Mass intentions thereafter will be transferred to the next available Mass or may be rescheduled by calling the parish office at (510) 832-5057.

The 5:00 pm Saturday Vigil Mass has consistently been the least attended Mass at the Cathedral. We are unable to provide a substantial pool of ministers (i.e. servers, lectors, ushers) to animate the Mass, thus preventing us from ensuring a dynamic worship experience requisite of a major Cathedral.

I am very grateful to the devoted members of the 5:00 pm Mass community, and I wish to warmly welcome them to join in the amazing Sunday experience at the Cathedral, which is centered on the 11:00 am Solemn Mass.

Please continue to pray for the Cathedral and our ministry here.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Very Rev. Brandon E. Macadaeg  
Rector