

# CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING NEWVERNON, NJ

*We are a grateful and welcoming Catholic family of faith,  
nourished by the Word and Eucharist,  
called to serve as disciples of Christ, the King.*

**14<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
July 8, 2018

*Our eyes are fixed on the Lord...*



16 Blue Mill Road  
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New Vernon, NJ 07976  
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[www.churchofchristtheking.org](http://www.churchofchristtheking.org)

**MASS SCHEDULE**  
Sunday 7, 9, 11 AM  
Saturday (vigil) 5 PM  
**Weekdays**

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 7 AM  
Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday 9 AM

## 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*As believers, our strength lies in our relationship with Christ and not in our abilities or talents.*

Throughout the centuries many have speculated about Paul's thorn. Some have said it was a physical illness like recurring malaria, or an eye infection that impaired his vision. Others have postulated that it was a spiritual ailment like the pain of rejection or a demonic presence that constantly tested his faith and tempted him to sin. But whatever it was, and we shall never know, it caused Paul to be all the more dependent on Christ and – in the words of today's psalm – to keep his eyes fixed on the Lord. So maybe in the long run, it is best that we never know, otherwise we might miss the real reason of his sharing – that in our times of struggle we might learn from him and seek refuge in Christ.

In those very honest words, Paul shares not just his trials and challenges, but the very fact that he begged the Lord three times to remove this thorn. Here, he realizes that his weaknesses and failures before the world are what actually hollow out his personal spiritual depths. Here, Paul is emptied of any false illusions about his success, creating within him a space where God's power can truly dwell and expand. It is as if he stands spiritually naked before the Lord, vulnerable, open and yet paradoxically, at his strongest!

It is in this holy moment that Paul realizes that whatever befalls him in this life, his first duty must be to Christ. Nothing else will do honor to God or pay true homage to the gift that God has given. Like Ezekiel from our first reading, Paul realizes that no matter what response he receives, he must be bold and courageous in his witness. He must accept, as Jesus pointed out in the Gospel, that a prophet is not always accepted in his native place and that while many will accept the message, many more will reject it.

Perhaps this is where Paul's insight speaks to us this day. To be a disciple of Christ, we, too, need to be courageous and faithful in all things, even if it runs contrary to the ways of the world or what is now socially acceptable. This is the first step in true Christian living.

Today's readings also remind us that, like the prophets, we are sent into the world and that, like the Apostles, we will be challenged to explain and defend our faith before others. We cannot be believers who sit on the fence or disciples who are lukewarm or half-hearted in our commitment. Trying to reconcile the ways of this world with those of the Gospel will inevitably cause us to have to choose between the two.

Instead, we need to be believers who know of our need for God, and believers who are always growing in our faith and prayer life. It is only when our courage, perseverance and fidelity are united with Christ and his mission that, like Paul and Ezekiel, we can humbly accept our own weaknesses and our need of God's grace and strength. Only then can we stand up more firmly grounded in our faith and in our relationship with Christ.

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, July 9

7am Virginia Ware

### Tuesday, July 10

9am Dave Willean

### Wednesday, July 11

7am Rosalie Lorenzo

### Thursday, July 12

9am Patricia Scanlon

### Friday, July 13

7am Stanley Borant

### Saturday, July 14

9am Margaret Feledy

5pm Richard Markey

### Sunday, July 15

7am Carol Adamsky

9am Robert Keller

11am Anne Galdieri

*If you are a family member or friend of the person being remembered at Sunday Mass, please feel free to approach an usher and offer to bring up the gifts.*

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## Pray for the Sick

Joan Dagostino, Kristen Johnson, Kathryn Olden, Grant Martin Scruggs, John Allen, Paula Dugan, Tawny Wamack, and all those listed in Our Lady's Chapel prayer book of intentions.

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## Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in memory of Harold Cox at the request of Betsy Hollo and Christina Manuele at the request of the Lury family.

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## Collection

Due to the early holiday bulletin deadline, the collection information for last weekend will be included in a future bulletin.

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## Faith Direct



Faith Direct enables parishioners to make your Church contributions through either direct debit from your checking/savings account or through your credit/debit card. No more writing checks or searching for envelopes on the way out the door. Now you can apply the convenience of direct debit to your parish offerings in much the same way as you may now use it to make your mortgage, car or tuition payments. Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) to enroll securely online. Our parish code is **NJ658**.

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## Religious Education



### Re-Registration Forms & Calendars

Re-Registration Forms and calendars for the 2018-19 school year were recently mailed to families who attended CTK Religious Education sessions in 2017-18 Thank you to all of the families that have already returned the necessary forms for next year's program. *We ask that you return your registration form to the parish office as soon as possible.*

Church of Christ the King  
PO Box 368 New Vernon, 07976

If you did not receive the re-registration mailing and your child will be entering **Kindergarten thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade** in September OR **if you are new to our Religious Education program** please contact Erin by phone at 973-539-4955 ext.22 or email [erin@chuchofchristtheking.org](mailto:erin@chuchofchristtheking.org).

### Attention parents of current 1<sup>st</sup> graders

This is the traditional year for children to prepare and receive the Sacraments of both Reconciliation & Eucharist. Preparation for First Eucharist is separate from your family's participation in our Family Based Religious Education program.

We began preparation for the sacraments at individual informal child & parent meetings. If you have **not** met with Erin and have a child who will be in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade this September, please call Erin Ranft at (973)539-4955 ext. 22 or email at [erin@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:erin@churchofchristtheking.org).

*Please note that the diocese asks that all children have two years of Religious Education prior to the reception of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist.*



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## Communion for the Sick and Homebound



Eucharistic Ministers are available to visit and bring Holy Communion to anyone who is sick or homebound. If you, or someone you know, would like to be visited by a Eucharistic Minister, please call the parish office.

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## Daily Reading

Find Today's Readings at [www.bit.ly/2gGKsiU](http://www.bit.ly/2gGKsiU)

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## Saint of the Week

July 11 | *St. Benedict*



**B**enedict was thought to be born around 480 in the town of Norcia, near Rome. He had a twin sister, Scholastica, and the two were very close throughout their lives. As a young man Benedict was sent to Rome for his education. He was horrified at the vice and moral degradation he witnessed there, and he left quickly to live a solitary life agreeable to his conscience and principles.

In the wilderness Benedict lived a life of deep spirituality. His days were full of prayer and contemplation. Soon the monks of a nearby monastery asked him to come there to be their abbot. His ideas of spirituality did not agree with all of theirs, and he left when some of the monks set out to poison him. He went back to his own hermitage, but later on others came out to join him. When so many arrived, he founded 12 monasteries and ruled over them as spiritual father.

Again, jealousy and slander forced him to move to a wilderness area at Monte Cassino. When more disciples gathered around him, he organized them into one monastery and wrote the first draft of his famous Rule of St. Benedict that thousands of Benedictine men and women follow to this day. His emphasis was on the study and memorization of Sacred Scripture, in particular *lectio divina*.

St. Benedict died on March 21, 543 and was buried next to Scholastica. Benedict is a patron saint of Europe and of students.

*Dear St. Benedict, teach us how to love Sacred Scripture and let the Word seep into our souls. In this way our lives will bear witness to the love of God.*

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## PASTOR

Rev. Brian C. Sullivan, ext. 11  
[frbriansullivan@me.com](mailto:frbriansullivan@me.com)

## PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Artur P. Zaba, ext. 30  
[frartur@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:frartur@churchofchristtheking.org)

## WEEKEND ASSISTANT

Rev. Richard Cronin, O.S.B.  
[richard@delbarton.org](mailto:richard@delbarton.org)

## PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

**Adult Education, RCIA & Social Outreach**  
Sister Mary Joseph Schultz, SCC, ext. 13  
[srmaryjoseph@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:srmaryjoseph@churchofchristtheking.org)

## PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

**Music & Graphic Arts**  
Elias G. Scultori, PCC, MM, ext. 21  
[elias@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:elias@churchofchristtheking.org)

## DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Catechesis

Erin Ranft, ext. 22  
[erin@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:erin@churchofchristtheking.org)

## YOUTH MINISTER

**Confirmation Coordinator**  
Christa Romano, ext. 15  
[christa@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:christa@churchofchristtheking.org)

## PARISH SECRETARY

**Office Manager**  
Carol Scanlan, ext. 10  
[cscanlan@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:cscanlan@churchofchristtheking.org)

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

**Pastoral Ministry**  
Susan Clifford, ext. 14  
[sclifford@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:sclifford@churchofchristtheking.org)

## CUSTODIAN

Douglas Reisch, ext. 25

## PARISH DEVOTIONS

### Novena Prayers in Honor of the Sacred Heart

First Fridays during morning Mass at 7:00am.

### Novena Prayer in Honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

Mondays after the 7:00am Mass

### Rosary

Tuesdays and Thursdays after the 9:00am Mass

### Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Saturday of the month, 8:00am

### Reconciliation (Individual Confession)

Saturday 9:30-10:15am

## BAPTISMS

Sundays after the 11:00am Mass at 12:15pm, schedule permitting.  
Please call the Parish Office to make the necessary arrangements  
for a Baptismal Preparation Session.

## MARRIAGES

Please contact the Parish Office a year prior to the requested  
wedding date so the proper marriage preparation can be  
completed. Pre Cana takes place in the spring and fall.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Kindergarten

*Optional program for families whose oldest child is in Kindergarten*  
Monthly on Sunday 10:00-10:45am (as scheduled)

### Family Based Model

*Grade 5 may select FBRE or Jr. High option*  
Families with children K-5

Thursday or Friday 6-8pm, (monthly as scheduled)

### Junior High – Grades 5-8

Sundays 5:30-8:00pm (twice a month)

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA)

September—May

Adults interested in becoming Roman Catholic Christians should  
contact Sister Mary Joseph Schultz, SCC, ext. 13.

## MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND

Priests and Ministers of Communion are available to visit the sick  
and homebound. Please call the Parish Office to schedule.

## NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome new parishioners to register at any time.  
Please call the Parish Office.

## eNEWSLETTER (monthly)

Do you want to know more of what is happening  
in our parish community?

**SIGN UP** to receive our parish eNewsletter at  
[www.churchofchristtheking.org](http://www.churchofchristtheking.org)