

## Pastor's Corner

*Christ the King Feast, the Season of Advent, Blood Drive, and Christmas Mass Schedule*

**Christ the King Feast.** On the final Sunday of the Church Calendar Year (Nov 22), the Church celebrates the Feast of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. We recall that Jesus is the beginning and the end of everything, the Alpha and the Omega, the Lord of Lords and the King of Kings. To mark the Feast, we will have a Eucharistic Procession with the Blessed Sacrament inside Church at the end of the 10 am Mass. Though the procession will be brief, it will give us an opportunity to adore Jesus publicly and give Him permission to be the Lord and King of our lives.

**And then, it's Advent.** The Sunday after Thanksgiving, we begin a new Church year with the start of Advent. The altar cloth and vestments will be purple as a sign of our penitential preparation for Christ. The four candles of the Advent wreath will mark the four weeks of Advent waiting and the countdown to Christmas. On the first weekend of Advent, November 28-29, we will distribute Advent Prayer Books and Calendars.

We will have an **Advent Evening of Reflection** on Wednesday, December 2, at 7:00 pm in Church. The reflection will be given by Dr. Tom Neal, a Theology Professor Notre Dame Seminary. Dr. Neal is a fantastic speaker and passionate man of God. He will speak on the topic, "I Wonder as I Wander." In this challenging Covid year, may Advent provide time for spiritual refocus in the lead-up to Christmas.

**Blood Drive.** Our SFX Girl Scout Troop is sponsoring a blood drive in St. Joseph Hall on Saturday, December 6, from 9 am to 2 pm. The blood drive requires advance sign-up and will comply with all Covid requirements. There is a great shortage of blood in our area due to Covid fears. Please consider giving the gift of life.

**Christmas Mass Schedule.** The Archbishop understands that Churches need to schedule extra Christmas Masses due to the seating limitations of Covid. He has decided to allow Christmas Eve Vigil Mass to start one hour earlier than usual this year – at 3:00 pm. Accordingly, we will have Christmas Eve Masses at 3 pm, 5 pm and 7 pm. The 3 pm and 5 pm Masses will be celebrated in Church and livestreamed in the School Auditorium for any overflow crowd (Communion will be brought to the Auditorium). On Christmas Day, Masses will be at 8:00 am, 10:00 am and 12 noon; there won't be a Christmas Day Evening Mass. We will have Christmas gifts for parishioners and for children at all Masses.

The end-of-the-year calendar speed train is about to begin. Fasten your seatbelts.

God bless,  
Fr. Joe