



# Christ the King Parish

**PASTOR**

Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. Sullivan

**IN RESIDENCE**

Rev. Richard F. Reidy, Vicar General

**DEACON**

Joseph M. Baniukiewicz

**DIRECTOR OF LITURGICAL MUSIC**

Dr. Jonathan Bezdegian

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Judith L. Brennan

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Mindy A. Dulude

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR**

Deacon Joseph M. Baniukiewicz

**PHONES**

**Parish Office** 508-754-5361  
**Parish Fax** 508-753-0448  
**For an emergency** 508-450-2556

**Msgr. Sullivan:** tsullivan5@mac.com  
**Parish Office:** mindyd1052@gmail.com  
**Judith Brennan, DRE:** ctkedu1052@gmail.com  
**Parish website:** www.ctkworc.org

**HOURS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Monday—Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Saturday 2:45 PM to 3:45 PM or please call Msgr. Sullivan

**HOLY MATRIMONY**

Couples planning a Christian marriage should contact Msgr. Sullivan following their engagement.

**HOLY BAPTISM**

Baptisms take place at Sunday Mass once a month. Please see information inside this bulletin.

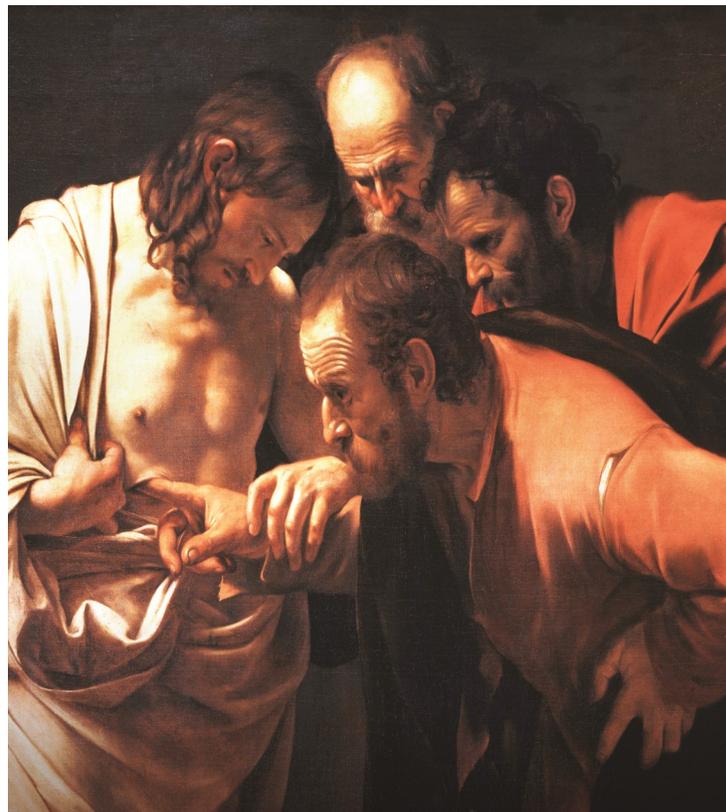
**PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK**

Please call Msgr. Sullivan for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick or Holy Communion.

**WORSHIPING WITH US?**

We hope you introduce yourself and register in our parish. Please call the rectory to do so.

**MASS SCHEDULE**  
Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM  
Sunday 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM  
Weekdays 7:00 AM  
Saturday 8:00 AM  
Holy Day Mass Times 7:00 PM (vigil)  
7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 6:00 PM (on the day)



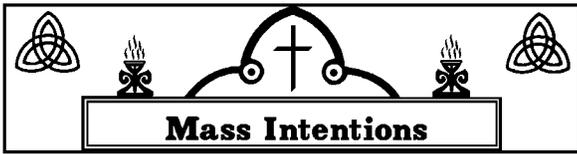
## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER



Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." - Jn 20:29

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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**In the week ahead these Mass Intentions will be honored by our priests, in private Masses, as they can:**

**Saturday—April 18th**

Joanne St. Martin (4th anniv.) req. of family

**Sunday—April 19th**

Parishioners of Christ the King, and James Gallagher (mem.) req. of family

**Friday—April 24th**

Deacon Michael T. Chase (mem.) req. of family

**Saturday—April 25th**

Rose Fitzgerald (4th anniv.) req. of family  
Courtney Butcher (13th anniv.) req. of family

**Sunday—April 26th**

Parishioners of Christ the King,  
Marie McCourt Donahue (mem.) req. of The Burke Family, and  
George and Jenny Jones (mem.) req. of family

**REST IN PEACE**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Marie B. Riordan,** and **Germaine “Gerry” M. Seibold.**

**BAPTISM PREP SESSIONS & CELEBRATIONS**

During this unique time in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis please just call Monsignor Sullivan to inquire about baptisms and discuss your hopes and arrangements - at 508-754-5361 - or email him at: [tsullivan5@mac.com](mailto:tsullivan5@mac.com).

**The Importance of Prayer**

G. K. Chesterton surmised that when belief in God becomes difficult, the tendency is to turn away from him. But to what? To the skeptic or the one who has been disappointed in his faith, the obvious answer to Chesterton’s question may be to give up believing that God is out there and take charge of your own life. But Chesterton wrote, “The real trouble with the world of ours is not that it is an unreasonable world, nor even that it is a reasonable one. The commonest kind of trouble is that it is nearly reasonable, but not quite.” He’s right. Only so much about life can be understood by reason. Prayer then becomes the cry of the heart at the times we most need it. For every person who feels that prayer has not “worked” for them and has therefore abandoned God, there is someone else for whom prayer remains a vital part of his or her life, because their belief is in the character and wisdom of God. God sustains people.

**Recent Offertory Donations**

As we are very grateful for the time you share with Christ the King, and the abundance of your talents, so we are for your offertory gifts. In light of the suspension of all Masses our donations have been much smaller, as you would expect. Some have been dropping their donations through the door slot at the rectory and others have mailed them in. Nearly four weeks ago we began online giving through our website (you can do that at [ctkworc.org](http://ctkworc.org)). Through those combinations of giving, and since our last report, your contributions have been as follows:

**Offertory:** \$14,411.00; **Online Giving:** \$1,965.00  
**Fuel:** \$40.00; **Catholic Relief:** \$80.00; **Easter:** \$2,652.00;  
**Ascension:** \$30.00; **Good Friday:** \$589.00; **Mass Stipends:** \$30.00; **Haiti Twinning:** \$120.00; **Donations:** \$25.00; **Free Press:** \$39.00; **Easter Flowers:** \$140.00; **Catholic Home Mission:** \$10.00; **Catholic University:** \$10.00; **Solemnity of Mary:** \$10.00; **Our Religious Education:** \$10.00; **Church in Latin America:** \$15.00.

**Total: \$20,176.00**

**Calling Your Family, Friends and Neighbors during this Time!**

Since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic and our “social distancing” measures I have spent a good deal of time reaching out to our parishioners on the telephone. My intention has been to see how they and their family members have been holding up during this crisis, to assure them of my prayers and to ask if there is anything we can do for them within the limits of the safety protocols now requested by our civic leaders and the medical community. I have been able to reach many parishioners at home.

In some cases I’ve found that we no longer have accurate contact information (e.g., many no longer use landline phones and the only information we’ve had is a landline number no longer in use; some phone numbers have changed and we’ve not been told of that change; some do not use email). If your personal information has changed this would be a good time to contact me so that I can update your personal information. You can call me at **508-450-2556** or email me your updated information at [tsullivan5@mac.com](mailto:tsullivan5@mac.com).

I have been able to reach most parishioners, however, and we have had good conversations. In the vast majority of cases people have been telling me how well they are doing and that they remain in good health, and that, for the most part, they are at home, working from home or, in some cases, must still be at work in their “essential” roles.

It has me thinking that we could all be doing the same thing. I’m confident that many of you have already. Within families there is a great deal of communication. But we can do the same for fellow parishioners, friends and neighbors. Wouldn’t this be a good time for all of us to connect again with friends and neighbors and express our concern for them on the phone? Also, we can make a commitment to be praying for them and we can *tell them* that we are doing so.

In the meantime, be safe and healthy and know that you are in my prayers.

*Monsignor Tom*

**How We Care for Others  
During this Time**

**Keep Things in Perspective** - Don't forget all the other tragic events in the world going on now. Together with all believers we can pray for all those who are suffering.

**Reach Out to the Homebound** - With phone calls, messages, email, offering to deliver groceries, etc.

**Live the Present Moment Well** - Maintain a healthy balance in info gathering. Focus on what you can do now that you couldn't do before. Be creative.

**Rediscover the Presence of God in Your Neighbor** - Small gestures at home. Cook a special meal. Bake a cake..and if you're alone, connect with others online to give life to Jesus among us at a distance.

**Appreciate What You Have** - and believe that God is love. Take walks to redirect fears and anxieties, contemplate the beauty of nature, look for the positive and signs of solidarity and share them.

**Marianapolis Prep School**

MPrep Preview: An Interactive Forum

Sunday, April 26 from 3 to 4 pm

Join us **online**

Register at [marianapolis.org/preview](http://marianapolis.org/preview)

860-923-9245 / [admission@marianapolis.org](mailto:admission@marianapolis.org)

Marianapolis Preparatory School is a Catholic, independent, co-educational, boarding and day school located in Thompson, CT for grades 9-12 and postgraduates. We are home to 350 students from 56 area towns, numerous states around the U.S., and over 20 countries worldwide.

**Today is Divine Mercy Sunday!**

The world was in the midst of the Great Depression in 1931 and the memories of World War I were still very much alive in the minds of Europeans when in Poland a sister of the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938), is said to have been personally visited by Jesus. According to her diary, which was listed on the Index of Forbidden Books for more than 20 years, an image was revealed to her of the risen Lord, from whose heart shone two rays, one red (representing blood) and the other "pale" (symbolizing water), with the words "Jesus, I trust in you" at the bottom.

When she was canonized in 2000 Pope John Paul II proclaimed that the Second Sunday of Easter would henceforth be known as Divine Mercy Sunday, thereby widely promoting the devotional practices associated with St. Faustina's visions. Her diary entries focus on God's mercy, the call to accept God's mercy and to be merciful, the need for conversion, and the call to trust in Jesus. The celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday is an opportunity to reflect on the theme of how God's mercy can overcome sin and, as the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments states, "a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that the human community will experience in the years to come."

**Regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Bishop McManus has announced the following changes:

**All daily and Sunday Masses are suspended.** The obligation to take part in the Mass on Sundays and Holy days of Obligation is thereby lifted. All Mass intentions will be honored by our priests through private Masses. The church will be open for private prayer between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm as long as the number of persons present at any time does not exceed **10 persons**.

Parishioners are encouraged to **watch Mass on television**. A live broadcast of the Sunday Mass will be offered by Bishop McManus at 10:00 am on Sunday mornings on Charter channel 193. It will be repeated at 6:00 pm. Weekday Masses will be offered at 9:00 am on Charter channel 193. A schedule is being developed for Masses in Spanish. The readings for the Mass each day can be found on the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org).

**Parish priests will not have access to our hospitals**, nursing homes, rehab centers and assisted living facilities. In the hospitals only existing in-house chaplains will provide pastoral care. A few priests in the City of Worcester have been trained and assigned to all serious pastoral emergencies **for at-home visits**. They have been relieved of all other regular pastoral duties.

**All confessions are suspended.** In the case of the dying only the trained priests mentioned above will be hearing confessions.

**ALL religious education classes and all meetings** at Christ the King are **suspended**.

Priests are urged to remain in the rectory and maintain phone, email and social media contact with parishioners.

**Parishioners and visitors should not visit the rectory** at this time. The Chancery Offices of the Diocese will be closed to the public during this period.

**Funeral Masses and weddings** may be celebrated with the immediate family only (limited to **5 people for a funeral** and **6 people for a wedding**). Staggered seating will be necessary for these. The doors of the church will be locked once the family has arrived. Families will be provided the opportunity to celebrate only the Rites of Committal at the cemetery (with a Funeral or Memorial Mass to be scheduled sometime in the future when the crisis is over).

**A Prayer to the  
Blessed Virgin Mary**

This is the prayer by which Bishop McManus blessed the Diocese from six different locations on the *Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*.

O Mary, conceived without sin, look upon your children in our beloved Diocese: intercede for us with your Son that he who willed to take flesh in your immaculate womb might banish from our midst all sickness and disease; and calm the trembling of our hearts. We consecrate our Diocese to your protection, O Mother of God, that the overshadowing power of the Holy Spirit. might still the waters of chaos and death and save us from this present hour. Amen.

### CHRIST THE KING PRAYER LINE

If you know of someone who could use our prayerful support please contact either Mindy at 508-754-5361 or by email at [mindyd1052@gmail.com](mailto:mindy1052@gmail.com).

#### *Partners in Charity!*

#### **Please Contribute**

**Diocesan Goal: \$5 million**  
**CTK Goal: \$110,700**  
**34% of CTK Families Have Donated**

For those who have not already donated we ask your kind consideration of a gift to the 2020 Annual Partners in Charity Appeal. Donor envelopes can be found in the rear of the church, near the large glass inner windows or near the bulletin racks. Please be generous and return the envelope in next week's collection or through the mail or by dropping it off at the rectory. Your gift will help the Diocese implement its essential charitable, pastoral and educational works in the year ahead.

Tens of thousands of people are the beneficiaries of our charitable giving. Just a few examples are those living at the Nazareth Home for Boys ~ the care of fifty-two retired priests ~ poor families served by Pernet Family Health Service ~ seniors receiving home health care through Catholic Charities ~ children seeking a good education ~ those preparing for the priesthood or diaconate ~ the developmentally disabled at Mercy Centre. But there is much more!

Hopefully, you will consider making a gift from your generosity and spirit of sacrifice. It takes many gifts to reach our goal of \$5 million. All checks should be made payable to "Partners in Charity" (not Christ the King). We hope you'll be generous in making a gift which reflects your gratitude to God for all you have. Please make a gift of mercy. Thank you!

### Would You Like to Join Our Parish?

Please contact Monsignor Sullivan at 508-754-5361. Or, you can email him at [tsullivan5@mac.com](mailto:tsullivan5@mac.com) and he will respond.

### FLOCKNOTES MESSAGES! Are you Hearing from Us?

We certainly hope that you are receiving our Flocknotes messages. It is the primary way that we are communicating with our parishioners at this time. If you are not receiving them please contact either Monsignor Tom Sullivan (at [tsullivan5@mac.com](mailto:tsullivan5@mac.com)) or Kris Correira (at [krisedpa@live.com](mailto:krisedpa@live.com)) to have your name and email address added to our growing list. God bless!

### USE OUR PARISH WEBSITE

A great deal of work has gone into updating our parish website. You can easily find it at [www.ctkworc.org](http://www.ctkworc.org).

### Free Online 'Magnificat'

During this difficult time, many of the faithful may be unable to attend Mass. To help them sanctify their day and to keep walking in the liturgical rhythm of the Church, the publishers of *MAGNIFICAT* are honored to make their online version of *MAGNIFICAT* temporarily available to everyone and free of charge at <https://us.magnificat.net/free>.

Free temporary access is also available in Spanish at [www.magnificat.com/gratis](http://www.magnificat.com/gratis).

It is their hope and ours that everyone will take this opportunity to pray with *MAGNIFICAT* in union with the Church each Sunday and weekday. Please pray with us for a speedy and safe end to this time of difficulty in our world.

### Helping Out with the 2020 U.S. Census at Home

Because of the current coronavirus pandemic and the required social distancing it is very difficult for the U.S. Government to obtain local volunteers to visit households. Now more than ever, we should all respond to the Census online, by phone, or by mail. Responses are kept confidential, and it's easy to respond in English as well as in 12 non-English languages. The Census count directs federal funding for the next ten years to our community.

Your family will be mailed a census form. However, you can complete your family's census online by visiting [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov). The survey can be completed in five minutes or less.

### Making Parish Donations Online Use: [ctkworc.org](http://ctkworc.org)

Even though we're abiding by the firmest regulations of social distancing ever asked, the parish is not asleep. Msgr. Sullivan is speaking with our parishioners on the phone and communicating by email. Mindy Dulude is in the office and receiving calls each morning. Judi Brennan has emailed lessons for our religious education families and has been assisting families from her home. Our offices are scattered around the CTK campus. You are constantly in our thoughts and prayers! During this unusual period you can help our parish maintain its financial obligations because they remain the same (staff salaries, insurances, heat, etc.). If your family finances are stable at this time, I'd ask that you please continue your support of the parish offertory.

You can mail us a check or your parish offertory envelopes. Or drop them through the mail slot at the rectory's front door.

And we have created an option for simple online giving. Please go to our website, [ctkworc.org](http://ctkworc.org). Either click on the tab at the top of the page or the button in the middle of the page called 'CTK Online Giving.' There you will be able to make a donation to the parish using your credit card or use the "check" option to transfer funds directly from your checking account.

Many thanks for your continuing generosity.

## A Prayer in Time of Pandemic

O God, whose Only Begotten Son bore the weight of human suffering for our salvation, hear the prayers of your Church for our sick brothers and sisters and deliver us from this time of trial.

Open our ears and our hearts to the voice of your Son: *Be not afraid, for I am with you always.*

Bless all doctors and nurses, researchers and public servants. Give us the wisdom to do what is right and the faith to endure this hour, that we might gather once again to praise your name in the heart of your Church, delivered from all distress and confident in your mercy.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

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