



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.ckworc.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.

WORSHIPPING 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)



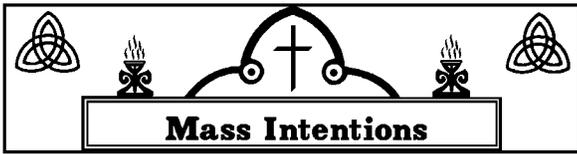
3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

They set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" - Lk 24:33-34

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

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1052 Pleasant Street Worcester, MA 01602



The following Mass Intentions will be honored by Monsignor Sullivan this week:

- Saturday—April 25th**
Rose Fitzgerald (4th anniv.) req. of family
- Sunday—April 26th**
Parishioners of Christ the King,
- Monday—April 27th**
Courtney Butcher (13th anniv.) req. of family
- Tuesday—April 28th**
Marie McCourt Donahue (mem.) req. of The Burke Family
- Wednesday—April 29th**
George and Jenny Jones (mem.) req. of family
- Thursday—April 30th**
Richard Oliver (5th anniv.) req. of family
- Friday—May 1st**
Ann Quinn (7th anniv.) req. of family
- Saturday—May 2nd**
Raymond Steele (2nd anniv.) req. of family
- Sunday—May 3rd**
Parishioners of Christ the King

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Pauline M. Casavant**, the mother of Mark Casavant and Marie Telemaque.

**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.

**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.

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 five weeks ago we began online giving through our website (you can do that at ctkworc.org). Through those combinations of giving, and since our last report, your contributions (**which included those for Palm Sunday and Easter**) have been as follows:

Offertory: \$5,870.00; **Online Giving:** \$1,765.00
Fuel: \$50.00; **Easter:** \$749.00; **Good Friday:** \$15.00; **Mass Stipends:** \$20.00; **Haiti Twinning:** \$500.00; **Donations:** \$50.00; **Easter Flowers:** \$25.00.

Total: \$9,044.00

First Holy Communion Postponed

For several weeks now we have both been considering the best manner in which we can go forward with plans for celebrating First Holy Communion at Christ the King. We realize that our parents have been looking for a decision from us in light pre-existing family and travel plans. Our last class was on March 8. Classes for all students have been canceled for the remainder of the spring. Given the continuing uncertainties of how long the COVID-19 crisis will last and when we can safely gather again to complete the necessary sacramental preparation we have decided to postpone our celebration until **Saturday morning, October 3 at 10:00 a.m.** Virtually all other parishes have had to postpone their celebrations until the fall as well.

What we are planning is to hold three class sessions on Sunday mornings in September ~ September 13, 20 and 27 ~ each from 10:00 to 11:00 am. We are scheduling our First Communion rehearsal for Friday, October 2, at 5:30 pm, with the actual sacramental celebration the next morning.

The students would then commence their next grade level class (for most that would be the 3rd grade) the following morning, on Sunday, October 4 from 10:00 to 11:00 am, especially in light of the fact that the following Sunday is Columbus Day weekend when classes are not normally scheduled.

We hope that you understand the dilemma that has faced us all. If you have any questions please contact **Judi Brennan** at 508-754-5361 or by email at ctkedu1052@gmail.com.

*Monsignor Tom Sullivan &
Judi Brennan*

**Creatively Using this Time at Home to
DEFEAT THE ‘R O E ACT’**

Currently before the Legislature of Massachusetts are two identical bills proposing the “**ROE Act**” (HB 3320: “An Act **R**emoving **O**bstacles and **E**xpanding access to Women’s Reproductive Health” and SB 1209: “An Act to **R**emove **O**bstacles and **E**xpand Abortion Access”). The state Legislature may very well still act on these bills during the current session. These acts, if passed, will:

Expand abortion access, including late-term abortions, during the nine months of pregnancy for virtually any reason; Eliminate any requirements that late-term abortions be performed in a hospital. Any life-preserving medical equipment need not be present in the event the child survives; Eliminate the requirement that provides medical care to a child who survives an abortion attempt; Eliminate the requirement that a minor under the age of 18 have the consent or even the knowledge of a parent, guardian, or the courts; Expand state funding for women who cannot afford the procedure.

The most important way we can voice our opposition is to contact 4 key legislators:

Senator Harriette Chandler: Tel: 617-722-1544
Email: Harriette.Chandler@masenate.gov

Representative John Mahoney: Tel: 617-722-2130
Email: John.Mahoney@mahouse.gov

Senator James Eldridge, Tel: 617-722-1120
Email: James.Eldridge@masenate.gov

Representative Claire Cronin, Tel: 617-722-2396
Email: Claire.Cronin@mahouse.gov

Someone to Read These Days

Paul Horgan was a great American author (R.I.P., 1995). He was a true “man of letters.” He won the Pulitzer and Bancroft Prizes in history for his epic study of four cultures in the American Southwest, *Great River: The Rio Grande in North American History*. Twenty-one years later (1976) he won the Pulitzer again, this time for *Lamy of Santa Fe*, a magisterial biography of the émigré French prelate and pioneer who was Willa Cather’s model for *Death Comes for the Archbishop*. For that, Horgan was allowed unprecedented access to the Secret Archives of the Vatican, thanks to a personal intervention by Pope John XXIII. He tells that story in *Tracings*, a 1993 collection of memorable short essays. Horgan wrote sparkling autobiographical reminiscences of events and people, including such literary giants as Somerset Maugham, T.S. Eliot, Edmund Wilson, Alice Roosevelt Longworth and his dear friend Igor Stravinsky, the Russian composer. All in all, he published fifteen novels, seven books of short stories, eighteen volumes of essays and much more. *Things As They Are* is one of those outstanding and simple-to-read novels about a boy’s youth. Many works are still available. Check out Amazon, Barnes & Noble or Kindle.

Msgr. Tom

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.

Parish priests are not permitted 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 regular confession times are suspended. In the case of the dying only the trained priests mentioned above will be hearing confessions. Msgr. Sullivan is available to hear confessions out-of-doors by **calling him in advance (508-450-2556)**. However, the anonymity of the penitents is not possible. The penitent remains in his/her car and social distancing is assured.

ALL religious education classes are canceled for this spring. **All other meetings** at Christ the King are **suspended** until further notice.

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

Funeral Masses may be celebrated with the immediate family only (limited to **5 people**). 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).

Please ‘Make Up’ Your Envelopes

We realize that our parishioners have not been able to come to Mass since early March. For those who have not made online donations or who have not mailed in or dropped off their offertory envelopes we hope that you will ‘make up’ your Offertory envelopes for the weeks of this pandemic. Then, the parish will be able to meet its fiscal obligations. Thank you for your goodness and generosity.

APRIL 26, 2020

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
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 book rack in the church foyer. Please be generous and return the envelope through the mail or by dropping it off through the mail slot at the rectory's front door. Or you can offer your gift online this year. In that case please go to <https://partners-charity.net/donate>. 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 diocesan 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 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) or Kris Correia (at 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.

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>. 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 or has been mailed a census form. However, you can complete your family's census online by visiting www.2020census.gov. The survey can be completed in five minutes or less. It is helpful to know the birthdates of all family members and/or residents of your household before you complete the census.

Making Parish Donations Online Use: 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. 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. 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.

That Wonderful ‘*Emmaus*’ Story!

Today’s well-known and beloved Gospel story opens with two broken-hearted people walking away from Jerusalem, the spiritual center of the Jewish people and the first Christians. These followers of Jesus, knowing of his death, have almost certainly forgotten his words about rising again. Jesus joins them on their journey. Throughout his ministry, Jesus associated with the disheartened. At his baptism he stood shoulder to shoulder in the Jordan River with those seeking forgiveness. So many times he ate and drank with the disreputable, much to the consternation of the self-righteous. And at the end of his life he was crucified between two thieves. Jesus accompanied sinners to help them. One lesson here, for all of us who want to bring others to Christ, is that we shouldn’t stand apart from those others, or sinners, or pass judgment on anyone. We’re called to love all sinners and join them along the path of life.

Another great lesson in today’s Gospel is that we should use the Scriptures to share with others the mystery of who Christ is. How important it is for us to read, know and love the Scriptures.

The climax here comes when Jesus sits down with them and shares bread, an obvious reference to the importance of the Eucharist, the Mass. *That’s when they recognize him.* Though they were beginning to see him through the sharing of the Word they still didn’t fully grasp who he was. Now their eyes are opened! The ultimate means by which we understand Jesus Christ is through the Mass, when Christ himself is personally and actively present to us.

Bringing others to Jesus Christ is *never just* a matter of our personal efforts, or inspiring sermonizing, or even exposure to the intricacies of the Scriptures. It’s primarily a matter of seeing the broken heart of God through the broken bread of the Eucharist. We can all do what Jesus did. When we’re able to reassemble for Mass and be with others in all our customary ways (which we can’t do right now because of the COVID-19 pandemic): walk with others, share “the Book,” and invite them to Mass!
