



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.

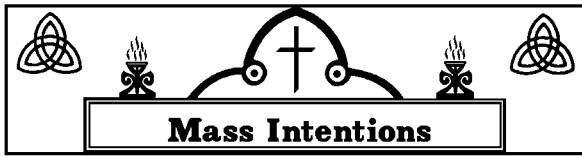
MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM
Sunday 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM
Weekdays 7:00 AM
Saturday 8:00 AM
Holy Day Mass Times 7:00 PM (vigil)
7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 6:00 PM (on the day)

**2nd SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. - Mk 1:4

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

CHRIST THE KING, WORCESTER, MA



Saturday—December 5th

4:00PM George Pearson (mem.) req. of family

Sunday—December 6th

7:30AM Parishioners of Christ the King
9:00AM Deceased Members of the Randell Family
11:00AM Deceased Members of the Cole, Halloran and Provencher Families

Monday—December 7th

7:00AM Marguerite L. Bourbon (15th anniv.) req. of family
5:30PM Daniel F. Belsito 9mem.) The Pepi Family

Tuesday—December 8th

7:00AM Louise A. Dacri (6th anniv.) req. of James D. Brock
9:00AM Paul Francis Thomas (2nd anniv.) req. of family
7:00PM Robert Conroy (mem.) req. of family

Wednesday—December 9th

5:30PM Emily Czyzewski (mem.) req. of Mark and Monique Czyzewski

Thursday—December 10th

7:00AM Clifford N. Rivet (birthday) req. of Jean Dalbec
5:30PM Anne Lennon Looney (40th anniv.) and James H. Looney, Sr. (68th anniv.) req. of Kathleen B. O'Connor

Friday—December 11th

7:00AM James Brock (mem.) req. of The Rushton Family
5:30PM Louis Prestes (mem.) req. of family

Saturday—December 12th

8:00AM Richard E. Burke (mem.) req. of Roger and Joyce Dubuque
4:00PM James Pappas (mem.) req. of family

Sunday—December 13th

7:30AM The Hines Family
9:00AM Parishioners of Christ the King
11:00AM Amos E. Wasgatt, III (mem.), Elizabeth "Betty" Wasgatt (mem.), Amos E. Wasgatt, Jr. (mem.), Kenneth Anderson (mem.), Barbara Wasgatt (mem.) and Joseph D'Ambra (mem.) req. of family

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the soul of **James H. Connelly**.

TELEVISED MASSES

WCCA TV, Spectrum Cable **Channel 194** in Worcester now airs the Daily Mass from St. Paul's Cathedral from Monday to Friday at 9am. WCCA TV Ch. 194 will also air the Sunday Mass in Spanish on Sundays at 8:00 am and the Mass in English at 10:00 am. All Masses will also stream live at those times at wccatv.com.

COME TO DAILY MASS!

As you can, please consider coming to our daily Masses (**During Advent: 7:00 am and 5:30 pm, Monday-Friday; Saturdays 8:00 am all year**). The Mass brings many special graces! This week, in addition to our regular Advent weekday Masses, we celebrate **St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church** (Monday); **the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** (Tuesday); **St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin** (Wednesday); **St. Damasus I, Pope** (Friday); and **Our Lady of Guadalupe** (Saturday).

Offertory Donations

Thanks for your continuing donations at Mass, through the mail, dropping them off and online (at ctkworc.org). You can make donations in the foyer of the church before Mass begins in the large donations basket there. Ushers are not permitted to pass the baskets at this time. Your donations for the **past two weekends** were as follows:

Offertory: \$13,895.63; **Online Giving:** \$2,010.00;
Mass Stipends: \$300.00; **Fuel:** \$ 146.00; **Funeral Stipends:** \$300.00; **All Saints:** \$59.00; **All Souls:** \$47.00; **Christmas Flowers:** \$602.00; **Human Development:** \$756.00; **Christmas:** \$215.00; **Assumption:** \$15.00; **Prop. Of the Faith:** \$13.00; **Church in Eastern Europe:** \$20.00; **Catholic School Appeal:** \$28.00; **Religious Retirement:** \$140.00; **Immaculate Conception:** \$95.00; **Solemnity of Mary:** \$20.00; **Our Religious Education:** \$20.00; **Donation in Memory of Elaine Kelleher:** \$250.00; **Donation for a family in need:** \$100.00; **Donation in Memory of Kelly Herlihy:** \$500.00; **Donation in Memory of Richard Burke:** \$305.00; **Novena Donation:** \$50.00; **Thanksgiving Donation:** \$50.00; **Donation to our Parish Outreach:** \$220.00; **Donation to our Music:** \$2,100.00.

Total: \$22,256.63

BAPTISM PREP SESSIONS & CELEBRATIONS

We continue to celebrate all requested baptisms. Each family celebration is separate. Please call Monsignor Sullivan to inquire about baptisms and discuss your hopes and arrangements - at 508-754-5361 - or email him at: tsullivan5@mac.com.

Weekday Evening Masses During Advent

For 8 years now we've added an additional daily Mass during the weekdays of the holy season of Advent. This has enabled parishioners to come to daily Mass who otherwise are unable to be present for the 7:00 am Masses. This is a great spiritual preparation for Christmas. Each weekday night at 5:30 pm we will offer a Mass during the Advent season. We began last Monday and conclude on Wednesday, December 23. Please consider joining us.

Welcome Father John Gavin, S.J. !

Father John Gavin, SJ, will be celebrating our 9:00 am Mass today.

Multiple Ways of Making a Christmas Giving Tree Gift

The Giving Tree program is as important as ever in 2020. Locally, 8,000 impoverished youngsters are enriched by our generosity. During this pandemic we can participate in a number of ways:

Since all our gift tags were distributed two weeks ago you can get a tag “virtually.” Go to www.urbanmissionaries.com and click on the tab “To join our Virtual Christmas Giving Tree.” Via email you will receive your tag. When you purchase the gift you can print the email tag, attach it to the gift and return it here at the church.

You can purchase a gift online (as above) and have it shipped directly to: Urban Missionaries of Our Lady of Hope, 242 Canterbury St. Worcester, MA 01603. Just put the tag ID number in the comment section of the order so they will know to whom the gift belongs.

Or go to the *Go Fund Me* tab at www.urbanmissionaries.com and make a cash donation. The Urban Missionaries will then make the required purchases.

All gifts must be back here by Sunday, December 20 by 12:00 noon at the very latest.

Also, Christ the King agreed to be a regional drop-off center for all gifts this year. Anyone from any parish can drop off their gifts in our **parish hall** (beneath the church) on the two days below. CYC members will assist you.

Saturday, December 12, 9:00 am to 12 noon
Sunday, December 20, 9:00 am to 12 noon

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. A great deal of work is being conducted. 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 we would 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. Or donate at Mass. And you can donate online. 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.

Word on Fire Engage

Every parishioner in our *Flocknotes* system has 100% access to the *Word on Fire Digital Library* so you can watch any of the films whenever you’d like. For instructions please email Msgr. Sullivan at tsullivan5@mac.com.

**Monsignor Sullivan is a Notary Public...
and can serve you even now!**

Monsignor Sullivan is a notary public. Should any parishioner need to have a document notarized, even now during the pandemic, you are welcome to call upon him. There is no fee. Just call the rectory should you need this service. Please wear a mask and we keep appropriate social distance.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

The following Christmas Masses will be offered. Bishop McManus has announced that in light of the COVID-19 pandemic Christmas Vigil Masses can be offered as early as 3:00 p.m. He has suspended the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation until the 1st Sunday of Lent, February 21, 2021. Masks and social distancing will continue to be required as they have been these past 28 weeks since our re-opening on May 23rd.

Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) Afternoon
Ticketed Masses will be offered at **3:00 pm & 5:00 pm**
(Maximum 200 in the church
& 40 in the Johnson Room where telecast)

Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) Evening
Ticketed Mass at **8:00 pm**
(Maximum 200 in the church)

Christmas Morning (Dec. 25)
Masses at **8:00 & 10:00 am**
(non-ticketed; no registration required)

To register either email tsullivan5@mac.com or call **Mindy** (Monday-Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm) at **508-754-5361**. For Christmas Eve Vigil Masses (**only**), make sure you tell us your (1) name, (2) your complete mailing address, (3) the Mass time you are choosing, (4) and the definite number of persons in your party. As we approach Christmas tickets will be mailed to you. When each Mass is “filled” we will notify parishioners through our Flocknotes email system.

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 (tsullivan5@mac.com) or Kris Correia (krisedpa@live.com) to have your name and email address added to our growing list. God bless!

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.

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 mindy1052@gmail.com.

SATURDAY CONFESSIONS

Confessions are offered **indoors** on Saturday afternoons, from **2:45 to 3:45 pm in the Johnson Room**. You have the option of going to confession anonymously (behind a screen) or face-to-face. Please wear a mask. We keep social distancing. If someone is in the Johnson Room ahead of you please wait until that person leaves the room and then enter.

Coming to Mass...

We've had a safe re-opening Mass experience for the past **28 weeks**. We are regularly celebrating confessions, baptisms and other sacraments in addition to all our Masses. Persons who are ill should not come to Mass at this time. Family members may sit together in the same pew. With the exception of your own family members you must sit at least six feet apart from others. Social distancing is required. Every alternate pew is left empty. We've marked off those pews with tape. All people must wear a mask throughout the Mass with the **following exceptions...**(1) children under the age of 2 **should not wear** a mask; (2) parents will use their own discretion for those children between the age of 2 and 5 years old; (3) if a person has a medical or disabling condition they are not required to wear a mask.

Low Gluten Hosts Available for Holy Communion

For several years we've been offering 'low-gluten' hosts for those who cannot tolerate gluten. These hosts meet the requirements of the Catholic Church for Holy Communion in terms of ingredients and gluten content. The Holy See and the American bishops have endorsed certain breads that are low in gluten content. The hosts we use have gluten content of less than 0.01%. It is important for the person requiring this special host to speak to Msgr. Sullivan prior to Mass so that we can offer this special host to you.

Women's Guild's Advent Evening of Recollection

Please watch for further information in upcoming weeks but we want you to know that CTK's Advent Evening of Recollection sponsored by the Women's Guild will take place, albeit with a different format. This will take place on **Wednesday, December 16**. Monsignor Sullivan and Father John Foley will concelebrate the 5:30 pm Mass. At 6:00 pm the Guild's guest speaker, **Father John Foley**, our former pastor, will give an Advent reflection and do so in the body of the church. The Guild is unable to sponsor the dinner this year because of social distancing. Save the date now.

Highlights of the Week Ahead

Sunday, December 6 - 2nd Sunday Advent
12:00 pm - Religious Education by FLIPGRID
Evening - Confirmation

Monday, December 7
Masses at 7 am
& 5:30 pm (Vigil, Immaculate Conception)
Evening: Women's Guild, Johnson Room

Tuesday, December 8 - Immaculate Conception
Masses at 7 am, 9 am & 7:00 pm

Wednesday, December 9
Masses at 7 am & 5:30 pm

Thursday, December 10
Masses at 7 am & 5:30 pm

Friday, December 11
Masses at 7 am & 5:30 pm

Saturday, December 12
9am-12noon - Giving Tree drop-offs, Hall

Sunday, December 13 - 3rd Sunday Advent
12:00 pm - Religious Education by FLIPGRID

Need a Stair Life or Chair Lift?

A parishioner is looking to sell (very cheaply) a stair lift (a chair on rails that brings you up and down stairs) and a chair lift (a recliner that helps you stand up). If you are interested contact Monsignor Sullivan at tsullivan5@mac.com.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

A Holy Day of Obligation

Vigil Mass
Monday, December 7
5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 8
Masses at: 7:00 am, 9:00 am & 7:00 pm
(no 5:30 pm Mass that day)

The *Immaculate Conception* means that Mary, whose conception was brought about the normal way, was conceived without original sin or its stain. That's what 'immaculate' means: without stain. The essence of original sin consists in the deprivation of sanctifying grace, and its stain is a corrupt nature. Mary was preserved from these defects by God's grace; from the first instant of her existence she was in the state of sanctifying grace and was free from the corrupt nature original sin brings.

Tuesday's Feast: The Immaculate Conception

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is the promise of Christmas. That's why it's been celebrated in the early part of Advent since its beginning in the Third century. As the shoot gives promise of the flower to come, the Immaculate Conception is the promise of the Virgin Birth to come. In Mary's birth life came to the world again.

It's true that when St. Anne gave birth to Mary there were no angels singing over the hills, no shepherds who had left their flocks to witness this spectacle, no wise men following a star to see this event. Yet the first Advent had begun.

When God created the First Adam, he made preparations beforehand. He created a beautiful world, a Paradise ready for Adam to dwell in, a Paradise that was lost. When God brought forth *the Second Adam*, Christ the Lord, he made preparations beforehand as well. He created a still more beautiful Paradise for the New Adam, the Second Adam, and that Paradise was the body and soul of Our Lady, Mary Immaculate, a place for the New Adam to dwell. The second Paradise was immune from the taint of sin to be able to receive Adam.

Man's winter. God's spring. A living branch from a dead root. Rather than finding this hard to believe we find it beautiful and compelling. For Mary, each Advent, we give thanks. We give thanks until He comes again, in glory.
