



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.

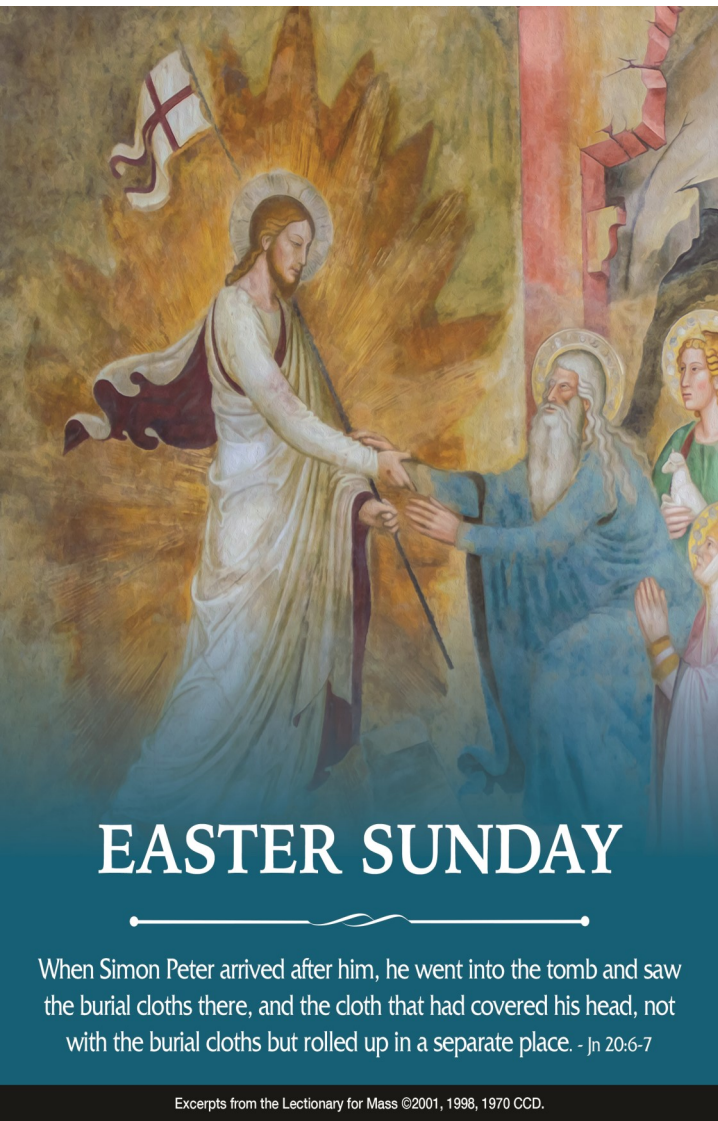
PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

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)

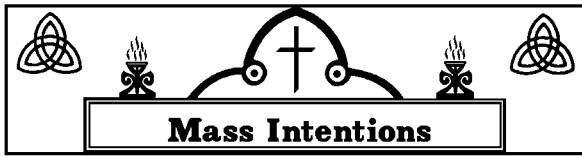


EASTER SUNDAY

When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. - Jn 20:6-7

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

CHRIST THE KING, WORCESTER, MA



Sunday—April 4th

9:00AM Thomas Burke (mem.) req. of family

Monday—April 5th

7:00AM James D. Brock (mem.) req. of The Slavinkas Family

Thursday—April 8th

7:00AM Richard P. Burke (mem.) req. of family

Saturday—April 10th

8:00AM Marie A. Russell (12th anniv.) req. of James D. Brock

4:00PM Joanne V. St. Martin (5th anniv.) req. of her children

Sunday—April 11th

7:30AM Ralph Warner (mem.) req. of Fran and Betty Ann Warner

9:00AM Marcellaisse Brodner (20th anniv.) req. of family

11:00AM Mary Covello (mem.) req. of The Christ the King Decorating Committee

1:00PM Luigi Carbone (mem.) req. of family

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the souls of **all the faithful departed.**

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.

Monsignor Sullivan is a Notary Public

Monsignor Sullivan is a notary public. Should any parishioner need to have a document notarized you are welcome to call upon him. There is no fee. Just call the rectory should you need this service.

Thanks for Your Participation in '40 Days for Life'

Recently, many of our parishioners participated in the most recent **40 Days for Life** program by their peaceful prayer vigil across the street from Planned Parenthood on Pleasant Street. We are very grateful for the participation of all who came and for your witness to the dignity of all human life. God bless you. Thanks to Joyce Dubuque and Ralph and Claire Weirich for their organizational efforts and for the parish groups that came in addition to the individuals. Continue to pray for the integrity of all human life, born and unborn.

COME TO DAILY MASS!

As you can, please consider coming to our daily Masses (7:00 am Monday-Friday all year; Saturdays at 8:00 am). The Mass brings many special graces! This week all the Masses are daily celebrations of the Octave of Easter.

An Easter Message from Monsignor Sullivan

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ the King,

On the first Easter Sunday, Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James, and Salome, hurried to a newly carved tomb to anoint the body of the Lord. In their concern before such a difficult task, they said to one another, "*Who will roll back the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?*" (Mark 16:3)

When they arrived, they found that the stone had already been moved, and they were greeted with the words, "*You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised.*" (Mark 16: 4-6) Jesus had indeed been raised from the dead! Our lives were changed forever by His resurrection.

How wonderful it is to hear the *good news* of the Lord's resurrection on this Easter Sunday of 2021! How much we need this assurance and encouragement! For too many still live in the dark grave of fear. For some there is the ongoing darkness of the pandemic. Others experience rejection, loneliness and poverty. Many ask, "Will we ever see the light again?"

Easter proclaims that God will roll back the stone! For Easter is a day of hope reborn, of courage renewed and of faith restored. The foundation of this enduring hope and renewed faith is our deep conviction that Jesus is truly risen from the dead, and that He now reigns as the Lord of life, who will unite all of us with God.

At Easter, it is good for each of us, worried as we might be about our personal problems, as well as those of our nation and our world, to recall these truths, and to savor the great *mystery* that restores our courage and rekindles our hope.

Hear the Easter proclamation with joy in your hearts this year! Let the *good news* roll the large stones of your burdens away and allow the bright light of Christ's glorious victory to shine.

On behalf of our entire pastoral staff I wish you a happy and blessed Easter!

Monsignor Tom Sullivan

Welcome Father John Gavin, S.J. !

Father John Gavin, SJ, will be celebrating our 7:30 am Mass on this Easter Sunday.

Calling all St. Joseph's!

Emmanuel Catholic Radio is halfway to our "Year of St. Joseph" 100 men goal. Accept the challenge to live like St. Joseph for 100 days in prayer and action. To join call (508) 767-1230.

Bishop McManus' Easter Message

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Imagine the joy of Christ's grieving followers gathered in the Upper Room when on Easter the Risen Lord suddenly appeared and said, "Peace be with you." Their joy and peace at Christ's Victory must have been unbounded as they recognized Him in their presence.

But not all of Christ's followers shared that joy. Saint Thomas, who was absent, experienced not joy but doubt. Two other disciples after hearing of Christ's Resurrection, instead of immediately joining the others, departed Jerusalem and were downcast. Even when Jesus drew near and spoke to them of the Scriptures, they did not recognize Him. Only in the breaking of the bread (the Eucharist) did they recognize Him. Only then did they return to Jerusalem to join the disciples assembled in the Upper Room and share in the joy of Easter.

On this Easter Sunday, after a year of COVID isolation, when we seek peace and joy amidst doubts and losses we can profitably reflect on the importance of gathering at the Eucharist. As Jesus came to the disciples gathered together in Jerusalem so, too, He is most present to us, not in our individual reflections upon the Scriptures, but when the Scriptures and Eucharist are celebrated at Mass.

It has been a long year with necessary and prudent precautions keeping many of us from Sunday Mass. Given the extraordinary circumstances of the COVID pandemic, personal prayer, reading the Scriptures and watching the Mass live-streamed have been prudent choices for many. However, such choices are all inferior to being present at Sunday Mass and receiving the Holy Eucharist, which the Second Vatican Council proclaimed as the source and summit of the Church. Like St. Thomas and the disciples on the road to Emmaus, it is harder to recognize Jesus, ward off doubts and avoid being downcast by the trials and tragedies of life when we are not nourished by the Eucharist at Sunday Mass.

As signs of progress in the COVID pandemic begin to give way to hope for a return to a more normal life, and as vaccines become more widely available, it may be time to begin to consider prayerfully a return to Sunday Mass. Certainly, everyone needs to consult family and doctors and use prudence taking into account one's own circumstances and health. Our parishes will continue to require masks and social distancing and employ sanitary precautions. As society moves towards reopening, may the Holy Spirit guide you, along with prudent medical advice, in your consideration about coming back to Sunday Mass in the weeks and months ahead.

With every prayerful best wish for a joyous Easter, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

HOSPITAL VISITS

We priests have been told that we are unable to visit the sick at the hospitals at this time. The in-house priest chaplains, all of whom have been vaccinated, are assuming all the pastoral needs of the hospital patients. We know that only one visitor per day is allowed for each patient and that seems to eliminate the visit of a priest. We pray that these restrictions will soon be lifted so that we priests can resume visiting the sick in our hospitals. **However, if you would like to have a loved one visited by a priest and you let us know, Monsignor Sullivan can communicate that request to an in-house priest chaplain at all three major hospitals in the city.**

2021 ANNUAL PARTNERS IN CHARITY APPEAL

My dear fellow parishioners,

I ask your kind consideration of a gift to the 2021 *Annual Partners in Charity Appeal*. I'm confident that you are already aware that this appeal supports all our essential diocesan charities. This annual campaign has been essential to the works of the Diocese since 1960. And we need the help of all parishioners more than ever to meet our diocesan needs. Many of us have witnessed all that is accomplished through *Partners in Charity*. Tens of thousands of people are the beneficiaries of our charitable giving. **The Diocese must raise \$5 million this year** and that will take a lot of us pitching in to achieve it! Last year, the Diocese was several hundred thousand dollars short of its goal, largely because of the pandemic. This year is more challenging.

Most parishioners have yet to return to Mass so I've written to everyone. Our appeal has been conducted through the mail and we hope all will respond. If you plan on sending a **check** it should be made **payable** to *Partners in Charity*. You can also donate **online** by going to **partners-charity.net/donate**. Or you can **text** your gift by texting the word **donate** to **84576**. You can even call-in your pledge to 508-929-4366 (Mondays-Fridays).

May the Lord bless you for your goodness and generosity!

Sincerely yours,
Monsignor Tom Sullivan

Donation to Interfaith Hospitality Network

As you know, for many years we have supported the Interfaith Hospitality Network (specifically the residence at 91 June Street) which offers shelter to homeless families while they get back on their feet. We contribute money, meals and food cards and staff it two weeks every year. Other churches do the same. Our parish just made a donation of \$500 to IHN's annual **Virtual Evening of Hope** in further support of this wonderful charitable program. We have received a letter of thanks from Michelle Beaver, the Executive Director. Thanks for your goodness.

APRIL 4, 2021

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.

Coming to Mass...

We've had a safe re-opening Mass experience for **nearly eleven months**. We are regularly celebrating confessions, baptisms, funerals 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 should 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.

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.

Masses Resume at Jewish Home

Another sign that things are "opening up" is that Msgr. Sullivan has been invited to resume his celebration of a Mass each month at the Jewish Healthcare Center. The first one is scheduled for next week, Monday, April 12. It will be good to return there regularly.

In-Person CYC Meeting Next Sunday

The CYC will have an in-person meeting in the Johnson Room next Sunday morning, April 11. Masks and social distancing are necessary. Come to the 9:00 am Mass. Following Mass, at about 9:45 am, the meeting will begin.

Highlights of the Week Ahead

Sunday, April 4 - Easter Sunday

Masses at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am

Monday, April 5

Evening - Women's Guild by Zoom

Wednesday, April 7

7:00 pm - Knights of Columbus

Friday, April 9

7:30 pm - Men's Prayer Group

Sunday, April 11 - 'Divine Mercy'

Masses at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am

9:45 am - CYC Meeting, Johnson Room

10:00-11:00 am - Rel. Ed. for Grades 8 & 9

Flipgrid for other Religious Ed Classes

1:00 pm - Mass for Luigi Carbone

2:00-4:00 pm - First Communion Retreat

6:00-7:15 pm - Confirmation Class

CTK's 'Catholic Men's Group'

Meets This Friday

April 9, 7:30-8:30 pm

Tony Penny and Anthony Zamarro of our parish spearhead this group here for men's spiritual growth. We meet for prayer and spiritual development for one hour in the evening on First Friday (normally) in the church. The format may vary a bit from month to month but we will incorporate prayer, the Rosary and a spiritual talk. Following the hour the men may get a bite to eat off campus. All Catholic men are invited and welcome, not just parishioners. **Because the first Friday of April fell on Good Friday, by way of exception we have moved our meeting to this coming Friday, April 9.**

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.

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.

Easter and what follows...

Does the message of Easter end with our last Mass today? The Church says “no.” We have the Easter season, a needed time to reflect on the truth of the resurrection and to look to the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Does Easter affect and shape who we are? Do we take Easter with us into the streets of our lives and of our world or do we keep it hidden away behind locked doors - doors of a private faith, spirituality and morality, doors of our sense of hopelessness in the face of the pain of our world?

Easter cannot stay hidden away. In St. Matthew’s account of the resurrection there is an interesting instruction that is given to the women who came to the tomb early that morning by the angel sitting on top of the rolled-away, heavy stone that had been used to seal the tomb. “...go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him.” (Mt. 28:7)

The resurrected Lord does not fear the world and its violence because he has overcome all the sin of the world through the love of the Father. The Risen Lord goes *before you to Galilee*. He goes into the streets of the world and the expectation and instruction given by the angel is that the followers of Christ do the same!

Easter, cannot stay hidden behind any locked door and neither will it allow us to remain hidden. There is a culture of fear that continually whispers to us that nothing can change, that we cannot really do anything in the face of the injustice of our world, that we should look upon ourselves and our world with hopeless eyes. We are not children of fear. We are children of the resurrection! We have nothing to fear and we have new words to speak to our world and to one another! We are each allotted only a certain number of Easters in our lives here on earth. There is no time to lose, both for the work needing to be done in our own hearts as well as the work needing to be done in our world. We must make use of every moment given to us.
