



MASSES

Saturday [anticipated] 4:30 pm

Sunday 8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am

Mass Tuesday-Friday in the chapel at 9 am

CONFESSIONS

Tuesday 7-7:30 pm

Saturday 3-4 pm

ST IGNATIUS & ST LUKE'S

22 November 2020

CHRIST THE KING

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, popularly known as “Christ the King,” is a relatively recent feast in the 2000-year history of the Catholic Church. It was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925, as a response to the growing totalitarianism of the times. After the Second Vatican Council, Pope Paul VI decreed that this feast should be celebrated on the last Sunday in Ordinary Time, concluding the liturgical year.

In the face of rising totalitarian claims in Italy and Russia, Pope Pius sought to recall Christians to the basic truth that Jesus Christ is the true king of the entire universe and that they owe total allegiance to him alone as our King. In his encyclical letter, *Quas Primas* (1925), he taught that “Christ has dominion over all creatures, a dominion not seized by violence nor usurped, but his by essence and by nature.” By means of the same encyclical, the pope instituted the liturgical feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, to underscore his teaching.

What then occurred in Mexico illustrates the dangers that Pius XI was trying to combat. After the Mexican Revolution of 1910, a new constitution was adopted which seriously restricted religious freedoms in the areas of education (which was to be completely secularized), public worship (restricted to indoor celebrations in a Catholic country noted for its outdoor processions), and charitable giving (now forbidden to religious organizations), while restricting the number of priests (for example by expelling all foreign-born priests) and confiscating all church property, including church buildings (which might continue to be used for worship, with state approval). Priests were forbidden to spread the Gospel (outside of church) or wear clerical garb in public. They were also denied freedom of association, the right to vote and freedom of speech. These draconian provisions were enacted as “payback” for the Church’s support of the previous regime but went largely unenforced until President Plutarco Elías Calles, an avowed atheist, initiated his state atheism phase in 1926. In response to the repression, Pope Pius issued another encyclical, *Iniquis Afflictisque* (“On the Persecution of the Church in Mexico”), in which he denounced “the violent anti-clerical persecution in Mexico.”

A few months later, a band of Catholics revolted, resulting in the so-called “Cristero War,” which took as its rallying cry, ¡Viva Cristo Rey!—a cry inspired by Pope Pius’ teaching and newly-instituted feast. To the shout, ¡Viva Cristo Rey! (“Long live Christ the King!”), the adherents of the rebellion would respond, ¡Que Viva! (“Long may he live!”). While the church authorities could not support the use of violence in the Catholic resistance to the repression, they could and did support passive

resistance to the state’s oppression. The bishops suspended the celebration of Mass and the sacraments in protest, and allowed Catholics to supply the rebels with humanitarian aid. The war dragged on for nearly three years and claimed the lives of 56,882 Federales and approximately 30,000 Cristeros, including a number of beatified and canonized martyrs—all non-combatants—such as Blessed Miguel Pro, a Jesuit priest, and Blessed José Luis Sanchez del Rio, a 14-year-old Cristero standard-bearer, who was tortured and then executed. Both, before they were shot, cried ¡Viva Cristo Rey!

In 1936, the English Msgr. Ronald Knox meditated on the need for this feast:

“...When he was crowned Pope, [Pius XI] insisted on giving his blessing to the world from the balcony of St. Peter’s, a thing no Pope had done since the loss of the temporal power. Even so early, he had made up his mind that the Papacy must come out of its retirement, and make itself felt as a moral force in the world. And I think he introduced this feast of the Kingship of Christ with the same idea in view. He saw that the minds of men, of young men especially, all over Europe, would be caught by a wave of conflicting loyalties, which would drown the voice of conscience, and produce everywhere unscrupulous wars between class and class, the threat of equally unscrupulous wars between nations. To save the world, if he could, from that frenzy of reckless idealism, he would recall it to the contemplation of a very simple truth. The truth, I mean, that the claim of Christ comes first, before the claims of party, before the claims of nationality. *Pax Christi in regno Christi*; peace and justice were duties which man owed to God more elementary than any duties to his fellow men. All that, before the conflict between the Church and Fascism, before the revolution in Spain, before the name of Hitler had ever been set up in the type-room of a foreign newspaper. The institution of this feast was not a gesture of clericalism against anti-clericalism, still less a gesture of authoritarianism against democracy. It was a gesture of Christian truth against a world which was on the point of going mad with political propaganda.

It affects us, you say, very little. True, we have seen little in our own country of political violence; and probably we are on the whole less caught by political loyalties than any other nation in the world. But we do not know what a day or an hour may bring forth. It may yet be important for men to be reminded...in our lifetime, that the claim of the divine law upon the human conscience comes before anything else.”

From Christ the King, published in The Tablet on 24 October 1936

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All who are suffering or sick and all caregivers who minister to the sick: Anne Marie Whittaker, Greg and Felicia Yohe, Joe Coleman, John Hogan, Deirdre McQuade, Danny Hart, Amy Howard, Mary Morehead and family, Curtis Bailey, Leondre Massey, Sister Constance Ward, George Cochran, Mark Anthony Turner, Rachel Fisher, Patricia Ransom, Beverly A. Woods, Kerianna Prather, Victoria P.; D.K.C., M.M., R.M., K.M., C.M., C.A., E.D., E.G., W.B., J.M., H.G., and J.G.

Please call or email the office to add a name to the prayer list.

Before calling, please be sure you have spoken to the person [or a member of his family] about adding the name—we do not want to inadvertently disregard someone's desire for privacy.

Names of those who are sick or suffering will be kept on the list for one month; to keep a name on the list for longer, you must email the parish office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

The Ladies of Charity are collecting money in their “virtual food drive” for Pope Francis World Day of the Poor (November 15th). The funds from this drive will go to local food pantries at St. Stephen's Baptist Church on Brinkley Road, St. John's Episcopal Church on Livingston Road, Holy Family Catholic Church in Hillcrest Heights, and The Homeless Outreach (who specifically help homeless mothers and children). Your check contribution [made out to **Ladies of Charity**, with *Pandemic Food Drive* in the memo line] can be mailed to the office or placed in the collection baskets. If you contribute through one of our online giving portals, please email the office, so that we can flag that donation and direct it to the Ladies of Charity. The Ladies thank you in advance for your generosity to our struggling neighbors.

ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

Mark your calendars now for our annual Advent Lessons and Carols on Sunday December 6th at 5 pm. Don't miss it!

FR. VIDAL OUT OF TOWN

The pastor will be out of town Thursday, November 26th through Thursday, December 3rd. Our usual mass schedule will continue, thanks to the assistance of Frs. Aquinas and Bonaventure OP.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 21 November

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Anticipated Mass for Sunday
4:30 pm Joy and Jean Vidal +

Sunday, 22 November

THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING
8 am Pro populo
9:30 am Marion Slattery [Jane Slattery]
11 am Gene and Shirley Morris +

Monday, 23 November

Clement I, Pope and Martyr
Columban, Abbot
Bl. Miguel Agustín Pro, Priest and Martyr
9 am *no public mass*

Tuesday, 24 November

Andrew Dung-lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
9 am Margaret Swann + [anniversary commemoration]

Wednesday, 25 November

Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr
9 am Betty Peters + [Lorraine LaValley]

Thursday, 26 November

Thanksgiving Day
9 am Parish Mass of Thanksgiving

Friday, 27 November

Weekday before Advent
9 am Leslie Lee + [Lester Lee]

Saturday, 28 November

Anticipated Mass for Sunday
4:30 pm Alice Novy

Sunday, 29 November

The First Sunday of Advent
8 am Pro populo
9:30 am Jane Slattery
11 am Jamison Clark +

St. Ignatius Finance Council

Florian Hocke - *Co-Chair*
Jackie Chancio
Deacon Clark Glenn
Joseph Somerville
Clifford Woods

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historic
ST IGNATIUS
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. John Vidal

Pastor, St. Ignatius
Pastor, St. Luke's

Joint Pastoral Council

Randy King - *Co-chair*
Joseph Chancio • Rosemary Collier
Fran Doyle • James Guinivan
Ada Okafor • Elizabeth Shivone
Connie Somerville
Patrick Delaney - *ex officio*
Susan White - *ex officio*

St. Luke's Finance Council

Patrick Delaney - *Co-chair*
Nicole Crawford • Dave Hoppe
David Lewis • Franco Madan
Susan White - *ex officio*
Karen King - *ex officio*

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Saint Luké's at
IGNATIUS CHURCH