

The KING'S Connection

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Christ the King's Ministry of Moms Sharing: *Joining Together on the Journey to Christ*

While certainly rewarding, there is no denying that motherhood is difficult. It's a continuous calling to die to oneself in an effort to raise healthy, happy and holy children. It's a calling that parishioner Kristy Tucker says becomes much easier when surrounded by a loving and supportive faith community.

"Motherhood, let's face it, is just plain hard," she says. "It's a blessing, but it's also a journey, especially when you have to do it alone. So why not do it with friends — friends who can lead you closer to Christ and His Church?"

Kristy is one of the current coordinators of Cathedral of Christ the King's Ministry of Moms Sharing, or CTK MOMS, which has been gathering for over 15 years. The group's mission is to encourage, support and connect mothers so that they are better equipped to live out their vocation as wives and mothers. Though Catholic in its foundation, the group welcomes mothers from other parishes and even other faiths. In fact, it was the ministry that eventually led Kristy to become a parishioner here at Christ the King.

"It's really what introduced me to the parish itself," Kristy says. "I started

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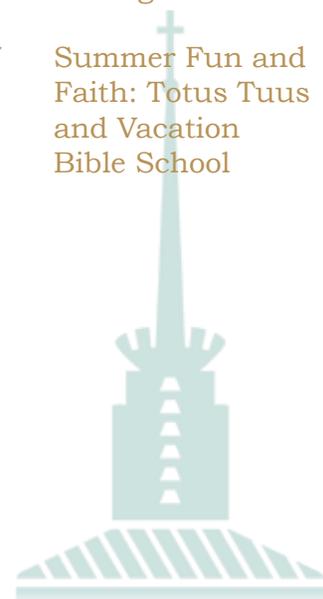


Women share in reading a great book during the CTK MOMS book study.

MAY 2020

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Christ the King's Ministry of Moms Sharing: *Joining Together on the Journey to Christ*

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seeing all the great things going on there. About two years after I started attending MOMS, my husband and I became official parishioners.”

In an effort to incorporate as many moms into the ministry as possible, CTK MOMS hosts a number of monthly gatherings. They typically meet the first and third Wednesday of the month from 9-11 a.m. in the Parish Life Center — one of the meetings operates as a book discussion, while a speaker is typically brought in for the second.

“We’ve had presentations on everything from a fashion consultant who tells you what not to wear, to a catechist sharing about the Jewish roots of Catholicism,” Kristy says. “We’ve also had a Zumba instructor come, as well as a counselor, so it really runs the gambit.”

CTK MOMS also hosts a monthly Wednesday evening gathering so as to better accommodate working mothers. Childcare is typically provided during these gatherings in an effort to make the ministry as accessible as possible for the women.

“I always tell moms, no shower required,” Kristy says. “You can show up in your PJs. Just making it out the door with the kids in tow is a major accomplishment!”

The ministry also hosts a monthly Moms’ Night Out as well as an annual retreat. In addition, members participate in various service opportunities, finding unique ways to give back to the community that fit within their current season of life.

“We try to keep our service projects low key because we are all moms and we know how busy our lives are,” Kristy says. “This year, our local foodbank was really in need of staples, for example, so we collected food.”

Though each coming from differing situations and faith journeys, they are all united by their motherhood building a strong sense of camaraderie amongst the women. And as their fellowship with one another grows, that trickles down to their families and the entire church community.

“It’s just been a huge blessing to have this loving environment where I can honestly share those growing pains of motherhood with other faith-filled women,” Kristy says. “It’s helped me in leaps in bounds.”

“This small fellowship of women is a wonderful example of community and has been such a blessing to my life,” adds fellow coordinator Ashley Izzo. “We have provided each other with support in all areas and I know I have grown spiritually during my time with this group. An added blessing is the community created by our children who have their own special church group while the moms meet.”



Some of the mothers at Christ the King's Ministry of Moms Sharing gather for a meeting.

The Ministry of Moms Sharing welcomes any mother interested in joining the group. Please refer to the parish bulletin for information on upcoming ministry dates, or contact Kristy Tucker at 859-492-7036.

In a Time of Crisis, *Building up Prayer*

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

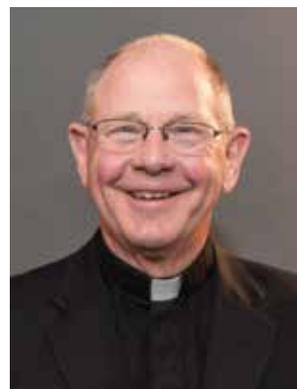
It is delicate to write a column at this stage of the Coronavirus, when the surge is expected to begin. We cannot predict in early April what the situation will be when you read this article in May. I can say that I am grateful for and edified by the ministry being offered by our pastoral team and by so many people throughout our faith community. I am grateful for and edified by the commitment to follow the directions for safety — social distance, hand washing, staying at home. I am grateful for and edified by your prayers and desire to trust the Providence of God.

The word “edify” means to build up, to strengthen, to foster improvement, especially on a moral, emotional or spiritual level. I believe many of us are having that same experience of edification.

We are realizing the importance of community. Just as one individual can pass the virus to the community, so the commitment of every individual within a community to practice safe behavior will diminish the power of the pandemic. We are called to care for people beyond our families and beyond our parish, beyond our city, and beyond our national boundaries. We are all in this together. No matter our socio-economic status, our faith, our race, our nation — we are all in this together.

We are worshiping as a virtual community. It

is amazing to draw spiritual nourishment from the many creative ways that Church services and Masses can be offered, but it is not the same as being physically together as a community. It is a wonderful expansion for many of us to experience the wealth of resources available through technology. But it is not the same as being



together, feeling the hopes, concerns, faith and solidarity that is provided by being together at the same experience on holy ground in our beautiful cathedral setting. It has been good to focus on prayer and faith development and faith sharing in our homes — it has been a powerful immersion into the call for families to be the “domestic Church,” but it is not the same as when we gather as a community of faith.

For many of us there is a long loneliness to the experience of isolation. Many of us live alone. Few of us are wired to be hermits. And we have been living with fear. The question has been “What will happen next?” We are terribly in touch with our vulnerability. We are overwhelmed with the magnitude of the pandemic.

We walk with faith through this crisis and we realize that many of us are plunged into another crisis, as we re-evaluate the mysterious power of the sacraments. Reception of a sacrament is an encounter with Jesus. Watching a sacrament on a screen can be prayerful and inspirational and lead us to Jesus. But it is not the same as receiving a sacrament.

Many of us have lived in an “either-or” approach to prayer on which we believe we can only encounter Jesus only in the actual reception of a sacrament. Now, through the electronic ministries, we experience a helpful

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The KING'S Connection

Liturgical Environment Committee

The Catholic Mass experience certainly makes use of our senses. Our senses of sight and smell are enhanced by the Liturgical Environment Committee here at the Cathedral. Members work hard to make our worship space look perfect, from the Nativity scene, Advent wreath and Christmas decorations during December, to lilies and other live plants for Easter.

"The main mission of our ministry is to lend beauty to our house of God — and thus, inspire all who worship there," says Deacon Al Wiemann. "Our Cathedral is a beautiful place to worship, and

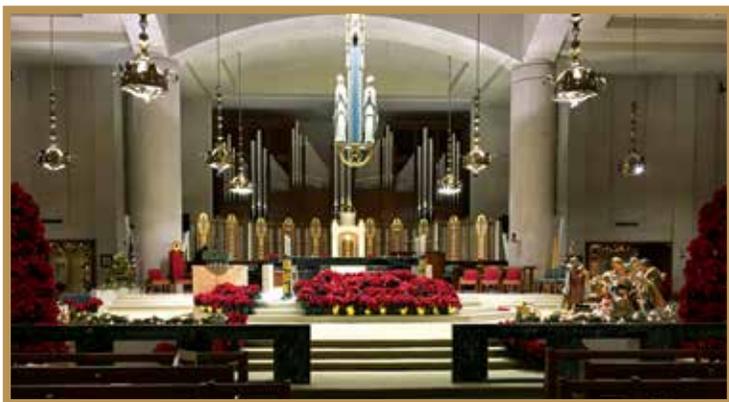
when it is decorously arranged, it should move us to appreciate more fully what God has created."

The Liturgical Environment Committee centers most of the decorating around the Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter seasons, but they also decorate for other feast days. Donated flowers are always welcome to add to the beauty — there is a Flower Dedication Program where parishioners may order arrangements for a chosen weekend in dedication of a special celebration, anniversary or person. All of these efforts keep our Cathedral looking beautiful.

Deacon Al appreciates the important work of the Liturgical Environment Committee members. With a small group, they get a lot of work done. The members use their eye for details and special talents to serve our Lord. As Deacon Al emphasizes, that is a blessing to us all.

"I think the sheer beauty of all of our efforts is the most rewarding aspect of this ministry," Deacon Al says. "Watching and working with others that are gifted in this realm is something to behold."

It's a blessing to have the opportunity to serve in a ministry that speaks to your talents — whether that is serving as a lector, ministering



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Art Keeps Our Parish Looking Beautiful

to the sick or cleaning the church. We all have talents that can glorify our Lord.

“The members of this ministry are putting their faith into action by engaging the art of their creativity in a visual way to express their belief — and thus, the belief of the whole parish,” Deacon Al says.

Overall, the purpose of this ministry is to lead people to God, especially during Mass.

“God is the source of all that is good, beautiful

and true — and things that are beautiful should lead worshipers back to God, the source of all creation,” Deacon Al says.

Deacon Al knows there is more decorating that can be done to honor the saints and other feast days. He also knows there are a lot of parishioners out there with a talent and love of decorating. He invites anyone to volunteer and help with the work of the Liturgical Environment Committee.

If you would like to get involved in the Liturgical Environment Committee, please contact Deacon Al or Grace Wiemann. Joe Buckman is the contact for the Flower Dedication program. Please refer to the bulletin for their information.

Cathedral of Christ the King Celebrates 75 years {1945-2020}

POSTPONED (Stay tuned for an alternate day): FAMILY DAY with an outdoor picnic, activities, and a movie. All plans are underway and we need your prayers so that this beginning celebration will be held as planned.

(Stay tuned for an alternate day): BUS TRIP TO CINCINNATI to the original Christ The King Church and other historic sites. We will visit Our Lord Christ the King Church in Mt. Lookout, Cinn. (designed by Edward Schulte, CTK Church architect); Cincinnati Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains (renovated by Schulte); lunch on a riverboat on the Ohio River and the final stop at the Cathedral of the Assumption in Covington, Ky.

Aug. 31: ECUMENICAL SERVICE with Churches in our area on Tates Creek Rd. (this area was all part of the original Henry Clay Estate and research is being done so we may have the exact area that was part of the estate that is now the Christ The King campus.)

Nov. 6: MAIN EVENT, with a Formal Dinner to be held in Hehman Hall and dancing.

Nov. 22: FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING, Bishop John celebrating Mass to close the year of celebrations.



The KING'S *Connection*

Keeping the Faith

During a Crisis



Adversity is a part of life. We may face family strife or financial issues. We may experience a personal or family medical crisis. We may suffer the loss of a loved one.

The thought of not being able to attend Mass to receive the Precious Body and Blood of our Lord as a result of a crisis — such as the one we are experiencing today with the COVID-19 pandemic — is devastating.

Right now, it may seem challenging to remain a faithful steward. We may even question our faith and wonder how to find God during these turbulent times.

Where do we turn?

First and foremost, we must pray without ceasing. During a difficult time, you can always turn to the Church's treasury of prayer. Take time each day to read the daily Scripture readings — they can be found at USCCB.org, and then by selecting the date on the calendar on the home page. You can also use the many rich resources of our faith to engage in spiritual reflections each day as an individual and with your family. This can include simple prayers like an *Our Father* and *Hail Mary* a few times a day, as well as praying the Rosary, the Liturgy of the Hours, and Stations of the Cross, among others. Many resources for these are easily found online.

It is also important to remember that at times when you cannot physically attend Mass, Sunday remains a holy day, and you are encouraged to pray. You can participate in prayer by way of televised or live-streamed Mass — one option for viewing daily Mass online can be found at www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass.

During times of crisis, we must also find ways to use our talents to serve God. If you are unable to participate in ministries and serve your parish community, you can still use your talents to serve your family and those closest to you. Something as simple as calling to check on family and friends — or even doing a video call — can go a long way.

Finally, we must try to remain good stewards of our treasure. You may have lost your job or have seen a reduction in work hours and pay. But despite your hardships, a faithful steward must faithfully try his or her best to return a portion of your treasure to God however He is calling you to do so. Check the parish website for online giving opportunities and do what you can to return a portion of your treasure to God.

No matter the situation, God always remains faithful to us. Don't forget that everything God gives us is a gift, and the way in which we share our gifts with God and our neighbor is ultimately how we give Him glory.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

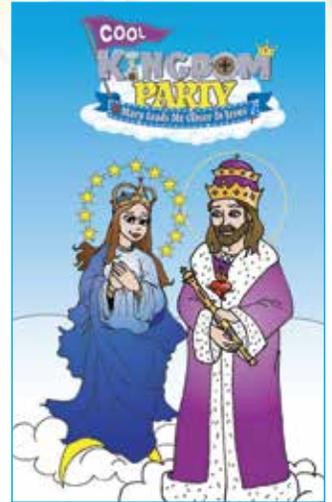
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Summer Fun and Faith: Totus Tuus and Vacation Bible School



Family vacations, baseball games, swimming — there are so many things to love about summer. And for many children and youth at Cathedral of Christ the King, our Totus Tuus program and Vacation Bible School (VBS) are often at the top of that list. Each summer, the young people of our parish have the opportunity to learn more about their faith in an engaging and fun-filled environment, and this year, we hope your child or children will be among them.

“I hope through these events, children will learn more about our Catholic faith, make new friends at our parish, and associate church as a fun, comfortable place where they feel the love,” says Karen Kirkland, Coordinator of Children’s Catechesis.

Totus Tuus will take place the week of June 21-26, with programs for both children in kindergarten through fifth grade, and teens from sixth through 12th grades. The program for teens begins on a Sunday night and continues through Thursday night, from 7-9:30 each evening. The children’s program runs during the day, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. The week is hosted by young adult missionaries, who will be serving in parishes all around our diocese this summer. The cost for the week is \$50 per person and includes opportunities for children to learn about different mysteries of the Rosary in an engaging and interactive way.

“It’s really fun,” Karen says. “They do catechesis and the team does silly skits and games — the kids love it.”

Vacation Bible School takes place the week of July 27-31, in the evenings from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Designed for children ages 3 through 11, the theme for this year’s VBS is “Cool Kingdom Party: Mary Leads Me Closer to Jesus.” With the goal of helping children

grow in their relationship with the Blessed Mother, the children participate in music, games, crafts and other activities. The cost is \$50 per person for the week, with a discount for families with multiple children.

“It’s very active,” Karen says. “We usually have around 200 little ones. The kids have a blast, and they’re learning about Jesus and Mary and our faith in a fun way. That makes it more attractive for children.”

Teen volunteers are still needed to help with Vacation Bible School. Karen encourages youth to consider the opportunity to gain service hours, while also serving as role models for the younger members of our parish community.

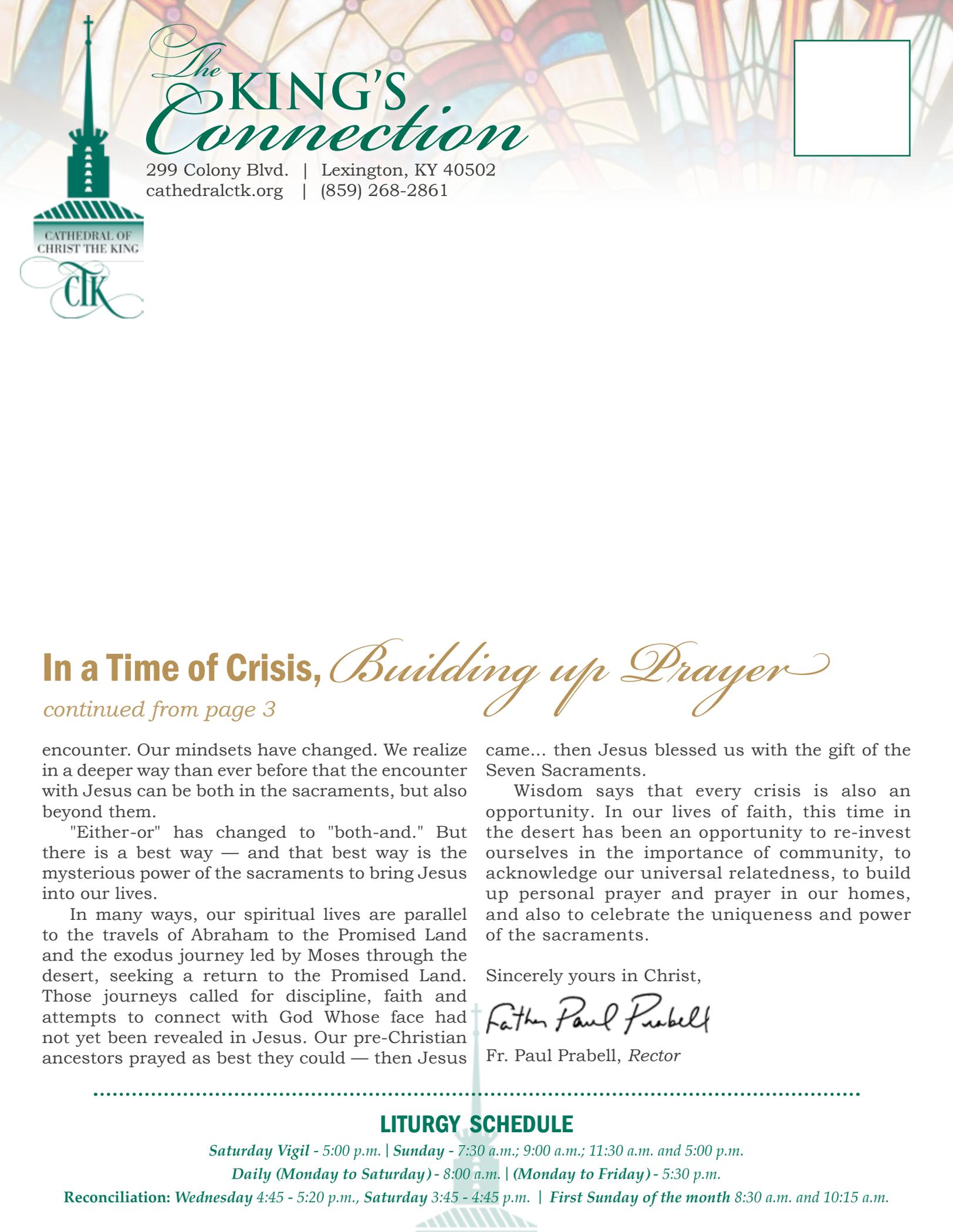
“Little kids always look up to bigger kids, and when they see that they’re up here and they’re talking about the faith, it’s cool,” Karen says. “I think all those things help with the seeds we’re planting.”

Karen encourages parents and families to consider investing in their children’s faith over the summer months through programs like Totus Tuus and Vacation Bible School.

“As you’re planning activities and childcare this summer, why not use a week or two to reinforce the things they’ve learned the past year, either in Catholic school or religious education?” Karen says. “I try to create a feeling of warmth, so they know that people here love them and it’s a fun place to be. I want church to be their refuge, a place they can come and feel comfortable and loved and have fun. Just give it a try!”

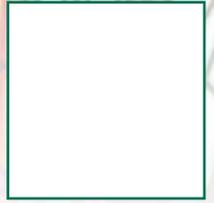
If you would like more information, or to register for Totus Tuus or Vacation Bible School, please visit the parish website at www.cathedralctk.org/children. You may also call Karen Kirkland, Coordinator of Children’s Catechesis, at 859-266-0302 or ctkccd@cdlex.org.

Karen also invites our children and youth to participate in our monthly Friday Night Catechesis events. These fun evenings are an opportunity for mom and dad to have a date night, while children enjoy pizza, games and a movie. Cost is \$30 per family, with all proceeds benefiting Children’s Faith Formation.



The KING'S *Connection*

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In a Time of Crisis, *Building up Prayer*

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encounter. Our mindsets have changed. We realize in a deeper way than ever before that the encounter with Jesus can be both in the sacraments, but also beyond them.

"Either-or" has changed to "both-and." But there is a best way — and that best way is the mysterious power of the sacraments to bring Jesus into our lives.

In many ways, our spiritual lives are parallel to the travels of Abraham to the Promised Land and the exodus journey led by Moses through the desert, seeking a return to the Promised Land. Those journeys called for discipline, faith and attempts to connect with God Whose face had not yet been revealed in Jesus. Our pre-Christian ancestors prayed as best they could — then Jesus

came... then Jesus blessed us with the gift of the Seven Sacraments.

Wisdom says that every crisis is also an opportunity. In our lives of faith, this time in the desert has been an opportunity to re-invest ourselves in the importance of community, to acknowledge our universal relatedness, to build up personal prayer and prayer in our homes, and also to celebrate the uniqueness and power of the sacraments.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Fr. Paul Prabell, *Rector*

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil - 5:00 p.m. | *Sunday* - 7:30 a.m.; 9:00 a.m.; 11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Daily (Monday to Saturday) - 8:00 a.m. | *(Monday to Friday)* - 5:30 p.m.

Reconciliation: *Wednesday* 4:45 - 5:20 p.m., *Saturday* 3:45 - 4:45 p.m. | *First Sunday of the month* 8:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.