Jesus Christ

is the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth. To him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 1:5, 6
Dear Friends,

Today we celebrate the feast of Christ the King, our parish feast. So on behalf of the priests and the staff, I would like to extend to all of you Happy Feast of Christ the King! The following article is taken from the writings of Ian Ruth-erford.

The solemnity is a newer feast in the Catholic Church. Pope Pius XI established it in 1925. The pontiff was witness to a turbulent time in the world's history. Secularism was on the rise and dangerous dictatorships were emerging in Europe and beyond. Christ had long been referred to as King, but Pope Pius and the Christian faithful saw the respect and reverence for Christ's authority waning in the midst of the unrest during the first part of the 20th century. In response, the feast was set with the intent to reaffirm and refocus faith and respect in the kingship of Jesus. Pope Pius XI wrote:

“When once men recognize, both in private and in public life, that Christ is King, society will at last receive the great blessings of real liberty, well-ordered discipline, peace and harmony. Our Lord's regal office invests the human authority of princes and rulers with a religious significance; it ennobles the citizen's duty of obedience. It is for this reason that St. Paul, while bidding wives revere Christ in their husbands, and slaves respect Christ in their masters, warns them to give obedience to them not as men, but as the viceregents of Christ; for it is not meet that men redeemed by Christ should serve their fellow-men. 'You are bought with a price; be not made the bond-slaves of men.'

If princes and magistrates duly elected are filled with the persuasion that they rule, not by their own right, but by the mandate and in the place of the Divine King, they will exercise their authority piously and wisely, and they will make laws and administer them, having in view the common good and also the human dignity of their subjects. The result will be a stable peace and tranquility, for there will be no longer any cause of discontent.

Men will see in their king or in their rulers men like themselves, perhaps unworthy or open to criticism, but they will not on that account refuse obedience if they see reflected in them the authority of Christ God and Man. Peace and harmony, too, will result; for with the spread and the universal extent of the kingdom of Christ men will become more and more conscious of the link that binds them together, and thus many conflicts will be either prevented entirely or at least their bitterness will be diminished.”

Advent 2018: A desperate search for perfect gifts may be part of many people's Advent days, but Pope Francis thinks it might be even tougher to find the perfect Advent atmosphere: a bit of silence. It is good during this season to listen to God, who speaks quietly, tenderly, like a mother or father, the pope stressed in another Advent homily. "When a child has a bad dream and wakes up crying, Dad goes and says: 'Don't be afraid, don't be scared. I'm here.' The Lord speaks this way too." That, said the pope, "is the music of the language of the Lord, and we, in preparation for Christmas, ought to hear it." While Christmas usually "seems to be a very noisy holiday," he was confident "it would do us good to have a little silence and to hear these words of love, these words of such nearness, these words of tenderness." (NCR)

Please take an advent book with you today! Fr. Paulson

Feast of Christ the King
November 25, 2018

First Reading: Daniel 7:13-14

The book of Daniel was written 150 years before Christ, when the Jews were experiencing fierce persecution. The author wanted to encourage the people by telling heroic stories about a person named Daniel who lived many centuries earlier. Today’s reading describes his vision of heaven, and is written in symbolic language - similar to the book of Revelation. The term “Son of Man” indicated a human chosen by God for a special purpose. Christians have applied this vision to Jesus.

Second Reading: Revelation 1:5-8

The book of Revelation was not intended to predict actual people and events in later times. It was rather intended to be a source of hope for Christians toward the end of the first century who were suffering persecution. Today’s passage is from the very beginning of the book and is part of a greeting from God to the persecuted people.

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It's that time of year! Wreaths are arriving just in time for the holidays! Boy Scouts will be selling fresh Christmas wreaths outside of church after all masses, beginning this weekend. Cash and checks accepted. Be sure to support the local Scouts while adorning your home for the holidays.

The Book is Here! Fr. Brian Joyce’s latest book, “The Baltimore Catechism Revisited”, will soon be available on the CTK church patio area for $10. Fr. Brian shares teachings from the book which educated many of us as children in the Catholic faith. Then he helps us look at today’s adult faith. Don’t miss it!

Do you have young children? Are you hoping to grow in your faith as a family? Are you looking to connect with other families and serve your community? If so, join us for Young Families Ministry - small groups that meet once a month to promote social connection, faith development, family support and service within CTK. Email us at YoungFamiliesCTK@gmail.com.

Looking for a way to celebrate Advent? Magnificat SOTI, a Ministry for Catholic women invite all to join them at their Prayer Breakfast. December 8, 9:30 - 1:30 - The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated at 9:30, followed by breakfast and speaker, Fr. Spencer. Crowne Plaza, 45 John Glenn Drive, Concord. Call Kim at 683-8220 for questions. Join us for a morning of Praise, Prayer and Inspiration.

Save the Date! The Knights of Columbus 2019 Basketball Free Throw/ 3 Point Competition will be held on January 27, 2019. More information soon!

SIMBANG GABI -- The Filipino Society of Christ the King invites you to join in the celebration of "Simbang Gabi", a nine-day novena in preparation for the birth of Jesus, at Christ the King Church from December 15th to the 23rd. Mass begins at 6:30 p.m. every night (except Sunday, Dec. 16, and Sunday, Dec. 23, when mass begins at 6 p.m.). Mass on Tuesday, Dec. 18, will be held in the gym. Light refreshments in the parish hall will be served after each mass. Then join us for a nice celebration and dinner after the conclusion of mass on the 23rd. For additional information, please contact Imelda Santos (623-7340) or Maritess Baula (899-9078).

Reasons for Hope:
December Retreats at San Damiano
11/30-12/2: Silent Advent Retreat - We will explore through scripture; the writings of St. Francis & Clare; and silence; the hope advent brings.
12/8: (Re)discovering Hope - Advent Day of Renewal.
12/7-12/8: Discovering Meaning & Purpose in Retirement Years. Presented by Jim Briggs.
12/30-1/1: New Years’ Eve Retreat For more information and to sign up, please visit www.sandamiano.org or call 925-837-9141 x 315.

Free legal representation for immigration. Catholic Charities is offering free legal representation for those interested in becoming U.S. citizens. Interested individuals can call 925.825.3099 to make an appointment for the first or third Tuesdays of each month. For more information, contact Deanna Salazar at 925.771.8254 or dsalazar@cceb.org.

Night of the Father's Love, a Christmas Musical Celebration will be held on Dec. 8 at 8 p.m. at St. Bonaventure Catholic Community, 5562 Clayton Rd., Concord. Enjoy the music from the ecumenical choir and orchestra, and join them in well-known carols. A freewill offering will be collected. A reception follows.

Christmas Open House at San Damiano. Free!!
Dec. 2, 2 pm - 5 pm. Enjoy an afternoon sipping cider and tasting holiday treats. Shop for Christmas presents in the gift shop and then relax in our newly remodeled Fireside Lounge. Please bring non-perishable items for our food drive. 710 Highland Dr. Danville.

The Light for Others Catholic Group sponsors the movie, “The Christmas Blessing”, December 8 at 10 am. This heartwarming film will touch viewers of all ages with a message of hope, healing, sacrifice, love and that God is a God of loving kindness. Rossmoor Peacock Hall Theater, 1001 Golden Rain Rd, WC. Call Nel at 925-984-5552 for more info.

Do you have extra Lego's? CTK School is working on some fun projects using the Lego wall in the Media Center. If you have standard sized Lego's you're no longer using and would like to donate them, please send in to the school office in care of Mr. Witte.

Book of Remembrance is in the front of the church near the baptism font. All are welcome to write in the names of your deceased loved ones. These people are especially remembered during the month of November - the month of All Souls.

This weekend, our second collection will be for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Over 43 million people in the US live in poverty. This collection supports programs to empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face as they work to bring permanent and positive change to their communities. Thank you for your support.

Forgot your cash, checkbook or donation envelope? Scan this QR code to connect with our donation site.
St. Vincent de Paul
Annual Food Collection

To support St. Vincent de Paul, please bring bags of groceries! Below are the requested items. Please only bring groceries from this list!
(normal sizes only—no giant sizes, no glass)

Any kind of canned vegetables
Any kind of canned beans
Pasta, rice, dried beans
Canned fruit, tuna, soups, tomato sauce, peanut butter and cereal

**We need grocery bags also**

Drop off bags in front of church through December 16th.

Thank you for your generosity!

Support our Food Drives!

The weekend of December 1st and 2nd, members of our Faith in Action team will hand out boxes after masses. The boxes will have a list of food and directions for delivery. This program offers families the opportunity to enjoy the holidays without the worry of food insecurity.

Thank you for your support!