



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.

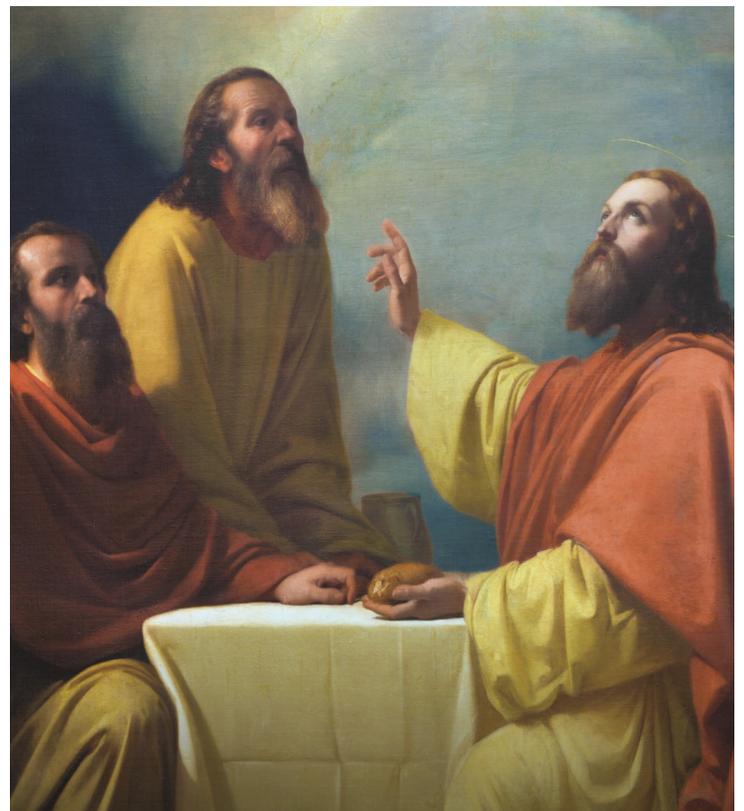
PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

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)



6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

“I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth.” - Jn 14:16-17a

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

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The following Mass Intentions will be honored by Monsignor Sullivan this week:

- Saturday—May 16th**
Robert Conroy (9th anniv.) req. of family
- Sunday—May 17th**
Parishioners of Christ the King
- Monday—May 18th**
James and Stacia Hammond (mem.) req. of family
- Tuesday—May 19th**
Helen T. Foley (mem.) req. of Jim and Mary Hines
- Wednesday—May 20th**
Bernadette M. Baniukiewicz (21st anniv.) req. of family
- Thursday—May 21st**
Dan and Mary DePasquale (mem.) req. of the family of Mauro and Tracy DePasquale
- Friday—May 22nd**
William Hovenesian (mem.) req. of family
- Saturday—May 23rd**
Ann Cooper (mem.) req. of family
- Sunday—May 24th**
Parishioners of Christ the King

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Joanne F. Holden, Russell Hauver, Thomas H. Davis, and Edith Jackson.**

**BAPTISM PREP SESSIONS
& CELEBRATIONS**

During this unique time in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis please just call Monsignor Sullivan to inquire about baptisms and discuss your hopes and arrangements - at 508-754-5361 - or email him at: tsullivan5@mac.com.

**A Prayer in Time
of Pandemic**

O God, whose Only Begotten Son bore the weight of human suffering for our salvation, hear the prayers of your Church for our sick brothers and sisters and deliver us from this time of trial. Open our ears and our hearts to the voice of your Son: *Be not afraid, for I am with you always.* Bless all doctors and nurses, researchers and public servants. Give us the wisdom to do what is right and the faith to endure this hour, that we might gather once again to praise your name in the heart of your Church, delivered from all distress and confident in your mercy. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Recent Offertory Donations

In light of the suspension of all Masses our donations have been smaller, as you would expect. Some have been dropping their donations through the door slot at the rectory and others have mailed them in. On March 23rd we began online giving through our website (you can do that at ctkworc.org). Since our report last weekend your new online contributions have been as follows:

Offertory: \$7,282.50; **Online Giving:** \$5,464.00;
Easter: \$78.00; **Good Friday:** \$15.00; **Mass Stipends:** \$60.00;
Ascension: \$75.00; **Easter Flowers:** \$5.00; **Catholic Relief:** \$25.00.

Total: \$13,004.50

**Announcing A New Bible
Series for the Coming Year**

Monsignor Sullivan will offer a new Bible series for the year ahead (free of charge, of course). It will feature a complete study of **The Gospel of St. Luke**, a rich and colorful Gospel. Recall the previous programs offered in recent years: the *Gospel of St. Mark*, the *Acts of the Apostles*, the *Letters of St. Paul* and the *Confessions of St. Augustine*. In the new format there will be twelve sessions, each devoted to two chapters of Luke's 24-chapter Gospel. The program will take place in the Johnson Room on Monday evenings, from 7:15 to 8:30 pm, and begin the week after the Novena to St. Joseph concludes. The dates are November 16, 23, 30; December 7, 14, 21; January 4, 11, 18, 25; February 1 & 8. If you are interested you can email him at any time (tsullivan5@mac.com) or call him at 508-754-5361.

**Mass this Thursday?
For the Feast of the Ascension?**

This Thursday, May 21, the Catholic Church celebrates the annual Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. Typically, this is a holyday of obligation. Currently, the obligation to participate in the Mass on Sundays and holydays has been suspended by Bishop McManus because of the pandemic. However, tomorrow is May 18 and we anticipate that Governor Baker will make some announcements regarding possible re-openings. We await his new guidelines and a similar instruction from Bishop McManus. If there is an 'opening' for public Masses sometime this week we will notify you of the Ascension Mass schedule through *Flocknotes*. It is likely to be a different Mass schedule than our usual holy day schedule. And there would not be a 9:00 am Mass here since Msgr. Sullivan will be offering Mass on television at 9:00 am that morning (Channel 193, Spectrum/Charter).

Please 'Make Up' Your Envelopes

We realize that our parishioners have not been able to come to Mass since early March. For those who have not made online donations or who have not mailed in or dropped off their offertory envelopes we hope that you will 'make up' your Offertory envelopes for the weeks of this pandemic. Then, the parish will be able to meet its fiscal obligations. Thank you for your goodness and generosity.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

For Catholics who wish to know more about their faith, we announce...

'Pivotal Players'
Coming Here this Fall!

Let us know if you wish to participate!

Christ the King will offer 'Pivotal Players,' the highly acclaimed 'New Evangelization' program on **Thursday evenings this coming fall**. All are welcome and be sure to invite your friends. The program was produced by Bishop Robert Barron and the *Word on Fire* initiative. We'll offer special DVD presentations of the highest quality and have discussion groups. The program **begins on Thursday, September 10, at 7:00 p.m.** (with dinner). Each Thursday we will begin with dinner (free will offerings accepted). The program concludes by 9:00 p.m. each evening.

The schedule is as follows: *St. Francis of Assisi: The Reformer* (Sept. 10); *St. Thomas Aquinas: The Theologian* (Sept. 17); *St. Catherine of Siena: The Mystic* (Sept. 24); *St. John Henry Newman: The Convert* (Oct. 1); *G.K. Chesterton: The Evangelist* (Oct. 8); *Michelangelo: The Artist* (Oct. 15); *St. Augustine: The Teacher* (Oct. 22); *St. Benedict: The Monk* (Oct. 29), *Bishop Fulton J. Sheen: The Communicator* (Nov. 5); *Flannery O'Connor: The Storyteller* (Nov. 12).

Please let Msgr. Tom know if you would like to participate. You can call him at **508-754-5361** or email him at **tsullivan5@mac.com**.

Mary and the Month of May

Among Catholics, May is well-known as "Mary's Month," a specific month of the year when special devotions are performed in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

There are many different factors that contributed to this association. First of all, in ancient Greece and Rome the month of May was dedicated to pagan goddesses connected to fertility and springtime (Artemis and Flora, respectively). This, combined with other European rituals commemorating the new season of spring, led many Western cultures to view May as a month of life and motherhood.

In the early Church there is evidence of a major feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary celebrated on the 15th of May each year, but it wasn't until the 18th century that May received a particular association with the Virgin Mary and the Jesuits had a major role in initiating this tradition. In 1945, Pope Pius XII solidified May as a Marian month after establishing the feast of the Queenship of Mary on May 31st. After the Second Vatican Council, this feast was moved to August 22nd, while May 31st became the feast of the Visitation of Mary. The month of May is one rich in tradition and a beautiful time of the year to honor our heavenly mother.

Regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic

We all anticipate any new guidelines that Governor Baker will give to the people of Massachusetts tomorrow, May 18th. Bishop McManus has been observing the Governor's guidelines with great vigilance. We realize some current 'protocols' might change soon but perhaps not. Thus, for the moment...

Msgr. Sullivan is **hearing confessions out-of-doors on Saturdays between 2:45 and 3:45 pm (in the rear of the church)** or by **calling him in advance (508-754-5361)**. However, the anonymity of the penitents is not possible. The penitent remains in his/her car and social distancing is maintained.

All daily and Sunday Masses are suspended. The obligation to take part in the Mass on Sundays and Holy days of Obligation is lifted. All scheduled Mass intentions are being honored by Msgr. Sullivan. The church is open for private **prayer between 8:00 am and 6:30 pm** as long as the number of persons present at any time does not exceed **10 persons**.

Parishioners are encouraged to **watch Mass on television**. Two daily Masses are offered by using the home page on our website: **ctkwork.org**. A live broadcast of the Sunday Mass will be offered at 10:00 am on Sunday mornings on Charter channel 193. It will be repeated at 6:00 pm. Weekday Masses will be offered at 9:00 am on **Spectrum/Charter channel 193**. The readings for the Mass each day can be found on the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, at **www.usccb.org**.

Funeral Masses may be celebrated with the immediate family only (limited to **5 people**). Families have been provided the opportunity to celebrate only the Rites of Committal at the cemetery (with a Funeral or Memorial Mass scheduled when the crisis is over) and Msgr. Sullivan has performed several of these committals.

Parish priests are not permitted access to our hospitals, nursing homes, rehab centers, assisted living facilities or people's homes. In the hospitals only existing in-house priests provide pastoral care. A few priests in the City of Worcester have been trained and assigned to care for those who are **actively dying**.

Priests are urged to **remain in the rectory** and maintain phone, email and social media contact with parishioners.

We're Still Planning A Vacation Bible School this Summer

This summer, Christ the King is still planning a Vacation Bible School even though we are living with clouds of uncertainty about future plans. A Vacation Bible School is a fun morning program for children, ages 4-10, filled with songs, crafts, games, and Bible lessons. Our Vacation Bible School will be run the week of **July 13-17 from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.** Be sure to mark it on your calendar. Registration information will be coming soon! In order to run a Vacation Bible School we need a few volunteers to help out: about 4 adults to run various stations the children go to and several teens to help lead the groups of kids and run the music and outdoor game areas. Running a station is easy with the materials we provide. If you are interested in helping contact **Judi Brennan** at **ctkedu1052@gmail.com**.

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.

Partners in Charity!

Please Contribute
Diocesan Goal: \$5 million
36% of CTK Families Have Donated

The Diocese has only achieved 55% of its goal this year which is well behind where we would normally be and as you might expect given the coronavirus pandemic. Our Diocese needs your assistance if you have not already made a gift.

For those who have not already donated we ask your **kind consideration of a gift** to the 2020 Annual Partners in Charity Appeal. Donor envelopes can be found in the book rack in the church foyer. Please be generous and return the envelope through the mail or by dropping it off through the mail slot at the rectory's front door. **All checks** should be made payable to **"Partners in Charity"** (not Christ the King). Or you can offer your gift online this year. In that case please go to partners-charity.net/donate.

Your gift will help the Diocese implement its essential charitable, pastoral and educational works in the year ahead. Tens of thousands of people are the beneficiaries of our charitable giving. Hopefully, you will consider making a gift from your generosity and spirit of sacrifice. We hope you'll be generous in making a gift which reflects your gratitude to God for all you have. Thank you!

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.

Church Floors Cleaned

During this unusual 'downtime' in the use of the church we took the opportunity the week before last to completely clean and polish all of our floors in the worship space. It took two men three days to strip off the old wax, wash and rinse the floors several times, and put several new coats of wax onto the floors. They are now gorgeous again and they gleam. We are grateful. Some will recall that we did this same job four summers ago. Then just two months later we had parts of our ceiling cave in. Scaffolding went up and all the necessary repairs were made over three months but the floors took a beating and we've never had a chance to renew them until now. This job should serve us well in the years ahead.

DRIVE-BY BLESSINGS TODAY

Our Sunday drive-by blessings have been well appreciated. Msgr. Sullivan will bless any who come **today, Sunday, May 17th, from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm**. Just drive into the church parking lot and he will be happy to bless you.

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!

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. Msgr. Sullivan is speaking with our parishioners on the phone and communicating by email. Mindy Dulude is in the office and receiving calls each morning. Judi Brennan has emailed lessons for our religious education families and has been assisting families from her home. You are constantly in our thoughts and prayers! 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, I'd 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.

And we have created an option for simple online giving. 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.

Novena to St. Joseph Begins in September!

Our **9th Annual Novena to St. Joseph** begins on **Monday, September 14**, at 7:15 pm. Running for nine consecutive Mondays it will conclude on November 9. Each evening lasts just 45 minutes and concludes with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The Novena is open to all who wish to come. Beginning in August parishioners can call or email us the names of those who are seriously or terminally ill for whom we will pray.

Our homilists this year are: **Msgr. Sullivan** (Sept. 14); **Msgr. F. Stephen Pedone** (Sept. 21); **Bishop Robert J. McManus** (Sept. 28); **Fr. Stephen Gemme** (Oct. 5); **Fr. John Gavin, SJ** (Oct. 12); **Msgr. Peter Beaulieu** (Oct. 19); **Catherine Pimley** (Oct. 26); **'Jo' Massarelli** (Nov. 2); and **Msgr. Sullivan** (Nov. 9).

USE OUR PARISH WEBSITE

A great deal of work has gone into updating our parish website. You can easily find it at www.ctkworc.org.

St. John Paul II's Centenary of birth ~ Tomorrow

Born Karol Józef Wojtyła, St. John Paul II came into the world on May 18, 1920. He made history in 1978 by becoming the first non-Italian pope in more than 400 years and served in that role for a remarkable twenty-six-and-a-half years. The unprecedented features of his pontificate were that he visited 130 countries, published 14 encyclicals and scores of other major documents, and canonized more saints (482) than any other pope in history. By the millions people came out to pray with him.

St. John Paul II has already been called the most important world leader in the second half of the 20th Century. He helped bring an end to the Cold War through his support of the Polish trade union, *Solidarity*, and the Polish freedom movement. He was a prophetic voice for humanity and reconciliation, supporting humanitarian intervention but opposing war. He urged rich countries to give more generously to development. And he greatly improved relations between Catholics and Jews, began dialogues with Muslims, and urged unity with Orthodox Christians that will bear fruit in the years ahead.

But above all he was an evangelist. He went into the world and preached the gospel of Christ. The importance of love and the dignity of every human life were the central themes of his writing and preaching. And he perhaps stated this best in the opening words of his encyclical, *Evangelium Vitae* (The Gospel of Life), when he wrote, “Even in the midst of difficulties and uncertainties, every person sincerely open to truth and goodness can, by the light of reason and the hidden action of grace, come to recognize in the natural law written in the heart the sacred value of human life from its very beginning until its end, and can affirm the right of every human being to have this primary good respected to the highest degree.”

St. John Paul II was a gift to the world.
