



Christ the King Parish

PASTOR

Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. Sullivan

IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Msgr. Richard F. Reidy, Vicar General

DIRECTOR OF LITURGICAL MUSIC

Ellen Linn

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades 1-6

Anne Thompson

Grades 7-10 & Confirmation

Msgr. Thomas Sullivan

Email: tsullivan5@mac.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INQUIRIES:

reledctkworc@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Mindy A. Dulude

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: Please watch our bulletin for posted times

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](mailto:mindy1052@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

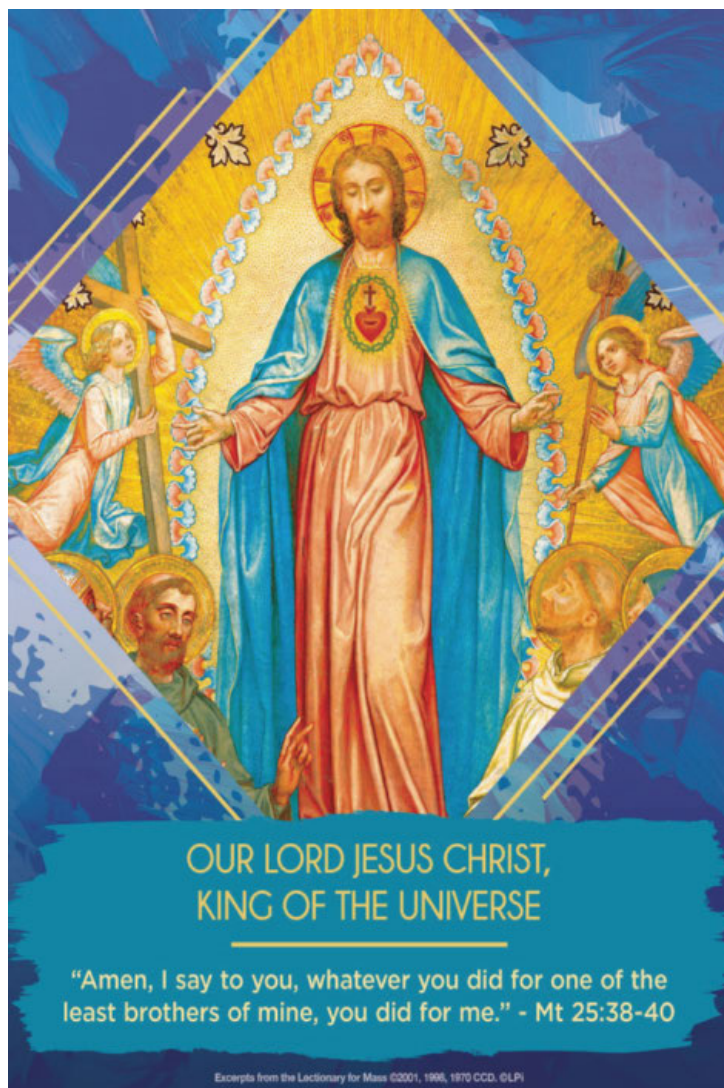
Baptisms celebrated occasionally at public Mass or privately. Please see information inside this bulletin.

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.





Saturday—November 25th

4:00PM Patricia Coyne (mem.) req. of Mary Boyer

Sunday—November 26th

7:30AM Parishioners of Christ the King

9:00AM Matthew Wallace (6th anniv.) req. of family

11:00AM Timothy Haylon (mem.) req. of The Rushton Family

Monday—November 27th

7:00AM Paula Kosky Hamann (4th anniv.) req. of Bill & Janet Kosky

Tuesday—November 28th

7:00AM Caterina and Alphonso Minardi (mem.) req. of family

Friday—December 1st

7:00AM Andrew Black (22nd anniv.) req. of family

Saturday—December 2nd

4:00PM James J. Pappas (16th anniv.) req. of family

Sunday—December 3rd

7:30AM James and Stacia Hammond mem.) req. of family

9:00AM Parishioners of Christ the King

11:00AM Amos E. Wasgatt, III (mem.), Elizabeth “Betty” Wasgatt (mem.), Amos E. Wasgatt, Jr. (mem.), Kenneth Anderson (mem.), Barbara Wasgatt (mem.) and Joseph D’Ambra (mem.) req. of family

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the soul of **William J. Standring**, the brother of David Standring.

March for Life Registration Open!

Plan now to attend the 51st annual March for Life in Washington, DC on Friday, Jan. 19, 2024! Buses will leave from St. Paul’s Cathedral on Thursday, Jan. 18 following the Respect Life Mass at 7:30 p.m., and will travel to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC in time for Friday morning Mass followed by the March for Life at noon. Buses will return to Worcester immediately following the March, arriving back at St. Paul’s at approximately 1:00 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 20. Cost is \$125 per seat. Registration deadline is December 15. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. For more details and to download registration forms, visit www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life or contact the Respect Life Office at 508-929-4311 or email aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org. *Can’t attend this year but want to help?* Consider donating to help defray expenses for students who want to attend but might otherwise find it difficult to do so. 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.

COME TO DAILY MASS!

As you can, please consider coming to our daily Masses (Monday-Friday at 7:00 am and 8:00 am on Saturdays). This week we celebrate **St. Andrew the Apostle** (Thursday) and the **Blessed Virgin Mary** (Saturday).

Offertory

Many thanks to all those who regularly support our parish with their financial gifts. Due to the Thanksgiving holiday this bulletin had to go to press prior to last weekend so we could not convey your offerings for November 18 and 19. They will be reported in the next bulletin.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION PROGRAM

All parents must participate in a preparation session if this is their first child and/or if they do not worship at Sunday Masses. Parents whose children are not yet born may participate in the program if they like. Please call Monsignor Sullivan (508-754-5361) to register for a meeting time. The **next scheduled sessions** (*Sundays, 1:00 to 2:30 pm in the rectory*) for the year ahead are: **2023: December 3** and in **2024**, they are **January 14, March 10 and May 19**. Baptisms take place on select Sundays at the 11:00 am Mass (or sometimes privately). The scheduled **dates for the actual baptisms** at the **11:00 am Mass** on Sundays are: **2023: December 10**. In **2024**, they are **January 21, April 7, May 5, and June 11**. Parents work with Msgr. Sullivan to establish an appropriate date for the actual baptism.

The Wisdom of the Saints

“Good, better, best. Never let it rest. ‘til your good is better and your better best.” *St. Jerome*

**CTK’s ‘Catholic Men’s Group’
Each First Friday
December 1, 7:30-8:30 pm**

Parish men continue to meet for prayer and spiritual development for one hour in the evening on First Friday in the church. 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. The group will meet **this coming Friday, December 1, from 7:30 to 8:30 pm**.

Making Parish Donations Online

We ask all parishioners to please continue your support of the parish offertory. 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.**’ You can donate using your credit card. Many thanks.

Changing Christmas 2023 Masses

This year, Christmas Eve, December 24, falls on a Sunday. It is a Sunday divided into two liturgical seasons. In the morning is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. The afternoon is Christmas Eve when vigil Masses are offered. If we were to follow custom, there would be six Masses celebrated that day (three on Sunday morning and three additional ones later in the day). The Parish Council has discussed this at its two most recent meetings and agrees that it is too unrealistic a schedule, especially considering the burden it places on our choirs to say nothing of our priests. There has also been the concern that the late-night Christmas Eve Mass, traditionally celebrated here at 10:00 pm, has been attracting so few congregants (especially since COVID). The concert before that Mass, for which the Festival Choir practices for weeks, had about five persons attend last year. So, we are discontinuing our late-night Mass on Christmas Eve.

On Sunday, December 24, we will have our 3 morning Advent Masses, the regular Sunday schedule. Then later, Christmas Eve Masses will be celebrated at 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm. On Monday, December 25, Christmas morning, the Mass schedule will be as it has been. Masses will be celebrated at 8:00 am and 10:00 am.

We thank you for your understanding. We will see how this goes and review our plan in 2024.

Advent Wreaths For Sale December 2 & 3

Next week our own Pack 37 Cub Scouts will be selling hand-made Advent wreaths after each Mass. The scouts have been working on these wreaths at den meetings the past two months and are excited to offer them to you! 100% of the proceeds will go directly to funding scout activities. Each wreath is \$20. Cash or check payable to "Pack 37" will be accepted. If you would like to preorder a wreath, please email: pack37cubmaster@gmail.com or call Tony Penny at 508-826-2956. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS' Annual Diaper Drive

You can Still Help us!

In recent years our Knights of Columbus Council has worked with Catholic Charities to make the Diaper Drive successful. It serves the needs of untold numbers of poor mothers in Worcester County. Catholic Charities has established a program where they will purchase diapers at a low, wholesale price. The typical monthly cost for poor mothers is about *\$80 per month per child*. This is difficult for many struggling families in our area. We still hope to raise **\$5,000** to assist Catholic Charities in their hope of purchasing and distributing 50,000 diapers in the year ahead. Please donate if you are able. You can send your gift in an envelope marked: Knights of Columbus, c/o Christ the King Church, 1052 Pleasant Street, Worcester, MA 01602. Or drop an envelope in the Sunday collection marked for Knights of Columbus Diapers. If you use a *check* please make it *payable* to *'Knights of Columbus Council 12691'* (not Christ the King). Or you can make an online donation at: www.ccworc.org/diaper-program-donate/

HOSPITAL VISITS UPDATE

The priest chaplains at our hospitals continue to serve the pastoral needs of their patients. Please let us know if someone you know is hospitalized and Msgr. Sullivan will be happy to visit that person. The best thing is for a family member or friend to call the rectory to let us know your loved one is in the hospital. **St. Vincent's Hospital's new computer system cannot provide any information.** For many years we have **not** been able to obtain any information from either **UMass Hospital** (at the Lake) or **Memorial Hospital** (the same institution) about patients listed by their parishes. **Therefore, you must call the rectory if you would like Msgr. Sullivan to visit a loved one.**

Extra Weekday Masses in Advent

A wonderful spiritual preparation for Christmas is participation in a daily Mass during Advent. As has been our custom for many years our parish adds an afternoon Mass at 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday, during the Advent season. Of course, we continue to offer our 7:00 am Mass (Saturdays at 8:00 am).

Advent begins on the weekend of December 2 & 3. **All are welcome** to join us. The first afternoon Mass will be Monday, December 4. The last is on Friday, December 22. Mass concludes about 6:00 pm each night. The **only exception** to this schedule is on Friday, December 8, the Solemnity of the **Immaculate Conception**, when the Mass will be at **6:00 pm** rather than 5:30 pm.

Christmas Giving Tree Program

The Urban Missionaries are making available the following options so that you and your family may participate in the Giving Tree. We would urge you to participate in one of the options listed below because this Christmas season many families are looking for some help with their Christmas needs. **Option 1:** Take a tag today. Please return the gift with the tag firmly fastened by 12:00 noon on Sunday, December 10, the Gift Pickup Day). **Option 2:** You can obtain a "virtual tag" for a gift that a mother has asked for one of her children by going to www.urbanmissionaries.com and clicking on the tab "To join our virtual Christmas Giving Tree." You will receive your tag via email. If you purchase the gift and bring it home, then print off the email tag, attach it firmly to the gift and return it to Christ the King by noon on December 10th. If you purchase the gift online then we would suggest that you opt to ship the gift directly to us at the Urban Missionaries of Our Lady of Hope, 242 Canterbury St. Worcester MA 01603. All that is needed is that you put the tag ID number in the comment section of your order so we will know who the gifts belong to. **Option 3:** Urban Missionaries can buy the gift for you. Just go to our **"Go fund me"** tab on our website, www.urbanmissionaries.com and make a cash donation. We will use your donation to purchase a gift. For those without access to technology, just call Urban Missionaries at 508-269-9596 and they will get it done for you. Thanks for your support and we ask for your prayers as we strive to meet the needs of "the least, the last, and the left out" this Christmas!

CHRIST THE KING PRAYER LINE

If you know of someone who could use our prayerful support please contact Mindy at 508-754-5361 or by email at mindy1052@gmail.com.

'HOPE FOR HOUSING' CARDS

Hope for Housing cards are sold in the church foyer after all Masses. Here's how they work: You purchase food or gift cards in various amounts of \$10 to \$100; You use the food cards for your shopping; You receive the full-face value of the card you purchase; What you don't spend remains on your card for later use; The supermarket or store donates 5% to 10% of what you spend to prevent family homelessness. Yvonne Nguyen already has a couple of volunteers but will need to engage some additional ones (as in the past). If you would like to assist her (and you will be trained) Yvonne's telephone number is **508-762-2161** & her email address is Yv0nn3@aol.com. Cards are available for: The Big Y, CVS, Dunkin' Donuts, Hannaford, Panera Bread, Shaw's, Stop & Shop, TJMaxx / Marshall, Starbucks, Amazon and Target.

Making Parish Donations Online

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Making Peace Between Faith and Science: A Catholic Approach - This Wednesday

Rather than focusing on the scientific evidence supporting belief in God, Fr. Steve Lundrigan explores how the Catholic approach provides a way to unite religious faith and the belief in the power of science and reason. This is a presentation that you don't want to miss! The program is being held at St. Columba Church, 10 Richards Ave. Paxton, MA, on **Wednesday, November 29th** at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Day of Discovery

Christ the King will host a diocesan "Day of Discovery" for Level 1 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) on **Saturday, December 2** from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The cost is \$25 which includes the book *Joyful Journey*. This is offered for catechists and assistants, teachers, and anyone curious about CGS! The Day of Discovery will include discussion on how CGS helps the very young child (ages 3-6) enter into a personal relationship with Jesus, an opportunity to explore a 'working' atrium where children gather to learn through Scriptures and the Sacraments, time to work in the Atrium, the role of the catechist as 'servant,' and discussion on the Montessori method of education as a mode for religious development. If you are interested, please register at worcestardiocese.org/cgs-day-of-discoverydecember22023 or let Jackie Penny know (jpenny325@gmail.com) and she can sign you up.

Highlights of the Week Ahead

Saturday, Nov 25

4 pm Mass - Giving Tree Tags Out

Sunday, Nov 26

All Masses - Giving Tree Tags Out

5:00 pm - Vespers honoring Msgr. Reidy
at St. Paul's Cathedral

Tuesday, Nov 28

7:00 pm - A.A. Meeting, Lower Rectory

Wednesday, Nov 29

6:00 pm - Boy Scouts, Hall

Thursday, Nov 30

5:30 pm - Closed A.A. Meeting

7:00 pm - Festival Choir rehearsal

Friday, Dec 1

6:30 pm - Cub Scouts, Hall

7:00 pm - A.A. Meeting, Lower Rectory

7:30 pm - Men's Prayer Group, church

Saturday, Dec 2

9 am - 1 pm - CGS Day of Discovery

4 pm - Cub Scouts Advent Wreath sale

Sunday, Dec 3

All Masses - Cub Scouts Advent Wreaths

10:00-11:00 am - CGS, Grades 1-6 Rel. Ed.

1 pm - Parents Baptism Prep, Rectory

6:00-7:30 pm - Grades 7-10, Rel. Ed.

Religious Education Classes This Week & Next...

There are **no classes this weekend** because of the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Classes for those in **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** and **Grades 1-6** will meet **next Sunday, December 3**, from 10:00-11:00. **Grades 7-10** will meet **next Sunday, December 3** from 6:00 to 7:30 pm.

Girl Scouts at Christ the King

Girl Scouting has been a long-standing tradition here at Christ the King. We currently have a Brownie/Junior/Cadette Girl Scout Troop that meets weekly on Mondays from 4:00-5:00 pm. We would love to welcome new girls who are presently in grades 2-8. Of course, adult volunteers are always welcome! For more information or to answer any questions you may have, please contact Brownies30139@gmail.com.

COFFEE & BOOKS RETURNS DEC. 8

Join us on Friday mornings after daily Mass for our coffee social hour in the Johnson Room. Also enjoy our lending library filled with great books to feed your mind and soul. Stop in for a friendly chat. We look forward to seeing you!

Congratulations, Monsignor Reidy, for your Celebration Today!

All are welcome for Vespers at 5:00 pm today at St. Paul's Cathedral

We are all welcome at the special celebration **today, Sunday, November 26, at 5:00 pm** at St. Paul's Cathedral, located at the corner of Chatham Street and High Street in Worcester. It is not a Mass. It is 'Vespers,' or 'Evening Prayer' in the Liturgy of the Hours. And it is not a lengthy ceremony. A reception with light refreshments will be served in *The Cenacle* (the social hall beneath the cathedral).

We were all delighted to hear the news that Pope Francis recently named our good friend and resident priest, Father Richard Reidy, a Chaplain to His Holiness with the title of 'Reverend Monsignor.' We all know that he certainly deserves this honor and title. Msgr. Reidy found out this news from Bishop McManus on September 28 when this good news was conveyed to Bishop McManus from the appropriate authority representing Pope Francis.

Monsignor Reidy has served as Vicar General of the Diocese for more than ten years now and his responsibilities take him into the life of virtually every parish. He also has oversight for many diocesan committees. During these years he has had to administrate numerous parishes in the absence of a pastor. And this is to say nothing of the great contribution he has made to Christ the King parishioners this past decade as he celebrates Mass each day and so generously preaches on occasions too numerous to mention. He is ever so prayerful and a true servant of all and has a heart of gold.

Congratulations, Monsignor Reidy! *Ad multos annos!*

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