

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

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 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.

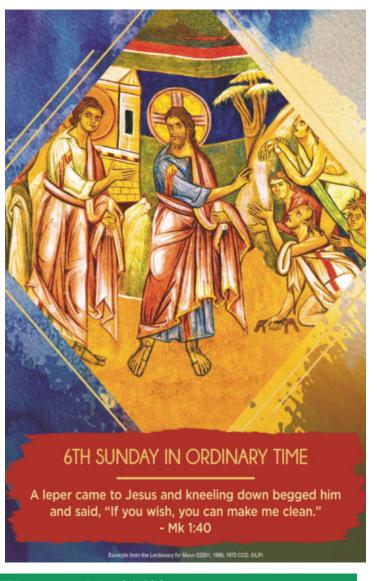
Please call the rectory to do so.

Christ the King Parish

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





Saturday—February 10th

4:00PM Philip Dowd (10th anniv.) req. of family

Sunday—February 11th

7:30AM Parishioners of Christ the King

9:00AM Kevin and Maria Donahue (mem.) req. of

Michael & Eileen Roach

11:00AM Krystyna Plewa (mem.) req. of a friend

Monday—February 12th

7:00AM Joseph Long (mem.) req. of family

Tuesday—February 13th

7:00AM Dorothy Doyle (mem.) req. of Leo Quinn

Wednesday—February 14th

7:00AM Mary Laplace (mem.) req. of Roger & Joyce

Dubuque

12:00NOON Rita B. Sullivan (mem.) req. of Msgr. Sullivan

3:00PM Robert Sylvestre (mem.) req. of The Shear

Family

Thursday—February 15th

7:00AM Maria Nga (mem.) req. of family

5:30PM Mary Ferguson (1st anniv.) req. of family

Friday—February 16th

7:00AM Joseph Long (mem.) req. of family

Saturday—February 17th

8:00AM Damienne Dunham (Living-Birthday) req. of

Alice Fenlon

4:00PM Gerard Lefebvre (mem.) req. of family

Sunday—February 18th

7:30AM Joseph Baniukiewicz, Jr. (21st anniv.) req. of

family

9:00AM Parishioners of Christ the King

11:00AM Leo Sheehy (13th anniv.) req. of family

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the souls of **Anjo Riddle**, the sister of Donna Byrnes and **James P. Simokonis**, the brother of Thomas Simokonis.

Special Collection on Ash Wednesday

Due to the considerable annual costs of supporting our retired priests, there will be a collection to be taken at each Mass on Ash Wednesday in all parishes. Offerings can be placed in the basket as parishioners enter the church. The Waltz Envelope Company which supplies our parishioners with their monthly envelopes has included a special envelope for this purpose.

Stations of the Cross - Fridays

We celebrate the Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent. The time is **3:00-3:30 pm** and they will be led by Msgr. Sullivan.

COME TO DAILY MASS!

As you can, please consider coming to our daily Masses (Monday-Friday at 7:00 am; 8:00 am on Saturdays). This week we Monday and Tuesday are days of Ordinary Time. **Ash Wednesday** is mid-week. Thursday through Saturday are **Lenten weekdays**.

Offertory

Many thanks to all those who regularly support our parish with their financial gifts. Your donations for last weekend are indicated below.

Offertory: \$10,312.00; Online Giving: \$1,255.00; Mass Stipends: \$88.00; Funeral Stipend: \$300.00; Fuel: \$337.00; Catholic University: \$30.00;

Catholic Home Mission: \$107.00; Catholic Free Press: \$912.00; Donation: \$25.00; Ash Wednesday/ Priest Retirement: \$267.00; Solemnity of Mary: \$100.00; Christmas: \$80.00; Our Religious Education: \$80.00; Christmas Flowers: \$20.00; Religious Retirement: \$40.00; Human Development: \$10.00: Immaculate Conception: \$10.00.

Total: \$13,973.00

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: **2024**: **March 10** and **May 19**. Baptisms take place on select Sundays at the 11:00 am Mass (or sometimes privately). The **next** scheduled **dates for the actual baptisms** at the **11:00** am **Mass** on Sundays **in 2024** are thus far: **April 7**, **May 5**, **and June 11**. Parents work with Msgr. Sullivan to establish an appropriate date for the actual baptism.

Catholic Men's Conference Returns to DCU Center

'You Shall Know the Lord'

Men (of all ages, including teens and college students) are invited to this important conference, scheduled to take place at Worcester's DCU Center on Saturday, March 16, 2024. Adult tickets are \$50 until March 4, 2024; afterwards \$60. Student tickets are always \$30. Tickets will not be available at the door this year because of advance planning for the luncheon. Visit the conference website at www.catholicmenworc.com for information and to purchase tickets online. Come and hear dynamic talks from Catholic leaders: Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, James Wahlberg, Michael Nicholson, Bishop Robert McManus, and Msgr. Thomas Sullivan. Adoration available all day. Confessions for all mid-day. Closing Mass at 4:00 pm. For further information you can email cathmenworc@gmail.com.

Low Gluten Hosts for Holy Communion

We offer 'low gluten' hosts. Wheat content less than 0.01%. Go to the priest for Communion.

Congratulations Adult Confirmand!

We congratulate Daniel Gardner, a fairly new parishioner, who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last Sunday afternoon in the special celebration for adults from throughout the Diocese. Bishop McManus conferred the Sacrament at St. Paul's Cathedral. And congratulations to his sponsor, Dan's wife, Patricia Gardner-Agupusi. God bless you both with all the gifts of the Holy Spirit!

"COME HOME TO GOD'S MERCY"

Tuesday Evening Confessions During Lent

Msgr. Sullivan will be hearing confessions on Lenten Tuesdays between 7:00 pm and 8:00 pm. Lent is a wonderful time to receive God's mercy in this extraordinary Sacrament. Confessions will be heard on February 20 and 27; and March 5, 12, 19 and 26. Additional times will be scheduled during Holy Week.

New Diocesan Offerings Schedule for Funerals & Weddings

The Diocese has just announced a new schedule of church-related offerings for weddings and funerals. These are applied uniformly to every parish in the Diocese. They take effect on Sunday, February 18.

The offering for **all funerals** is **\$400**. This is not given by a family directly to the parish. It is itemized on the invoice of any funeral director who then makes the offering to the parish. Also, the family does not have to search for an organist and soloist. This is the responsibility of the parish. The \$400 offering breaks down this way: \$115 to the parish; \$125 to both the organist and soloist; and \$35 to the priest.

The offering for **weddings for parishioners** is \$350. It breaks down this way: \$200 to the parish; \$75 for marriage preparation materials; \$75 for the priest. An organist and soloist negotiate their own fee with the couple. It is not included in the \$350. Generally, the parish takes responsibility for assigning the organist and soloist.

The offering for **weddings for non-parishioners** is \$450. It breaks down this way: \$300 to the parish; \$75 for marriage preparation materials; \$75 for the priest. An organist and soloist negotiate their own fee with the couple. It is not included in the \$450. Generally, the parish takes responsibility for assigning the organist and soloist.

The current schedule for offerings has been in place for decades. The changes come about to assist those parishes which are more financially challenged and with the recognition that for organists and soloists this income represents their livelihood. And as cost-of-living increases so they should be more justly remunerated for their efforts. The offerings for priests remain unchanged.

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.

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 about patients listed by their parishes. Therefore, you must call the rectory if you would like Msgr. Sullivan to visit a loved one.

40 Days for Life Participation by Christ the King Parishioners Set for Thursday, Feb. 29 - Please Join Us!

YOU can help save lives by participating in this simple peaceful prayer vigil. We will pray again that, with God's help, our 'witness' and that of many others will be the beginning of the end of abortion in Worcester. We pray outside the Planned Parenthood abortion facility at 470 Pleasant Street. Christ the King parishioners will be praying there between the hours of 7:00 am and 6:00 pm on Thursday, February 29. Please sign on for one hour if you can. We will have sign-ups on the weekend of Feb. 17-18. You can "sign on" to participate anytime now by contacting either of these parish leaders: Joyce Dubuque (Tel: 508-826-0703; email address: jhdubuque@aol.com); Ralph Weirich (Tel: 508-791-0678; email address: (weirich.ralph@gmail.com) or BettyAnn Warner email address: bacwarner@hotmail.com.

GUIDELINES FOR FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Lenten fast and abstinence regulations for the Diocese of Worcester are as follows:

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen (14) years of age and older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting is to be observed by all Catholics who are eighteen (18) years of age but not yet fifty-nine (59) years of age on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed Lenten penitential practices.

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.

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 mindyd1052@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.

Sunday Morning Coffee Shop

We have begun our Sunday "coffee shop" in the Johnson Room following the 9:00 am Mass. Enjoy coffee, donut holes and especially one another's company. Let's strengthen our community! There are coloring supplies and puzzles for little ones too young for education classes. Volunteers needed. We finish before the 11 am Mass. If you'd be interested in helping please contact Victoria DiMassa. You can call or text her at 440-522-7700 or email her at dimassavictoria@gmail.com.

The Wisdom of the Saints

"Patience is the root and guardian of all the virtues." *Pope St. Gregory the Great*

CTK Women's Guild's Lenten Evening of Recollection

Monday, February 26

Christ the King's Women's Guild invites all women to their Annual Lenten Evening of Recollection on Monday, February 26. Father Stephen Gemme, a chaplain at St. Vincent Hospital, is the presenter. His theme is 'Lent: Prayer, Almsgiving, Holiness and Charity.' Mass at 5:30 pm followed by a light dinner at 6:15 pm and presentation in the Johnson Room. Donation for the evening is \$18 for members and \$20 for non-members. To make a reservation or if you have any questions, please contact Donna Byrnes by February 23 at 508-753-3024 or email her at dbyrnes@charter.net.

Have Your Marriage Blessed?

We've learned, over time, that some (civilly) married parishioners have never entered into a sacramental marriage. Please call Msgr. Sullivan about having your marriage "blessed" if you would like to pursue this. 508-754-5361.

Highlights of the Week Ahead

Sunday, Feb. 11

10:00-11:00 am - CGS & Grades 1-6 Rel. Ed. 10:00 am - Coffee Shop, Johnson Room

Monday, Feb. 12

10:45 am - Mass at Jewish Healthcare 4:00 pm - Girl Scouts, Hall

Tuesday, Feb. 13

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

Wednesday, Feb. 14 - Ash Wednesday

Masses - 7 am, 9 am, 12noon, 3 pm & 5:30 pm, 7 pm

6:00 pm - Boy Scouts, Hall

Thursday, Feb. 15

Masses at 7 am & 5:30 pm 7:00 pm - Festival Choir rehearsal

Friday, Feb. 16

Masses at 7 am & 5:30 pm 3:00-3:30 pm - Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm - A.A. Meeting, Lower Rectory

Saturday, Feb. 17

4 pm - 40 Days for Life Sign-Up

Sunday, Feb. 18

All Masses - 40 Days for Life Sign-Up 10:00 am - Coffee Shop, Johnson Room

Religious Education Classes This Week & Next...

Classes for CGS through Grade 6 are scheduled for today, Sunday, February 11, from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. There are no evening classes scheduled for tonight, Sunday, Feb. 11, because of the Super Bowl.

There are no religious education classes next Sunday, Feb. 18, because of the start of school vacation.

New Parish Book Club Has Begun and Will Enjoy New Members

Victoria DiMassa has organized a monthly parish book club to enjoy fiction and nonfiction literature, largely around religious themes, from 7 to 8 pm on the first Thursday of the month. Discussion and enjoying each other's company. The **3rd** meeting will be held on **March** 7. The group will be reading Shūsako Endo's book, *Silence*. The group meets in the Conference Room in the lower level of the church, adjacent the parish hall. If interested in joining, please contact Victoria by calling her or texting her at **440-522-7700**. Hopefully, you can read the book in advance. The group decides the next book. You can also email her at **dimassavictoria@gmail.com**.

LENT BEGINS WEDNESDAY!

The holy season of **Lent** will begin this Wednesday, Ash Wednesday, February 14. Hopefully, the entire parish community will participate in Mass on **Ash Wednesday** as we initiate, once more, this season of penance and preparation for the great mystery of the Lord's Resurrection on Easter.

As always, there will be 6 Masses offered on Wednesday, each one offering the imposition of ashes. The Mass times are 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 12:00 noon, 3:00 pm, 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm. It is our earnest hope that you will be able to attend one of the Masses. And please bring your school-age and younger children.

In the first reading of the Ash Wednesday Mass the prophet Joel, speaking for God, says: "Blow the trumpet in Zion! Proclaim a fast, call an assembly, gather the people, notify the congregation." Earlier in the reading God has said, "return to me with your whole heart" for the Lord is "gracious and merciful."

It is our hope that we will see all our parishioners often during Lent and then for Holy Week and Easter.

Please remember that we have an additional weekday Mass (Monday-Friday) during this season at 5:30 pm (for those unable to make our 7:00 am Mass). And there are additional times for confession - each Lenten Tuesday evening from 7:00 to 8:00 pm - and many times during Holy Week. The Stations of the Cross are observed each Lenten Friday afternoon from 3:00 to 3:30 pm.

May you have a blessed Lent!

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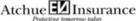
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