



Christ the King Parish

PASTOR
DIOCESAN VICAR GENERAL
Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. Sullivan

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Mindy A. Dulude

DIRECTOR OF EVANGELIZATION
Anne Thompson

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Grades 1-6 Anne Thompson

Grades 7-10 & Confirmation
Msgr. Thomas Sullivan

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INQUIRIES:
reledctkworc@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF LITURGICAL MUSIC
Ellen Linn

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.

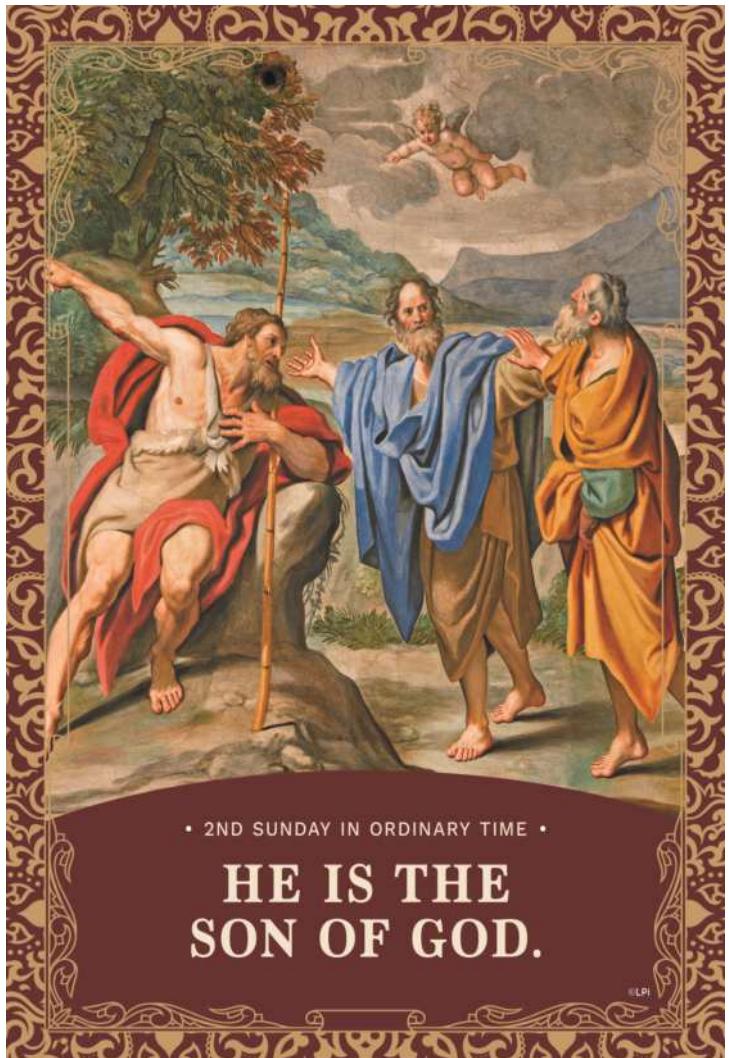
HOLY BAPTISM
Baptisms celebrated occasionally at public Mass or privately.
Please see information inside this bulletin.

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.

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—January 17th

4:00PM Fred Rushton (mem.) req. of The Rauktis Family

Sunday—January 18th

7:30AM Parishioners of Christ the King

9:00AM William E. Dulude, Jr. (1st anniv.) req. of family

11:00AM Judith A. Ofcarcik (mem.) req. of Christ the King Choir

Wednesday—January 21st

7:00AM Elizabeth Metcalf (8th anniv.) req. of family

Friday—January 23rd

7:00AM Anthony Sereti (birthday) req. of family

Saturday—January 24th

4:00PM Philip Murphy (mem.) req. of family

Sunday—January 25th

7:30AM Parishioners of Christ the King

9:00AM Brian Wittner (mem.) req. of family

11:00AM Jeri Pike (mem.), George Pike (mem.) and Lisa Pike (mem.) req. of family

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the souls of **all the faithful departed**.

Low Gluten Hosts for Holy Communion

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

BEWARE of Email Scams that appear to come from the parish

All too often, email scams are appearing that use the pastor's name or a parish staff name asking for gift cards or donations of some sort. BE VIGILANT and delete these. If you look closely, they often use an email address that appears to be very close to the real email address of the pastor or some staff person but is not real. Know that our parish will only seek donations through normal, announced requests, not an individual email looking for donations to be personally sent to someone. When in doubt, DELETE.

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. We celebrate Mass at 7:00 am each weekday. Mass on Saturday mornings is at 8:00 am. This week we celebrate the Feasts of **St. Sebastian, Martyr** (Tuesday); **St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr** (Wednesday); **Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children** (Thursday); **St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr** (Friday); and **St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church** (Saturday).

Offertory

Thank you for your continuing generosity as we meet the financial needs of the parish. We really do need your support and are always grateful for your goodness. Your donations for last weekend are as follows:

Offertory: \$6,769.93; Online Giving: \$1,500.00;

Mass Stipends: \$345.00; Donation: \$50.00;

Donation from Friday Night AA: \$25.00;

Fuel: \$649.00; Religious Retirement: \$10.00;

Immaculate Conception: \$10.00; Christmas: \$60.00;

Our Religious Education: \$460.00; Haiti Twinning: \$20.00;

Catholic University: \$130.00; Solemnity of Mary: \$85.00.

Total: \$10,113.93

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**) or email him (tsullivan5@mac.com) to schedule a meeting or baptism. The scheduled times for the remaining **Parent Preparation meetings for the next months ahead** are on **Sundays: March 1; April 19; and June 14**. Most baptisms occur on occasional Sunday mornings at the 11:00 am Mass since Baptism is a public celebration. Scheduled dates for the first half of **2026** are: **February 1; March 1; April 12; May 10; and June 14**.

Organ Repair Continuing

A couple of months ago, 500 organ pipes were removed from the 'Great' (right) side of the organ for repair and restoration. Those pipes were re-inserted before Christmas. Tomorrow, pipes on the 'Swell' (left) side will be removed for repair and renewal. This repair is being funded from your donations to the **Legacy of Hope Appeal** (in 2019) for which we are grateful.

Report Sexual Abuse

If you have been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church, please believe in the possibility of hope and healing. The Church encourages you to come forward. You may meet with Bishop McManus or his delegate, Mrs. Judith Audette, the Director of the Diocesan Office of Healing and Prevention (49 Elm Street, Worcester, 01609; 508-929-4363). It is the policy and practice of the Diocese to respond promptly and with compassion to all reports of misconduct.

Tickets On Sale Now For 2026 Worcester Catholic Men's Conference "Be Not Afraid"

The Worcester Catholic Men's Conference is back in its 25th year! Tickets which are available now on the conference website: catholicmenwore.com. The Conference will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2026, at the DCU Center.

We have another incredible lineup of Catholic leaders for 2026, including former "Shock-Jock" Kevin Matthews ("Broken Mary") who will give his remarkable transformation and redemption story; Former D1 Quarterback, Father Joe Freedy from the Diocese of Pittsburgh, PA who will speak of his life in football before the priesthood and bringing our loved ones back to the Church; the incredible John Martinoni, formerly of EWTN Radio's "Open Line Monday," best selling author and prolific expert on all things Catholic, presenting "Blue Collar Apologetics;" Father Fred Fraini (Auburn pastor) who will prepare us for Reconciliation who will be both very touching as well as hilarious; and a very special appearance by Father Peter Jai Choi of Toronto, Canada as we go international!

Joining us for the first time, professional musician/pianist, Mr. David Twiss (who has performed with major figures in the world of entertainment), will lend his talent to the day by providing traditional Catholic music. And we are bringing back Master of Ceremonies, Jim Polito, from iHeartRadio, so popular at the last Conference.

We will again feature Adoration all day; Mid-Day confessions, and the Rosary will be featured in a very special manner this year. Over 50 vendors will be present, and the day will conclude with a 4:00 pm Mass with Bishop McManus. Adult Tickets are \$60 (through March 11th) and Student Tickets are always just \$30. All Tickets include lunch. Please join in solidarity with your fellow Catholic Men from all over New England as this Conference is a regional event.

Fernando Mendoza Praises God

Fernando Mendoza and the Indiana University Hoosiers defeated the University of Oregon Ducks in the Peach Bowl on Friday, January 9, earning a trip to the National Championship. Mendoza, the quarterback, was quick to give credit to God for the team's unprecedented success. "First, I want to give all the glory to God," said Mendoza, after throwing for five touchdown passes in a 56-22 romp over Oregon. He was named the offensive MVP of the game. Mendoza shared his faith to a national audience. "The man up above has done so much for us today and has helped me and our entire team play at such a high level," he said.

The College Football Playoff National Championship game will be held in Miami tomorrow night. Making it to the national championship, "means a lot, it means the world, said Mendoza, adding, "And I couldn't have done this without God." During the football season, Mendoza has frequently professed his faith both on and off the field. During his Heisman Trophy ceremony, he spoke about his Catholic faith, saying it was "the sole reason" behind his success on the field. Upon returning to campus, Mendoza brought the Heisman to celebrate with the priests of the St. Paul Catholic Center, the Catholic parish and Newman Center at Indiana University.

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.**

Congratulations, Maria ~ First Communicant!

Last Saturday at the 4:00 pm Mass, **Maria Castillo** received her First Holy Communion. We offer her, as well as her parents and family members, our congratulations. May the Lord Jesus always nourish her faith by the frequent reception of Christ's Body and Blood. As Monsignor Sullivan mentioned at the Mass, Maria's family are *émigrés* from Venezuela (through Colombia) to the United States. They joined our parish last summer and regularly attend the 4:00 pm Mass. All the youths of the family have had the normal reception of sacraments disrupted because of their journeys. We have welcomed them here and are so happy that they are parishioners. Maria's parents are **Andrés Castillo** and **Marianny Balza**. Her siblings are **Jésus** and **Andrea** Castillo, both of whom are in this year's Confirmation program. We thank **Anne Thompson** for catechizing Maria for many months, preparing her for this moment. And we thank **Dennis O'Connor**, Maria's 4th grade catechist on Sunday mornings.

Pope Leo's first Encyclical Letter?

Speculation has it that the title of Pope Leo's first encyclical may be called ***Magnifica Humanitas*** ("Magnificent Humanity"). Vatican officials have confirmed that the pope has been working on a **foundational document**. Signals seem to be that the encyclical would address artificial intelligence and "the general situation of society." *The letter would place human dignity at its center*, insisting that humanity remains "magnificent" even when threatened by technological acceleration, economic exclusion, or cultural fragmentation.

In 1891, Leo XIII, in *Rerum Novarum* ("Of new matters") confronted **problems of the industrial age**: vast inequality, the concentration of wealth for a few and the exploitation of workers. He articulated principles that would anchor Catholic social teaching: the right to private property, just wages, rest from labor, and special protection for the vulnerable. In 2026 the tension still lies between capital and labor, but also between human life and machine intelligence. Leo XIV has already warned of the impact of AI on the neurological and intellectual development of children and young people. While acknowledging its "extraordinary potential" as a product of human ingenuity, he cautioned that youth must be supported on their path toward maturity and responsibility. Artificial intelligence, used without conscience, will deepen inequality.

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.

Parish Book Club Meeting

Our growing parish book club, which meets monthly, enjoys fiction and nonfiction literature, largely around religious themes from **7 to 8 pm on the first Thursday** of the month. Since the first Thursday of January is New Year's Day, the club has set its next meeting date for **Thursday, February 5**. The next book the group will be reading is Saint John Henry Newman's novel, ***Loss and Gain***, which is the semi-autobiographical story of his own conversion in the early 1800s. If interested in joining, please contact Victoria DiMassa by calling her or texting her at **440-522-7700**. You can also email her at dimassavictoria@gmail.com.

The Wisdom of the Saints

“Start by doing what’s necessary; then do what’s possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.” - *St. Francis of Assisi*

Key Upcoming Events

Today, from 2:00 to 8:00 pm, Christ the King will host the annual retreat for all those adults throughout the Diocese who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop McManus in February.

On Saturday, January 31 and Sunday, February 1, we will offer the Blessing of Throats at all the Masses.

On February 7 & 8 we will conduct the Annual Partners in Charity In-Pew Appeal.

On Ash Wednesday, February 18, we will offer our customary six Masses with ashes imposed at each.

CHRIST THE KING PARISH HELP REDUCE HUNGER

On January 8th we collected 450 pounds of food. **Our next collection day is Thursday, February 12.**

With many food programs in jeopardy, we as a parish would like to work together to assist families in need. Your donation of food nourishes our neighbors and helps to keep pantry shelves stocked. We have set up a program to collect non-perishable food items on the **Second Thursday of each month (only), between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm**. Items are to be dropped off at the back of the rectory in front of the garage doors. Requested donations: non-perishable gluten-free foods; spices and condiments; healthy snacks (nuts, granola bars, canned and dried fruits, menstrual care products and hygiene items, cereals, rice, pasta, canned pasta sauce, all varieties of dry beans, low-sodium broths, soups, stews, chili, 100% fruit and vegetable juices. Volunteers collect the food and/or healthcare items. They are delivered to the Worcester County Food Bank. If you can volunteer, please send an email to **Janet Rauktis, [raukitisj1@gmail.com](mailto:rauktisj1@gmail.com)**, with dates and times available as she is coordinating a schedule. You can call her at 508-450-7496. Thank you in advance for your kindness in helping this very needed cause. Other upcoming dates are March 12 and April 9.

Highlights of the Week Ahead

Sunday, January 18

2:00-8:00 pm - Diocesan Retreat for Adults to be confirmed, Johnson Room and church

Monday, January 19

Martin Luther King Holiday

Tuesday, January 20

7:00 pm - A.A. Meeting

Wednesday, January 21

6:30-8:00 pm - Boy Scouts
7:30-9:00 pm - Folk Group Rehearsal

Thursday, January 22 - Protect the Unborn

7:00-8:30 pm - Festival Choir rehearsals

Friday, January 23

6:30-8:00 pm - Cub Scouts
7:00 pm - A.A. Meeting

Sunday, January 25

10:00-11:00 - CGS & Grades 1-6
6:00-7:30 pm - Grades 7-10

Sunday Morning Coffee Shop!

Coffee shop takes place on the **first Sunday of the month** after the 9:00 am Mass. We hope to see you there. Come and join us in the Johnson Room. Enjoy coffee, donut holes and especially one another's company. Let's strengthen our community and meet new friends!

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.

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.

Monsignor Sullivan is a Notary Public

For many years Monsignor Sullivan has been a notary public. Should any parishioner need to have a document notarized you are welcome to call upon him. There will be no fee for any notarizations. He is simply happy to assist you. Just call the rectory should you need this service.

We're Now Into 'Ordinary Time'

Because the term *ordinary* in English most often means something that's not distinctive, many people think that Ordinary Time refers to parts of the calendar of the Catholic Church that are unimportant. There's no truth there. The Sunday Gospel for the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time always features either John the Baptist's acknowledgment of Christ as the Lamb of God, as we hear today, or Christ's first miracle (the transformation of water into wine at the wedding at Cana). Thus, Ordinary Time is the part of the year in which Christ, the Lamb of God, walks among us and transforms our lives. There's nothing "ordinary" about that!

The normal liturgical color for Ordinary Time - for those days when there is no special feast - is green. Green vestments and altar cloths have traditionally been associated with the time after Pentecost, the period in which the Church founded by the risen Christ and enlivened by the Holy Spirit began to grow and to spread the Gospel to all nations. Ordinary Time refers to all of those parts of the Catholic Church's liturgical year that aren't included in the major seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter.

The Church year begins with Advent, followed immediately by the Christmas season. Ordinary Time begins on the Monday after the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (last Sunday) and is the end of the liturgical season of Christmas. This first period of Ordinary Time runs until Ash Wednesday when the liturgical season of Lent begins. Both Lent and the Easter season fall outside of Ordinary Time, which resumes again on the Monday after Pentecost Sunday, the end of the Easter season. The second period of Ordinary Time runs until the First Sunday of Advent when the liturgical year begins again.

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