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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.

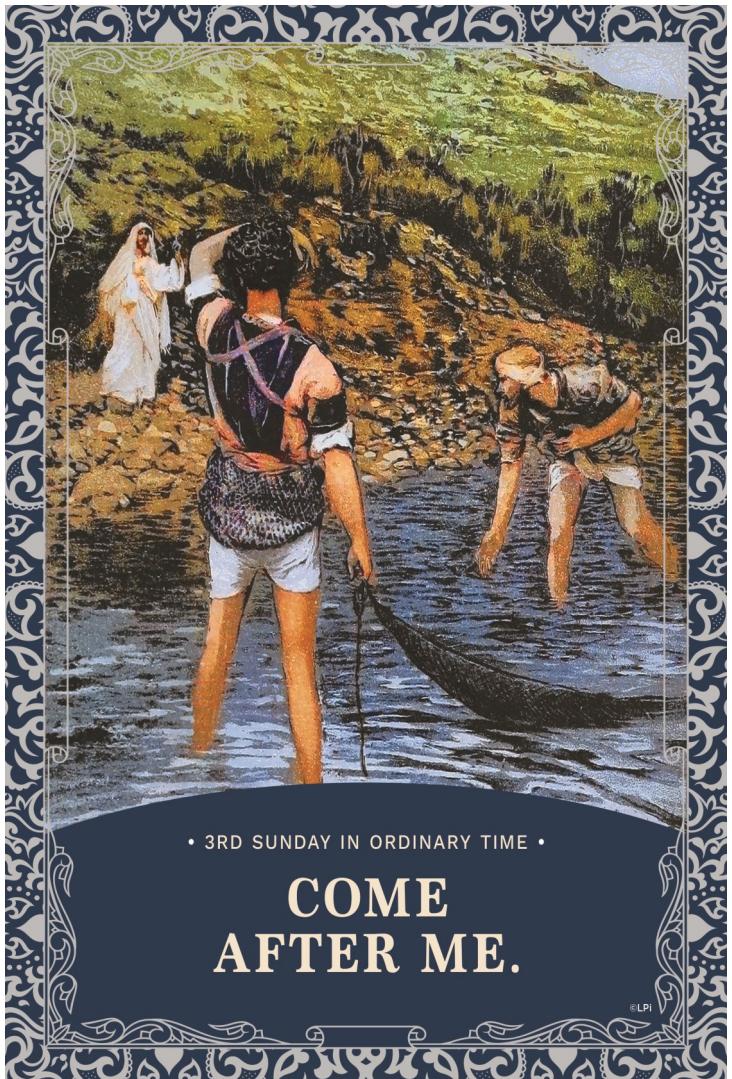
PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK
Please call Msgr. Sullivan for the Sacrament of the
Anointing of the Sick or Holy Communion.

WORSHIPING WITH US?
We hope you introduce yourself and register in our parish.
Please call the rectory to do so.

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—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

Monday—January 26th

7:00AM Jane Allen (mem.) req. of Fran & BettyAnn Warner

Tuesday—January 27th

7:00AM Paula Burgoyne (for better health) and Brian Lewis (for better health)

Wednesday—January 28th

7:00AM Madeline Longval (mem.) req. of Roger & Joyce Dubuque

Thursday—January 29th

7:00AM John Keating (birthday) req. of Nancy Clark

Friday—January 30th

7:00AM David St. John (mem.) req. of Roger & Joyce Dubuque

Saturday—January 31st

8:00AM Allen Jenkins (mem.) req. of Mike & Betty Flanagan

4:00PM All Souls in Purgatory

Sunday—February 1st

7:30AM Ernest B. Murphy (mem.) req. of daughter, Larissa Murphy

9:00AM Parishioners of Christ the King

11:00AM Barry T. Johnson (12th anniv.) and Rita Finnegan Fraser (42nd anniv.) req. of family

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the souls of **Leonard M. Conlin, Sr, William Scully, and Dorothy J. Davin.**

Canceling this Sunday Evening's Religious Education Classes

Due to two factors, we have decided to cancel the classes for Grades 7 through 10 for this Sunday night, January 25 (only). When the New England Patriots play near the end of the playoff season, and a scheduled game overlaps our classes, our attendance numbers take a huge hit. It is hard to teach to just a few. The second reason is for the frigid conditions expected (single digit temperatures). Our morning classes this Sunday, January 25, will take place.

We will resume evening classes the following Sunday...February 1. Thanks for your understanding.

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 **Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops** (Monday); **St. Angela Merici, Virgin and Religious Founder** (Tuesday); **St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church** (Wednesday); and **St. John Bosco, Priest** (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: \$12,183.00;

Online Giving: \$1,505.00;

Mass Stipends: \$80.00;

Fuel: \$150.40;

Our Religious Education: \$106.00.

Total: \$14,024.40

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**.

***The Blessing of Throats
Next Weekend at all Masses***

Tuesday (February 3rd) is the **Feast of St. Blaise**. We offer the traditional **Blessing of Throats** at all the Masses on the nearest weekend. Our Mass priest and others will remain in the sanctuary at the end of the Masses to offer the blessing. St. Blaise was a 4th century martyr and a Bishop in Armenia. The blessing of throats will also be offered on Tuesday, February 3, at the 7:00 am Mass.

Low Gluten Hosts for Holy Communion

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

Facebook Page for Christ the King

Follow us on Facebook for the daily Gospel, Sunday homilies, and upcoming parish news at Christ the King Parish, Worcester.

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: catholicmenworc.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.

St. John Paul II on Martin Luther King

In 1987, Pope St. John Paul II visited New Orleans. He took the occasion to comment on Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., pointing to his fearless courage in the face of opposition. The pope said, "Today as we recall those who with Christian vision opted for non-violence as the only truly effective approach for ensuring and safeguarding human dignity, we cannot but think of the Reverend Doctor **Martin Luther King, Jr.**, and of the **providential role** he played in contributing to the rightful human betterment of black Americans and therefore to the improvement of American society itself."

St. John Paul II also expressed his desire that the Church would join the efforts of others in the fight for justice: "The Church must continue to join her efforts with the efforts of others who are working to correct all imbalances and disorders of a social nature. Indeed, *the Church can never remain silent in the face of injustice, wherever it is clearly present.*" It should be noted that one of the most important parts of King's legacy was his Christian beliefs that fueled his activism. He saw all people as children of God and firmly believed that they all should be given the same respect and God-given dignity.

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 Andrea Castillo Balza

It is a great pleasure to offer our congratulations to Andrea Castillo Balza, who was the winner of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Breakfast Committee's Award for the Youth Poetry Contest. The award noted her strength in writing. She received the award at the committee's annual breakfast last Saturday morning. Andrea is a student at Doherty High School. She is in our Confirmation program this year and will receive the sacrament this coming May. A native of Venezuela, she lived for several years in Colombia before making her way here to Worcester with her family. She will soon become an altar server at Christ the King.

Congratulations, Veronica Maher! Ballet Star!

Our parishioner, **Veronica Maher**, aged 17, competed in the Senior Classical Competition for Women of the Youth America Grand Prix last week. The competition took place in Pittsburgh, PA. This is a major competition for young women who study ballet. Thousands of aspirants in the U.S. study ballet. The finest participate in this competition. Veronica was placed among the top twelve. Veronica was in our Confirmation class last year. She is the daughter of **Daniel and Gabrielle Maher** of the parish, and the granddaughter of **Alice Fenlon**. Congratulations, Veronica! Keep up the good work!

Greenland's one Catholic Parish... Christ the King!

The only Catholic parish, in the capital city of Nuuk, is run by Father Tomaž Majcen, a Franciscan who is also a missionary in Denmark. He spends three weeks at a time in Greenland several times a year. Other priests rotate in to help. "At first, I thought I knew what cold was. But Greenland is something else! The largest island in the world has only one Catholic parish! Our community has about 500 members, most of whom are immigrants: Filipinos, Vietnamese, Europeans. They live their faith in a very simple and authentic way. Here, you must choose your faith. You're Catholic because you've decided to be. And that's powerful!" Let us pray they can continue to live their faith and their life in society the way they choose to do so!

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

"If we love Jesus, we shall be loved in return by Him, and that is perfect happiness." - *St. Rose Philippine Duchesne*

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 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, 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 25

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

Tuesday, January 27

7:00 pm - A.A. Meeting

Wednesday, January 28

1:00 pm - Mustard Seed Food Prep
6:30-8:00 pm - Boy Scouts

Thursday, January 29

5:30-6:30 pm - Closed A.A. Meeting
7:00-8:30 pm - Festival Choir rehearsals

Friday, January 30

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

Saturday, January 31

4 pm Mass - Blessing of Throats

Sunday, February 1

All Masses: Blessing of Throats
10:00 am - Coffee Shop
10:00-11:00 - CGS & Grades 1-6
11:00 Mass - Prendiville Baptism

Sunday Morning Coffee Shop!

Coffee shop takes place on the **first Sunday of the month** after the 9:00 am Mass. **So, next Sunday, February 1.** 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.

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.

Who is a Godparent for Baptism &/or a Sponsor for Confirmation?

The issue of the selection of godparents for Baptism or a sponsor for Confirmation is a very important one. Making a choice of a person who is (1) a fully initiated Catholic and (2) who will be an excellent role model in the faith for the young person is important. For Baptism, in Church law, only one godparent is required, though most people prefer two and generally have two (if they can find two persons who meet the requirements below).

A godparent or sponsor must be at least 16 years of age and (1) a baptized Catholic (2) a confirmed Catholic and (3) a practicing Catholic. By a “*practicing Catholic*” we mean that the **person must go to Mass every Sunday**. Their pastor should know them from Sunday Mass. *A sponsor certificate* from that person’s home pastor, signifying all three, is *mandatory*. It must be received in advance of the Baptism or Confirmation. Most often, pastors will *not prepare* a sponsor certificate for a proposed godparent if the 3 conditions above are not met. Parents should ask their proposed godparents to obtain their sponsor certificates well in advance of the date of the baptism (the same for Confirmation sponsors). It must be presented to the pastor of the church where the baptism is to take place well in advance of the baptism.

If a potential godparent is married, he or she must be in a “sacramental marriage.” If unmarried, he or she cannot be “living with a person,” for example. Their moral life should be exemplary in every way. If parents are unable to find two suitable candidates for godparents for a Baptism, they can have one godparent and one “*Christian witness*.” For a baptism, if a non-Catholic is chosen to serve as a “*Christian witness*” (a practicing Protestant or Orthodox) he or she must be a Christian (not Jewish, Islamic, Buddhist, no religion, etc.) This person is listed in the baptismal register as a “*Christian witness*,” not a godparent. Confirmation sponsors must be Roman Catholic.

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