



Christ the King Parish

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Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. Sullivan

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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

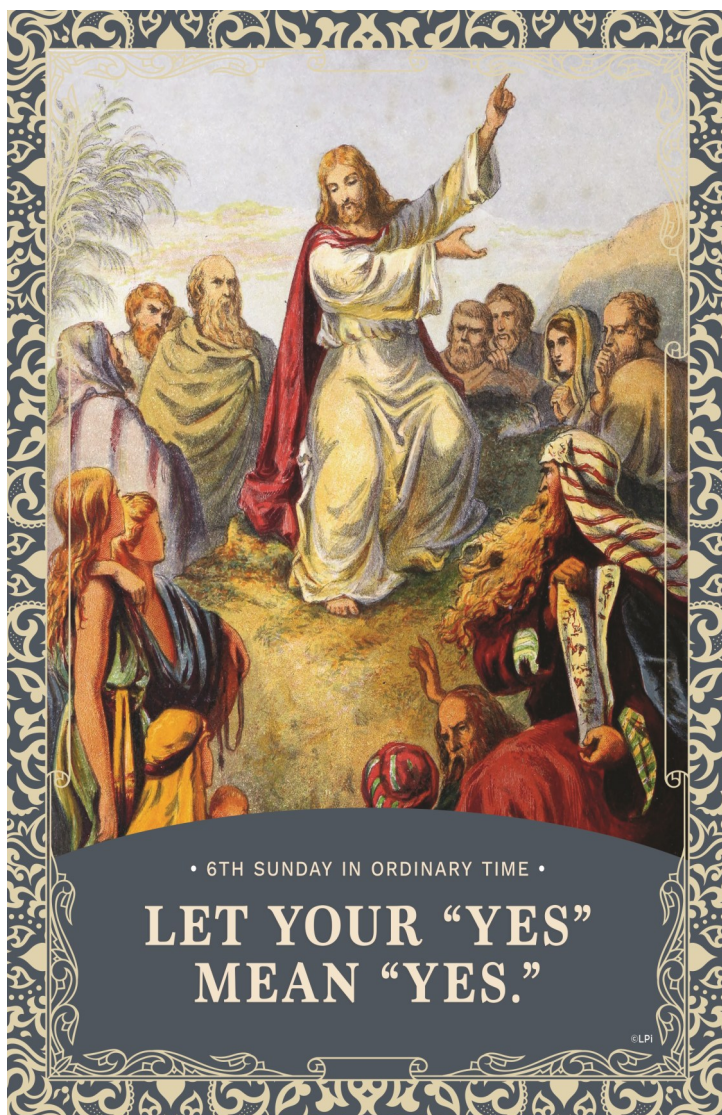
Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM

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



CHRIST THE KING, WORCESTER, MA



Saturday—February 14th

4:00PM An Phuoc Le (mem.) req. of family

Sunday—February 15th

7:30AM Parishioners of Christ the King

9:00AM Kirwin and Elizabeth Matthews (mem.) req. of family

11:00AM Leo Sheehy (15th anniv.) req. of family

Monday—February 16th

7:00AM Juan Antonio Sicard (4th anniv.) req. of family

Wednesday—February 18th

12NOON Elizabeth O'Keefe (mem.) and Joanne McCann (mem.) req. of the Dullea Family

Thursday—February 19th

7:00AM Anthony Ritacco (27th anniv.) req. of family

5:30PM Jean Webber (mem.) req. of a friend

Friday—February 19th

7:00AM Rev. John Perry (mem.) req. of Paula Bourgoyne

Saturday—February 20th

8:00AM Henry 'Hank' Cusick (mem.) req. of the Rushton Family

4:00PM Nancy and Larry O'Connell (mem.) req. of family

Sunday—February 21st

7:30AM Parishioners of Christ the King

9:00AM Rich and Kevin O'Connor (2nd anniv.) req. of family

11:00AM Kevin, Maria and Brian Donahue (mem.) req. of the Roach Family

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the soul of **Victor Cook**, the brother-in-law of Janet Rautkis, **Edward McMahon**, and **Mary Lou Lehigh**.

Low Gluten Hosts for Holy Communion

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

Congratulations To Those Adults To Be Confirmed Today!

Today, Sunday, February 15, Bishop McManus will offer the Sacrament of Confirmation to adults from throughout the parishes of the Diocese of Worcester. The Confirmation Mass will take place at St. Paul's Cathedral at 3:00 pm. Nine of those confirmands have participated in the Adult Confirmation preparation classes offered in recent months by Monsignor Sullivan here at Christ the King. We have never had so many. The group is double the size of any group in recent years. We congratulate the following participants: **Jennefer Baxter, Lauren Downing, Chelsea Gonzalez, Jillian McMenemy Kathryn Margaret McNamara, Ashley McPartland, Erica Rose, Nicholas St. Germain and Patricia Mary Zamarro**. May all these newly confirmed rejoice as they receive the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit!

COME TO DAILY MASS!

As you can, please consider coming to our daily Masses. We celebrate Mass at **7:00 am** and **5:30 pm** each weekday during **Lent**. Mass on Saturday mornings is at 8:00 am. This week we celebrate the Feast of **The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order** (Tuesday). With **Ash Wednesday** the season of **Lent** begins. The remaining days this week are Lenten weekdays.

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: \$4,957.55; **Online Giving:** \$1,460.00;
Mass Stipends: \$110.00; **Funeral Stipend:** \$400.00; **Donation:** \$50.00; **Donation in memory of Henry Cusick:** \$50.00;
Fuel: \$609.00; **Catholic Home Mission:** \$5.00;
Ash Wednesday: \$30.00; **Catholic Free Press:** \$119.00.

Total: \$7,790.55

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 next months of **2026** are: **March 1; April 12; May 10; and June 14**.

ASH WEDNESDAY THIS WEDNESDAY ~ FEBRUARY 18

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. We will offer 6 Masses, spread throughout the day, enabling everyone to find the time to come to Mass, receive ashes and begin the holy season of Lent. The Masses will be at **7:00 am, 9:00 am, 12:00 noon, 3:00 pm, 5:30 pm** and **7:00 pm**. Music will be offered at the last three Masses. Following the homily, the priest will bless the ashes with a prayer, sprinkle the ashes with holy water in the customary fashion, and impose (with others) ashes on the foreheads of all who come forward.

Weekday Evening Mass during Lent!

Throughout Lent, Christ the King offers a **Mass at 5:30 pm Monday through Friday**. This begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes the day before Holy Thursday. It is perfect for those who cannot attend a morning Mass.

**Women's Guild's Lenten
Evening of Recollection
March 9**

The Women's Guild invites all women to their Annual Lenten **Evening of Recollection on Monday, March 9**. The evening begins with our **Mass at 5:30 pm**. It is followed by a meal in the Johnson Room. The 'facilitator' for the evening is Father Stephen Lundrigan, the pastor of St. Columba Parish in Paxton and Chaplain at Anna Maria College. The suggested donation for the evening is \$18 for members and \$20 for nonmembers. To register please call Donna Byrnes at 508-579-9918 or email her at dbyrnes@charter.net.

**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! The conference will be held on Saturday, **March 21** at the DCU Center. Tickets are available: catholicmenworc.com.

We have another incredible lineup of Catholic speakers. 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.

"COME HOME TO GOD'S MERCY"
Tuesday Night Confessions During Lent

Several years ago, Bishop McManus requested that every parish in the Diocese offer opportunities for Catholics to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance; confessions) on Lenten Tuesdays **between 7:00 pm and 8:00 pm**. We continue this practice. Lent is a wonderful time to receive God's mercy in this extraordinary Sacrament. In addition to Saturday afternoons (2:45-3:45 pm), we will be offering confessions on Lenten Tuesday evenings. They begin February 24 (the first full week of Lent) and continue on March 3, March 10, March 17, March 24 and March 31 (which falls during Holy Week). During Holy Week there will be additional confessions from 3:00 to 4:00 pm and 7:00 to 8:00 pm on each of the following days: Monday, March 30, Tuesday, March 31, and Wednesday, April 1...as well as on Holy Saturday, April 4 from 2:45 to 3:45 pm.

The Wisdom of the Saints

"The saints must be honored as friends of Christ and children and heirs of God. Let us carefully observe the manner of life of all the apostles, martyrs, ascetics, and just men who announced the coming of the Lord. And let us emulate their faith, charity, hope, zeal, life, patience under suffering, and perseverance unto death so that we may also share their crowns of glory." - *St. John of Damascus*

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. For years we have **not been able to obtain any information from St. Vincent's Hospital, 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. Sadly, Monsignor is entirely dependent on information that you can provide!**

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.

**Stations of the Cross
Lenten Friday Afternoons**

We celebrate the Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent. We resumed this practice 4 years ago, and a good number of people come. The time is **3:00-3:30 pm**. We encourage you to join in.

**Thanks for your Presence here
Sisters of Mercy! *Au Revoir!***

We take this opportunity (sadly) to offer our farewell to two Sisters of Mercy who have moved away from their home on Mill Street (this past Tuesday) and will now live at Notre Dame Assisted Living Residence on Plantation Street. They are **Sister Janet Ballentine, RSM**, and **Sister Carol Kell, RSM**. Six days a week they have worshipped with us at our early morning Mass, and their presence here has been inspirational. Technically, they have been parishioners at St. John's Parish on Temple Street, and they have worshipped there on Sundays. But, good Sisters, you will be missed. Both sisters were associated with the Nazareth Home for Boys in Leicester during their long decades of service to the Church. God bless you! We remember you! We pray for 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.

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.

Parish Book Club Meetings

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. Its next meeting date is set for **Thursday, March 5**. The book the group will be discussing for its March meeting is C.S. Lewis' ***Surprised By Joy***, one of Lewis' best known and classic works. 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.

Need Volunteer ESOL Teachers & Assistants (Feb 22 start)

A Faith That Does Justice is seeking volunteer ESOL Teachers and Assistants for a 15-week session beginning February 22 (excluding vacation weeks). Serve adult learners at all levels through virtual classes and in-person classes in Boston. Classes meet two mornings or two evenings per week (two-hour classes). We provide curriculum, textbooks, training/orientation, and classroom support. Teaching experience is welcome but not required, and strong English fluency is especially helpful. Apply at: <https://bitly/4rsCOWf>.

Priestly Vocation Retreat

The Diocese will offer its annual Priestly Vocation Retreat for men high school age and up from 6:00 pm on Friday, **March 27** to 5:00 pm on Saturday, **March 28**. There is no cost. The retreat takes place at Immaculate Conception Retreat Center, 600 Liberty Highway, in Putnam, CT. Bishop McManus and Father Donato Infante lead the retreat. "To live your true calling is a life of joy, but you will only hear His voice if you take the time to listen." To register for the retreat visit: worcestervocations.com/retreats.

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

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.

Highlights of the Week Ahead

Sunday, February 15

3 pm - Adult Confirmation Mass at
St. Paul's Cathedral

Tuesday, February 17

7:00 pm - A.A. Meeting

Ash Wednesday, February 18

Masses at 7 am, 9 am, 12noon, 3pm,
5:30 pm and 7 pm
7:45 pm - Folk Group Rehearsal

Thursday, February 19

Masses at 7:00 am & 5:30 pm
7:00-8:30 pm - Festival Choir rehearsal

Friday, February 20

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

Sunday, February 22

10:00-11:00 am - CGS and Grades 1-6
6:00-7:30 pm - Rel. Ed., Grades 7-10
6:00-7:30 pm - Confirmation Program

New Altar Servers Needed

Monsignor Sullivan looks forward to preparing some new altar servers and to serve at any of our Masses. If your son or daughter is interested in learning to be an altar server, please let Msgr. Sullivan know by emailing him at tsullivan5@mac.com. He will be back in touch with you.

CHRIST THE KING PARISH HELP REDUCE HUNGER

Our next collection day is Thursday, March 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. Another upcoming date is April 9.

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 (official).

Lent

In Lent, which begins this Wednesday, we are exposed to the entire mystery of what God has done for us in Christ. The austerity of the season - marked by simplicity, sacrifice and renewed prayerfulness - is dictated not only by sorrow for sin but also as a time of waiting and anticipation for the coming Easter celebration. Joy is as much a keynote of the season as austerity. It is the joy of those who know that while they are sinners, God's merciful love has been revealed through Jesus Christ.

The whole of the Lenten season looks forward with anticipation to the *Triduum* (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the great Vigil on the eve of Easter), which fully reveals what we will be seeking during the forty days ahead: to die and rise to new life with Christ.

Lent is baptismal, too, because Christian life is baptismal. To be baptized is to die with Christ and rise with him to new life, a process initiated at Baptism, to be sure, but one that is not entirely completed until we rise with him on the last day.

Lent, then, is a time of baptismal renewal, when the Church lingers over the meaning of Baptism - not as a past event in our lives but as a vocation to be lived, not as something that happens merely to individuals but as the task of the whole Church until her Lord comes in glory. It is the time when the Church reaffirms her reason for existence and rededicates herself to her task *of being* the body of Christ.

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