

Christ the King Roman Catholic Parish

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Clergy and Staff

Rev. Esterminio Chica

Pastor (FrMino@gmail.com)

Rev. Jack Martin

Weekend Assistant

Rev. Mr. Charles Simmons

Deacon

Mass times:

Saturday, 5 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

July 12, 2020

***Fifteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time***

Reading I: Isaiah 55: 10-11

Reading II: Romans 8: 18-23

**The Gospel: Matthew 13: 1-23, or
13:1-9**

From the Pastor's Desk:

People of God,

WE ARE OPEN FOR GOD BUSINESS!



Reflections on the Gospel

Rev. Leonard Peterson

A Message from Cardinal Tobin

July 12, 2020

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word but then the cares of the world and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit.” - MATTHEW 13:22

Does the lure of riches and material goods choke God out of your life? Are you so caught up in earthly activities that you have no time for God? Gratitude and generosity are virtues that we should strive to do on a daily basis. Every decision we make either takes us one step closer to God or one step further away. What we receive at Mass every Sunday should be shared with others all the other days of the week as well.

One of life's persistent questions is “What if?” If we answer by looking back on our lives, we could face heaps of regret. If we gaze into the future, we may get carried away with our daydreams or forget about the contingency of all things. But once in awhile, we get pleasant answers to the question, well-grounded and uplifting. Case in point: this weekend's Gospel passage. The unspoken variant is this: “What if Jesus were to explain some of His parables?” Fortunately for us, here He did.

As always, we admire Jesus' ingenuity as a teacher, using what is familiar to His audience at the time, in this case some rural workers. But as part of the Divine Word referred to by Isaiah, what Jesus said is addressed to a much wider audience than the original one. That happens to include you and me.

Now, some of us may actually have been sowers, at least when we spread grass seed on threadbare patches of our front lawn. Therefore the result of our sowing is also a bit chancy. We marvel when the seed catches on. Not so for (dare I call Him?) “Farmer Jesus!”

Perhaps because we have heard this parable many times, we pivot right to its application. Of the four landing places for the seed, we ask, “Which one am I?” Here we must guard against being cavalier about our answer. We may conclude that because we're hearing the parable at Mass, we have the right to say “I must be that good soil.” Or, we could go in the opposite direction and hastily condemn ourselves for being “rocky soil” or even “thorns.”

May I humbly suggest that, if you're anything like me, you have been all four types at various points in life. Our spiritual lives always seem to be “works in progress.” That's because they are. It's a matter of two steps backwards for every one step forward.” Of course, with no sarcasm meant, you just may be one of those hidden saints that have always been part of the Church, even though you would never say so about yourself.

But for the majority of us there is usually this bouncing back and forth. That could make me worry, which Our Lord said elsewhere is foolish. I am grateful that the Holy Spirit gives us St. Paul, one very transparent saint. He freely admits his progress and regression in the matter of his behavior. But note what Paul writes to us in today's Second Reading: “*I consider the sufferings of this present time as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us.*” Our very vacillation is a form of suffering. (So is coping with all the effects we have endured of Covid 19, although that is subject for another reflection.)

So, taking St. Paul's words to heart, we do not have to waste our time worrying about our eternal glory being in jeopardy because of our unintended relapses. As long as we repent and rise up to try again, we will see God face to face and experience a peace and joy unmatched by anything here on earth.

As for questions like “What if?” the evangelist Vance Havner (d. 1986) wrote this: “*There are a lot of questions the Bible doesn't answer about the Hereafter. But I think one reason is illustrated by the story of a boy sitting down to a bowl of spinach when there's a chocolate cake at the end of the table. He's going to have a rough time eating that spinach when his eyes are on the cake. And if the Lord had explained everything to us about what's ours to come, I think we'd have a rough time with our spinach down here.*”

Mass Readings for July 12-19, 2020

Monday: Is 1:10-17; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23; Mt 10:34 — 11:1
Tuesday: Is 7:1-9; Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8; Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15; Mt 11:25-27
Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Ps 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21; Mt 11:28-30
Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Is 38:10, 11, 12abcd, 16; Mt 12:1-8
Saturday: Mi 2:1-5; Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14; Mt 12:14-21
Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19; Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

Please **PRAY** for the sick of our parish and those that care for them

Please keep the following parish family members and friends in your prayers:

Francena Thomas, Beverly Chestnut, William Moore, Nathaniel McDougald, Irene Gaynor, John Lott, Connie Moses, Deneen Dorsey, Carol Jones, Julia Hunt-Walker, Mildred Hamm, Elizabeth Gaines, Alicia Brown, Ellen Stuckey, Shirley Connell, James Holloway, Dolores Sanders, Bessie Johnson, Gordon Gladden, Adela Buccilli, Lourdes Ithier, Robert Orange, Aaron Anderson, Bennie Fields, Pat Edomy, Valerie Thomas-Floyd, Davey Bogar, Harriet Donald, Wanda Manning, Roberta Brown, Sharon Massey, Michael J.R. Coates, Claude Hunt, Carolyn K. Rice, Verdona Johnson, Aurora Curry, Elissa Hairston, Valerie Lewis-Mosley, Renade Bigbie, Janie Jackson, Aaron Hairston, Verdell Moses-Boyd, Dad Mallard, A.J.Downing, Thomas Fowler III, Ronald Peterson, Diane Weems, Katherine Graham, Eleanor Mixson, Kadeem Carson, Velma Smith Ingram, Miya Enix, Ruth Ann Watkins, Anna Marie Mosley, Minnie Johnson, Shirley West, Curtis Curry, Bestine Remy, Jessie Williams, Maurice Anyaorah, Charles Simmons, Bryson Nelson, Gail Williams, Monica Brown, Garlin Family.

God of mercy, ease the suffering of those on our prayer list. Comfort them in their various illnesses. Please give them courage, patience and hope. In their times of loneliness assure them of our love and prayers.

FAITH STORIES

Our inventory of faith stories is completely empty. Our community will grow in love when we share our stories.

Be encouraged!

**REMEMBER: GOD IS GOOD, ALL THE TIME:
ALL THE TIME, GOD IS GOOD!**

Pray the Rosary: Sunday at 11:55 am

(712)775-7031 Passcode: 221711#

Bible Study: Wednesday at 7pm

Zoom Meeting ID:76046150891

Password: 7fUm1Z

Men's Prayer Group: Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Zoom Meeting ID : 582 0 45 8603

Password : 482482



Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers

Please contact Iris Jones
(iris.jones54@icloud.com)

or the parish office (201) 333-4862

(ctkjenj@gmail.com) with dates that you are willing to serve during July, August, and September. Thank You

Prayers for the Dead

Eternal rest grant unto him/her, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him/her. May he/she rest in Peace, Amen. May his/her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

Prayer requests for the dead and for the recently deceased in our community: Jacqueline Simmons, Rashad Thomas, Teresa Garner, Denise Floyd, Tashan Coaxum, Elizabeth Livingstone, Joseph Seals, Douglas Miguel Rodriguez, Leah Mindel, Ferencz, Moshe Deutsch, Lisa Stokes, Douglas Dabney, Thomas H. Simmons, Jr., Jacqueline McKnight Myers, Victor Brown, Emma Jackson, Lucille Mitchell, Elonda Lyles, Morris Mosley, Calvin Hart, Pearl Hardy, Tina Thorpe.

Pastoral Council	
Patrice Maina	Beauty Muswema
Kimberly Robertson	Alan Lee
Rosemary Nwabueze	Devon Roland
Mabel Hawkins	Eleanor Simmons
Charles Simmons	

Finance Council	
Yolanda Jackson	Donna Boyer-Lendor
Fred Garlin	Ronald J. Hunt
Shalitha Nelson	Christine Wooten
Monica Harwell	Diana Maina
Verdena Johnson	

Sacred Music Ministry
Greg Searvance

Mission Statement of Christ the King
Roman Catholic Church

We will be open to the voice of God leading us to a greater love for each other and those looking for a place to worship.

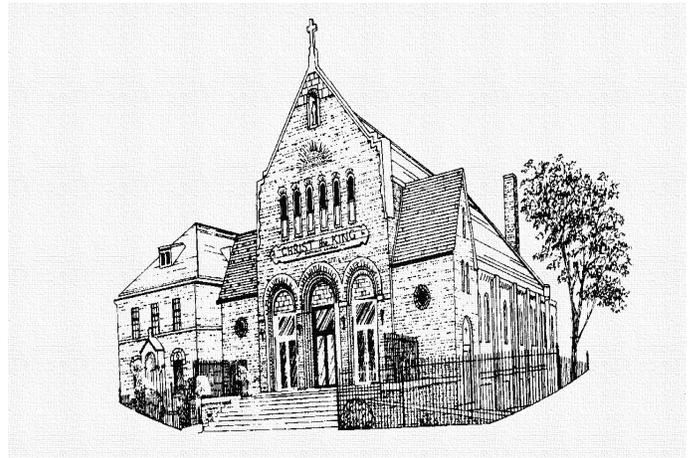
We will work hard in order to learn the beauty of our Catholic faith and have the courage to share it with others with respect and joy.

We will pray to the Holy Spirit for us to become a welcoming and healing community, in word and actions, in the legacy of our church's ancestors.

Reporting Sexual Abuse Information

The Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by any member of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us immediately so that we may take appropriate actions to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse. Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at (201) 407-3256

Christ the King Roman Catholic Church



Trustees: ***Mrs. Verdena Johnson***
Ms. Christina Wooten

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 9:00 AM–2:00 PM
Friday 9:00 AM–12:00 Noon

The Sacrament of Baptism

Celebrations are held seasonally. Parents should contact the pastor to set up an appointment. Parents and godparents are invited to our baptismal preparation program.

The Sacrament of Marriage

Couples considering marriage are expected to make arrangements with the pastor one year in advance. All couples are welcome to our marriage preparation program.

Parish Membership

Christ the King is a parish that welcomes all. Every member of the parish is expected to be involved in stewardship of time, talent, and treasure and one of the church ministries. Anyone needing offering envelopes should contact the rectory.

Christian Formation

Inquiry classes into Catholic faith RCIA formation for adults seeking full membership in the Catholic Church are held in the rectory. For more information please contact Fr. Mino for meeting times.

Covid-19: A Prayer of **Solidarity**

For all who have contracted coronavirus,
We pray for care and healing.

For those who are particularly vulnerable,
We pray for safety and protection.

For all who experience fear or anxiety,
We pray for peace of mind and spirit.

For affected families who are facing difficult
decisions between food on the table or public safety,
We pray for policies that recognize their plight.

For those who do not have adequate health insurance,
We pray that no family will face financial burdens alone.



For those who are afraid to access care due to immigration status,
We pray for recognition of the God-given dignity of all.

For our brothers and sisters around the world,
We pray for shared solidarity.

For public officials and decision makers,
We pray for wisdom and guidance.

Father, during this time may your Church be a
sign of hope, comfort and love to all.

Grant peace.
Grant comfort.
Grant healing.
Be with us, Lord.

Amen.



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Our food pantry is still in operation at Sacred Heart.

We are in need of staple groceries, and certainly monetary donations. Please contact Verdena Johnson (verdena@verizon.net) or the Rectory for more information.

Yolanda Jackson and the Oparaji Family are coordinating "Grab and Go" food giveaways in front of the church. In addition to a bag lunch, a bag of groceries, including fresh fruit and vegetables will be provided. Help is always appreciated. For more info Email or phone

Yolanda Jackson: yojacks@hotmail.com. (201) 852-0023

Domali Campbell Oparaji : femdocjcmc@yahoo.com (201)951-3087

A special 'thank you' to Rosemary for writing a grant to help fund our food ministries, and to all of you who pray, donated, and support this work.

Anyone who wishes, may sign up to donate at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040a4babad2ea64-ctk>

Our next 2 "Grab and Go" dates are July 11, and August 15.

Volunteers are needed

Friday, July 10, from 5-8 pm and

Saturday July 11 from 10:30-2 .



Office of Evangelization is offering an online Evangelization series. Registration information: Fr. Jim Gordon, 973-497-4137



Food Safety Zoom Class:

Thursday, 5 pm

Meeting ID: 616 248 0386

Password: OFwsNr

CTK T-Shirt Fundraiser

CELEBRATE OUR 90TH YEAR!

Let's pay homage to our ancestors whom fought to be

"Black & Catholic" Youth Sizes (XS-XL): \$15

Adult Sizes (S-XXL): \$20

"Blessed" T-shirts & "CTK" Reusable Tote bags

Contact Kimberly Robertson for more information.

kimberly.robertson05@gmail.com

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<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-1508556>