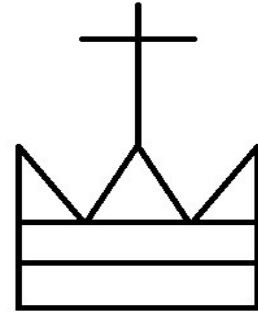


CHRIST THE KING

CATHOLIC CHURCH



820 E. Main Street
P.O. Box 1201
Abingdon, VA 24212
276.628.2941

Rev. Christopher Masla, Priest Administrator
cmasla@richmonddiocese.org
276.628.2941

Current Mass Schedule:

Sunday Mass: 9:00 a.m.
Weekday Mass: Wednesday: 6:00 p.m.; Thursday: 8:00 a.m.; Friday: 12:10 p.m.

Praying of the Rosary:
Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Reconciliation:
30 minutes prior to all Masses & 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Thursday

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

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**Our Mission Statement:**

The parish of Christ the King Catholic Church continues the mission Jesus began of serving humanity.  
Inspired by Word and Sacrament, we share our God-given talents and gifts, faith and discipleship.  
In this, we enrich and share our Catholic faith.

*"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Matthew 18:20*

**January 7, 2024**  
**The Epiphany of the Lord**  
**Youth Sunday**

Farris Funeral Home provides our yearly calendars. There was a delay in their approval submittal. Due to this oversight, calendars will have our new Mass schedule. We expect delivery in 2 weeks.

## SPECIAL NOTICES

*The CTK community joyfully extends congratulations* to Jillian & Andrew Smith on the baptism of their son, Luke Andrew Jacob Smith, by Fr. Christopher Masla on Friday, December 29, 2023 at Christ the King. Luke's godparents are Rebecca & Patrick Palumbo. Congratulations also to siblings Clara and Henry, and grandmother Kate Jacob!

**Feminine Genius - the Women's Bible Study:** resumes this Saturday, Jan. 13th (9:30 - 11:00 a.m.) with a study of Psalms! This is a 6-session study, but will be split up in the weeks before and after Lent due to a special Lenten study. See the schedule posted on the Fellowship Bulletin board in Commons. *We have a solid group of women who meet regularly, but new women are always welcome!* Please email Donna at [faithformation@christthekingsaintjohn.org](mailto:faithformation@christthekingsaintjohn.org) before Jan. 8th to sign-up so books can be ordered.

**New monstrance:** If you would like to contribute toward our new monstrance, *please make check payable to CTK w/ monstrance on the memo line.* Thank you to those who have donated.

**Message from Fr. René:** *Sisters and brothers in Christ, dear benefactors and friends:* In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I hope you are well. In recent years we have noticed an upheaval in the world. War and hostilities rage in some countries. Haiti, which was already very poor, is suffering even more. In Haiti, gangs rule the roost, and the government is both complicit and powerless. Thus, it is the poorest who suffer the most. In Fond-Michel and Morne Blanc, the situation is serious and sad. Personally, I am very affected by this situation. I see the misery of the village families, but I can't do anything about it. Many people come to the parish for help (money, food) but I cannot respond to their request, because I too am suffering. The main problems I face are: 1-Insecurity. 2-Lack of economic means (no money to do certain things, small jobs and meet my own needs). 3-Hunger. Despite everything, we do not lose hope. And your solidarity, your friendship with my parish strengthens this hope. Thank you for who you are to my community and to me personally. *Sincerely yours, Fr. René*

**Abingdon Ecumenical Refugee Project:** Please remember in your prayers the Venezuelan refugee couple, Wilmer and Cecilia, who will be arriving in Abingdon on Jan. 10th. Several members of CTK have been part of the group preparing to welcome this couple.

**FIA Food Pantry Volunteers:** Daytime Monday, Jan. 15th & Friday, Jan. 19th from 9:45 am-1 pm, and Tuesday, Jan. 16th from 3:45-6 pm. Sign up on board at church entrance or contact Polly Berry: 276.492.3878 or [pollyberry2017@gmail.com](mailto:pollyberry2017@gmail.com) if you can assist with any hours to help at the computer/desk, stocking shelves, packing carts, or bagging.

### **Please Note:**

Fr. Chris will be on retreat the week of Jan. 22nd –26th. There will be no weekday services at CTK or St. John that week.

**Collection for Respect Life:  
Jan. 21st**

## **Faith Formation Corner**

### **The Epiphany of the Lord**

**B**

The tradition of giving gifts at Christmas is thought by some to be rooted in the gift giving of the Magi. In many cultures, gifts are not exchanged at Christmas, but rather on the feast of the Epiphany. Whenever you exchange your Christmas gifts, take some time to reflect on this tradition of gift giving at Christmas. Think of the best gift you have received. What was it? What made it special? Was it the gift itself, the thought that went into it, or the person who gave it to you?

In today's Gospel, Matthew 2:1-12, the gifts of the Magi—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—have come to be understood as symbols of Christ's royalty, divinity, and eventual suffering and death. They are special because in giving them, the Magi acknowledge who Jesus was to be: our Savior. We pray that we will acknowledge Jesus as Savior in all that we do and say.

Today is the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. Here is a site with some resources for your household: <https://bustedhalo.com/ministry-resources/chalk-it-up-bless-your-door-this-epiphany>

### Special prayers and participations:



**Prayers 4 Protection Campaign:** Since 2016 the Abingdon Police Department has asked local churches to include prayers for their law enforcement and administrative personnel. Each week we have placed a name in the bulletin and asked that you devote prayers to that person and their family. This week we pray for **Patrol Officer Branson Thomas**. We pray that Officer Thomas aware of the power and responsibility his position holds. We pray not only for his protection, but that he perform his duties with care and concern for the community he serves.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**  
follows Thursday 8:00 a.m. Mass until  
Benediction at 9:00 p.m. Please sign-up on  
the schedule in the Commons or click the QR  
code to sign up digitally.



**POOR BOX:** \$70.05 was collected in December. These funds go to FIA to help those in need pay fuel bills. These anonymous donations are always needed by someone in our community.

*We pray for the Repose of the Soul of Jean Schwab, who passed from this life  
on December 27, 2023. Details are forthcoming as to a service at CTK.  
Eternal rest grant unto Jean, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon her.*

**PRAYERS REQUESTED (new names this week in bold):** (If you are sick, in the hospital, or unable to go to Mass, please call the office. Please let the office know of name removal.)

Laurn Becker  
Leslie Birch  
Marilyn Borquist  
Maryann Browning  
Sue Burns  
Karen Bush  
Jo Ann Detta  
Melissa Farmer

Ethan Finch  
Randy Flora  
Lorenzo Guillen  
**Johannah Harrison**  
Floris Houston  
Donna Hundman  
Ron Johnson  
Laurie Lawler

Judy Marburg  
Mallory Minichello  
Irene Mooney  
Bill Munk  
Candy Singleton  
Teresa Swiney  
Michael Tully, Jr.  
Pam Turner

Amber Wolfe  
Denise Wolfe

**As of Jan. 1st, names  
were removed if they  
had been listed for 6  
months. Please email  
office if you wish a  
name added.**

**MILITARY PRAYERS:** Brandon Bates, Paul Browning, Jose Cisneros, Michael Davidson, Scott Elliott, Geoffrey Estes, Matt Frazier, Chuck Gill, Scott Hebert, Anthony Lachlan, James Mayes, Kevin Perkins, Michael Richardson, Blaine Robinson.

**Office Manager: Mary Byrd - 276.628.2941**  
**Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, Noon - 5:00 p.m.**

**Parish Website: [christthekingsaintjohn.org](http://christthekingsaintjohn.org)**  
**Fr. Chris email: [emasla@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:emasla@richmonddiocese.org)**  
**Sacramental emergency: 423-281-3860**

**Please submit info to the office or email  
[office@christthekingsaintjohn.org](mailto:office@christthekingsaintjohn.org) by Friday Noon. Please include name & phone.**