



# Christ the King Parish

## **PASTOR**

Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. Sullivan

## **IN RESIDENCE**

Rev. Richard F. Reidy, Vicar General

## **DEACON**

Joseph M. Baniukiewicz

## **DIRECTOR OF LITURGICAL MUSIC**

Dr. Jonathan Bezdegian

## **DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Judith L. Brennan

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Mindy A. Dulude

## **SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR**

Deacon Joseph M. Baniukiewicz

## **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  
**Judith Brennan, DRE:** ctkedu1052@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 take place at Sunday Mass once a month. 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 7:00 PM (vigil)  
7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 6:00 PM (on the day)



## **PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

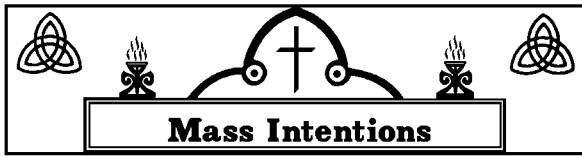


"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." - Mt 21:9

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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1052 Pleasant Street Worcester, MA 01602



**In the week ahead these Mass Intentions will be honored by our priests, in private Masses, as they can:**

**Saturday—April 4th**

Maryann Sauger, Thomas Gibbons, and deceased members of the Fitzgerald and Gibbons Families

**Sunday—April 5th**

Joan M. Sheehan (33rd anniv.) req. of grandson P.J., Parishioners of Christ the King, and Catherine Ferrie (9th anniv.) req. of family

**Monday—April 6th**

Jay Tierney (mem.) req. of Judy St. Amand

**Wednesday—April 8th**

Marie A. Russell (11th anniv.) req. of James D. Brock

**REST IN PEACE**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Susan R. Reynolds**, and **Rebekah L. O'Connor**, the mother of Dennis O'Connor.

**Distribution of Palms on Palm Sunday**

We know at this point that there will be no Palm Sunday / Passion Sunday Masses for the general public because Palm Sunday falls within the period that public Masses may not be offered for groups larger than **10 persons** per the mandate of Governor Baker.

Msgr. Sullivan will bless the palms that our parish has received at a private Mass on Palm Sunday.

The church doors **will open at 9:30 am on Palm Sunday** morning. The church will remain open for private visits until 5:00 pm (as we have been doing each day).

Volunteers (with gloves) will distribute the palms in the parking lot **from 9:30 am until 11:00 am** on Palm Sunday. You can drive right up to the volunteers and the palms will be offered to you by a volunteer through your car window.

Please **do not bring any palms from previous years** to the church.

**Recent Offertory Donations**

As we are very grateful for the time you share with Christ the King, and the abundance of your talents, so we are for your offertory gifts. In light of the suspension of all Masses our donations have been much smaller, as you would expect. Some have been dropping their donations through the door slot at the rectory and others have mailed them in. Nearly two weeks ago we began online giving through our website (you can do that at **ctkworc.org**). Through those combinations of giving, and since our last report, your contributions have been as follows:

**Offertory:** \$4,382.00; **Online Giving:** \$1,715.00  
**Fuel:** \$65.00; **Catholic Relief:** \$125.00;  
**Easter Flowers:** \$100.00; **Donation:** \$300.00; **Parish Outreach:** \$50.00; **Haiti Twinning:** \$75.00; **Easter:** \$50.00; **Ascension:** \$25.00; **Good Friday:** \$35.00; **Church in Latin America:** \$45.00.

**Total: \$6,967.00**

**BAPTISM PREP SESSIONS & CELEBRATIONS**

During this unique time in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis please just call Monsignor Sullivan to inquire about baptisms and discuss your hopes and arrangements - at 508-754-5361 - or email him at: **tsullivan5@mac.com**.

**Watching Mass on TV or Your Computer DURING HOLY WEEK**

Please watch Channel 193 (Charter) at the following times:

**Palm Sunday - 10:00 am**  
**Tuesday, April 7 - Chrism Mass - 10:30 am**  
**Holy Thursday - 7:30 pm**  
**Good Friday - 3:00 pm**  
**Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil - 7:30 pm**  
**Easter Sunday - 10:00 am**

You can watch the Mass on our own parish website. See our home page at **ctkworc.org** and click on the links provided for Worcester's Daily TV Mass or that of Bishop Robert Barron from Word on Fire.

The readings for the Mass each day can be found on the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, at **www.usccb.org**.

**USE OUR PARISH WEBSITE**

A great deal of work has gone into updating our parish website. You can easily find it at **www.ctkworc.org**.

### **Regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Bishop McManus has announced the following changes:

**All daily and Sunday Masses are suspended.** The obligation to take part in the Mass on Sundays and Holy days of Obligation is thereby lifted. All Mass intentions will be honored by our priests through private Masses. The church will be open for private prayer between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm as long as the number of persons present at any time does not exceed **10 persons**.

Parishioners are encouraged to **watch Mass on television**. A live broadcast of the Sunday Mass will be offered by Bishop McManus at 10:00 am on Sunday mornings on Charter channel 193. It will be repeated at 6:00 pm. Weekday Masses will be offered at 9:00 am on Charter channel 193. A schedule is being developed for Masses in Spanish. The readings for the Mass each day can be found on the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org).

**Parish priests will not have access to our hospitals**, nursing homes, rehab centers and assisted living facilities. In the hospitals only existing in-house chaplains will provide pastoral care. Two priests in each deanery (or defined area) will be trained and assigned to all serious pastoral emergencies **for at-home visits**. They will be relieved of all other pastoral duties.

**All confessions are suspended.** In the case of the dying only those two trained priests (above) will be hearing confessions.

**ALL religious education classes and all meetings** at Christ the King are **suspended**.

Priests are urged to remain in the rectory and maintain phone, email and social media contact with parishioners.

**Parishioners and visitors should not visit the rectory** at this time. The Chancery Offices of the Diocese will be closed to the public during this period.

**Funeral Masses and Weddings** may be celebrated with the immediate family only (limited to **5 people for a funeral and 6 people for a wedding**). Staggered seating will be necessary for these. The doors of the church will be locked once the family has arrived. Families will be provided the opportunity to celebrate only the Rites of Committal at the cemetery (with a Funeral Mass to be scheduled sometime in the future when the crisis is over).

### **Lenten fast and abstinence regulations for the Diocese of Worcester**

**Abstinence** from meat is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen (14) years of age and older on **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 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.

### **Free Online 'Magnificat'**

During this difficult time, many of the faithful may be unable to attend Mass. To help them sanctify their day and to keep walking in the liturgical rhythm of the Church, the publishers of **MAGNIFICAT** are honored to make their online version of **MAGNIFICAT** temporarily available to everyone and free of charge at <https://us.magnificat.net/free>.

Free temporary access is also available in Spanish at [www.magnificat.com/gratis](http://www.magnificat.com/gratis).

It is their hope and ours that everyone will take this opportunity to pray with **MAGNIFICAT** in union with the Church each Sunday and weekday. Please pray with us for a speedy and safe end to this time of difficulty in our world.

### **A Prayer in Time of Pandemic**

O God, whose Only Begotten Son bore the weight of human suffering for our salvation, hear the prayers of your Church for our sick brothers and sisters and deliver us from this time of trial. Open our ears and our hearts to the voice of your Son: *Be not afraid, for I am with you always*. Bless all doctors and nurses, researchers and public servants. Give us the wisdom to do what is right and the faith to endure this hour, that we might gather once again to praise your name in the heart of your Church, delivered from all distress and confident in your mercy. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

### **How We Care for Others During this Time**

**Keep Things in Perspective** - Don't forget all the other tragic events in the world going on now. Together with all believers we can pray for all those who are suffering.

**Reach Out to the Homebound** - With phone calls, messages, email, offering to deliver groceries, etc.

**Live the Present Moment Well** - Maintain a healthy balance in info gathering. Focus on what you can do now that you couldn't do before. Be creative.

**Rediscover the Presence of God in Your Neighbor** - Small gestures at home. Cook a special meal. Bake a cake..and if you're alone, connect with others online to give life to Jesus among us at a distance.

**Appreciate What You Have** - and believe that God is love. Take walks to redirect fears and anxieties, contemplate the beauty of nature, look for the positive and signs of solidarity and share them.

### CHRIST THE KING PRAYER LINE

If you know of someone who could use our prayerful support please contact either Mindy at 508-754-5361 or by email at [mindy1052@gmail.com](mailto:mindy1052@gmail.com).

#### *Partners in Charity!*

**Please Contribute**

**Diocesan Goal: \$5 million**

**CTK Goal: \$110,700**

**31% of CTK Families Have Donated**

For those who have not already donated we ask your kind consideration of a gift to the 2020 Annual Partners in Charity Appeal. Donor envelopes can be found in the rear of the church, near the large glass inner windows or near the bulletin racks. Please be generous and return the envelope in next week's collection or through the mail or by dropping it off at the rectory. Your gift will help the Diocese implement its essential charitable, pastoral and educational works in the year ahead.

Tens of thousands of people are the beneficiaries of our charitable giving. Just a few examples are those living at the Nazareth Home for Boys ~ the care of fifty-two retired priests ~ poor families served by Pernet Family Health Service ~ seniors receiving home health care through Catholic Charities ~ children seeking a good education ~ those preparing for the priesthood or diaconate ~ the developmentally disabled at Mercy Centre. But there is much more!

Hopefully, you will consider making a gift from your generosity and spirit of sacrifice. It takes many gifts to reach our goal of \$5 million. All checks should be made payable to "Partners in Charity" (not Christ the King). We hope you'll be generous in making a gift which reflects your gratitude to God for all you have. Please make a gift of mercy. Thank 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](mailto:tsullivan5@mac.com) and he will respond.

### FLOCKNOTES MESSAGES!

#### **Are you Hearing from Us?**

We certainly hope that you are receiving our Flocknotes messages. It is the primary way that we are communicating with our parishioners at this time. If you are not receiving them please contact either Monsignor Tom Sullivan (at [tsullivan5@mac.com](mailto:tsullivan5@mac.com)) or Kris Correia (at [krisedpa@live.com](mailto:krisedpa@live.com)) to have your name and email address added to our growing list. God bless!

### *A Prayer for our Times (and all times)*

Watch, O Lord, with those who wake,  
or watch, or weep tonight,  
and give your angels and saints  
charge over those who sleep.  
Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ.  
Rest your weary ones.  
Bless your dying ones.  
Soothe your suffering ones.  
Pity your afflicted ones.  
Shield your joyous ones,  
And all for your love's sake.  
Amen.

St. Augustine

### **Helping Out with the 2020 U.S. Census at Home**

Because of the current coronavirus pandemic and the required social distancing it is very difficult for the U.S. Government to obtain local volunteers to visit households. Now more than ever, we should all respond to the Census online, by phone, or by mail. Responses are kept confidential, and it's easy to respond in English as well as in 12 non-English languages. The Census count directs federal funding for the next ten years to our community.

Your family will be mailed a census form. However, you can complete your family's census online by visiting [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov). The survey can be completed in five minutes or less.

### **Making Parish Donations Online**

Use: [ctkworc.org](http://ctkworc.org)

Even though we're abiding by the firmest regulations of social distancing ever asked, the parish is not asleep. Msgr. Sullivan is speaking with our parishioners on the phone and communicating by email. Mindy Dulude is in the office and receiving calls each morning. Judi Brennan has emailed lessons for our religious education families and has been assisting families from her home. Our offices are scattered around the CTK campus. You are constantly in our thoughts and prayers! During this unusual period you can help our parish maintain its financial obligations because they remain the same (staff salaries, insurances, heat, etc.). If your family finances are stable at this time, I'd ask that you please continue your support of the parish offertory.

You can mail us a check or your parish offertory envelopes. Or drop them through the mail slot at the rectory's front door.

And we have created an option for simple online giving. Please go to our website, [ctkworc.org](http://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.**' There you will be able to make a donation to the parish using your credit card or use the "check" option to transfer funds directly from your checking account.

Many thanks for your continuing generosity.

## What is Palm (*Passion*) Sunday?

This is the day the Church commemorates Jesus' triumphant and final entry into Jerusalem. The crowds greeted him by waving palm branches and covering his path with palm branches. As noted in John 12:19, Mark 11: 1-11 and Matthew 21: 1-11 it was similar to the reception that Caesar, the emperor of Rome, would receive. Caesar was considered a god among Romans.

But Palm Sunday underscored Jesus' divinity and kingship, which would have been thought an act of treason in Roman society. The colt that Jesus rode on into Jerusalem (Luke 19: 28-44) was said to fulfill a prophecy from the Old Testament about the Messiah, the savior of Israel. The scripture he fulfilled is Zechariah 9:9 ("Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.") The procession that normally occurs today [it won't be this year because of the global pandemic] means that, together with Jesus, we are setting out on a pilgrimage along the high road that leads to the living God.

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