### CHRIST THE KING PARISH

1501 Main Street, Lombard, IL 60148
Rectory: (630) 629-1717 Fax: (630) 705-0692
www.ctklombard.org
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www.dioceseofjoliet.org





#### **Weekend Mass**

Saturday – 4 p.m.
Sunday – 8 a.m., 10 a.m., and 12 Noon

Weekday Mass

Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m.

#### Confession

Saturdays at 3 p.m. and by appointment

#### Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

We welcome you all to be part of our community!

DIOCESE OF JOLIET



#### **PARISH STAFF**

PASTOR: Fr. Jeff Stoneberg

630.396.6079; frjeff@ctklombard.org

WEEKEND PRESIDER: Fr. Robert Schoenstene

DEACONS: Rev. Mr. Peter Robinson 630.629.1717

Rev. Mr. Tony Clishem 630.629.1717 Rev. Mr. Matt Novak 630.629.1717

DEACON EMERITUS: Rev. Mr. Frank Lillig 630.629.1717

PARISH SECRETARY:

Carol Clishem 630.629.1717 x 2 carol@ctklombard.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR AND COORDINATOR OF LITURGY

Vince Zaprzal 630.396.6086; vince@ctklombard.org

DIRECTOR of CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION:

Loretta Crotty 630.396.6078; loretta@ctklombard.org

DIRECTOR of ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

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BULLETIN EDITOR: Gina Gallo bulletin@ctklombard.org

MAINTENANCE: Phil Ruscetti phil@ctklombard.org



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### **Christ the King Mission Statement**

"A Roman Catholic Community of believers: To know God, love Him and serve Him in this life, modeling his Son, Jesus Christ, and to be with Him in the next life."

#### Mass Intentions for the Week



FRIDAY — December 13 - St. Lucy

8:30 a.m. — Lorraine Airey

SATURDAY —December 14- St. John of the Cross

4:00 p.m. — Jim Tonkinson

SUNDAY— December 15 - Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. — Lillian Gasiorowski

10:00 a.m. — Louis Smotrys

12:00 p.m. — Annamarie Mikkelsen

MONDAY— December 16 - Advent Weekday

8:30 a.m. — Special Intention for

Elenita Romeo Ochoco

TUESDAY — December 17 - Late Advent Weekday

8:30 a.m. — Helen and John Dovalovsky

WEDNESDAY—December 18 - Late Advent Weekday

8:30 a.m. — Lorraine Airey

THURSDAY— December 19 - Late Advent Weekday

8:30 a.m. — Deb Drager

FRIDAY — December 20 - Late Advent Weekday

8:30 a.m. — Robert Logan

SATURDAY —December 21- St. Peter Canisius

 $4:00~\mathrm{p.m.}$  — Deceased Members of the Beyer and

Rusek Family

SUNDAY— December 22 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. — Louise Biegalski

10:00 a.m. — Nancy Peters

12:00 p.m. — Joan Calhan

#### Readings for the Week of December 15, 2024

**Monday:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

**Tuesday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17 **Wednesday:** Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25 **Thursday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

**Friday:** Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

**Saturday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45 **Next Sunday:** Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

#### From the Pastor's desk....

As previously mentioned, Vince Zaprzal, Music Director and Coordinator of Liturgy & Ministry of Care will be leaving us with Sunday, December 29, being his last day. Until we know what will take place with the diocesan restructuring process, the following appointments are on an interim basis through June 2024.

Liturgy Scheduling will be taken over by our DRE, Loretta Crotty. This includes scheduling Deacons and Liturgical Ministers. Loretta will also oversee the weekend announcements.

Parishioners Larry Michalik and Carol Paulsen will co-lead our Ministry of Care; communion to those who are at home.

Our bulletin editor, Gina Gallo, will be handling the parish website and administrator of our Facebook page.

Michelle Dal Pino, our Adult Faith Formation Director will be taking over the weekly e-mail blast you receive on Saturday.

Deacon Matt Novak will handle the duties of our electronic door system that utilizes fobs.

We are in the process of hiring someone to serve as our Music Director.

Thank you for your patience as we go through this period of transition in many areas!

Peace.....Fr. Jeff

#### A Note from the Parish Office

Has Your Address or Phone Number Changed?

If your address or phone number has changed since you registered at Christ the King Parish and you have not yet notified the office, please email Carol at

carol@ctklombard.org or call 630-629-1717 x 2

Thank you! Carol Clishem, Parish Office



### Knights of Columbus Council #11027 Christ the King Parish

# THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS



#### What is the Mass?

The Mass is no ordinary, optional event; it is a sacred, supernatural mystery established by Christ where the work of our redemption is accomplished. It is the very means of salvation Jesus died to provide. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is a sacrifice. It is the re-presentation of the salvific sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross in every generation and nation, where the merits of the Cross are made available and applied to those who worthily participate at it. At Holy Mass, not only are we made present on Calvary with Christ in a real yet mystical way, but we are also in the presence of angels, saints, and our relatives in heaven who join in this highest act of worship - the eternal offering of Christ to the Father on our behalf out of love for us. Such a supernatural, cosmic, trans-dimensional event where the Son of God sacrificed Himself for the salvation of the world could not be limited to a single day in history, nor should it be taken lightly or missed if we want to accept this divine gift of salvation purchased with the precious Blood of Christ.

### **Evangelizing our Friends & Family**

For many years we've watched society fall further and further away from God and our culture lose the anchor that faith provides. We've wondered what we can do stop this downward spiral to oblivion. How do we become the apostles that we are all called to be?

For many of us, we can start in our own homes and in our neighborhood. Many of those that have left the faith are our family and our friends.

For many, if not most, it's not that they don't believe in God, it's that they don't think Church is necessary.

They haven't lost faith, they've lost interest.

They don't see a reason to put forth an effort.

They don't appreciate the miraculous truth of the Holy Catholic Church, the Sacrifice of the Mass and the mystery of the Holy Eucharist.

How can we evangelize our children, relatives and friends to reignite their interest in God and His Church without pushing them even further from God?

To help us answer this challenge, we have developed a trifold brochure to help us evangelize and encourage our relatives and friends so that they might realize the joy and peace that they can only find through the Catholic Church and the Catholic Mass.

Starting Saturday, December 14, you will find, in each pew, these brochures describing the mystery and majesty of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Please take as many as you like to share with your family and friends.

Encourage them to read the brochure. Encourage them to come to the Mass.

## Christ the King Catholic Parish

## Mark Your Calendars: Simbang Gabi on December 20 December 20, 2024 | 7:00 p.m.

The beloved Filipino tradition of **Simbang Gabi** returns to **Christ the King Church** this Advent season! We invite all parishioners and friends to join us for this special evening Mass, celebrating the spirit of Advent with song, prayer, and community. Simbang Gabi is a beautiful way to prepare for Christmas through the warmth and joy of Filipino cultural traditions. Everyone is welcome to be part of this meaningful experience. Save the date—**December 20 at 7:00 p.m.**—bring your family and friends to celebrate with us!

Don't forget to bring your donations to help support the Simbang Gabi festivities through our **GoFundMe campaign**— https://gofund.me/8dcee65f every little bit helps!





Coffee with Christ will meet in the Faith Formation Center, Room 8. Door will be open at 9:00 a.m. and we will start our discussion at 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Also, I will be doing the Zoom Session on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Please see link below and share with everyone/ anyone you think would like to join via Zoom. Join Zoom Meeting

https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78692392040? pwd=hvVeUCMy3OhN7hsqQ17aiV2WqQObE0.1

Blessings,
Michelle Dal Pino,
Director of Adult Faith Formation
630-396-6090
michelle@ctklombard.org





CONTACT MICHELLE AT
MICHELLE@CTKLOMBARD.ORG



#### **2024 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal**

As a reminder, monthly pledge payments for CMAA should be made in the next few days.

It is important that these pledges be paid so that our parish will reach our goal. Once we have reached our goal in paid pledges, 70% of the amount over goal will be returned to our parish for our needs.

Thank you! As of November 17, 2024

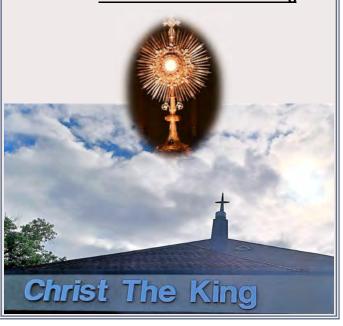
Parish Goal: \$55,600 Amount Pledged: \$77,988 Amount Paid: \$76.873

> Balance Due: \$1,116 2024 Rebate: \$14,891



## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

During this year of Eucharist Revival, join Christ the King on Wednesdays following the 8:30 a.m. Mass anytime until 12 Noon for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Learn more at: www.eucharisticrevival.org



#### Vince Zaprazal Farewell

We all know that our "Mr. Fix It" Vince Zaprazal will be leaving us at the end of this month. We appreciate having had him for the past 10 plus years here at Christ the King.

As a token of our appreciation, a reception will be held after the 4:00 p.m. Mass on December 28 with dinner being served. For the Masses on Sunday, the reception will be held with coffee and donuts being served after each Sunday Mass.

He will be missed terribly, we wish the very best for him and his growing family!

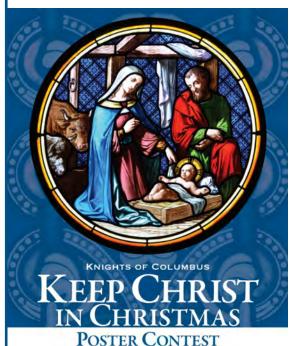
Good luck Vincent!

Please join CCW for a Baby Shower for Jesus to be held on Wednesday, December 18, 2024
9:00 - Parish Life Center (after the 8:30 a.m. Mass)



Join us after Mass for a continental breakfast. We will be collecting unwrapped baby items for the Outreach House. The items most needed are diapers (all sizes), pull-up diapers, infant baby clothes, baby wash, and baby lotion and diaper rash cream. All gifts will go to the Outreach House for their mothers in need. Monetary donations are also welcome. Checks can be made out to the Outreach House. Step away from your holiday preparations to spend some time with us for this worthy cause.

#### **KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS CONTEST**



If you have a young adult in first grade through eighth grade and they would like to participate in the "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest through the Knights of Columbus, please contact Richard Clish for information <a href="mailto:rclish@sbcglobal.net">rclish@sbcglobal.net</a> Students in the CTK Religious Education classes will receive information from Mrs. Crotty concerning participation. If your son or daughter is not in RE, please consider entering the contest. Winners at each age group will receive a \$25 gift card and move on in the competition through the Knights of Columbus organization. All entries are due by December 20. Good luck to all contestants.

Bible Study



JOIN US TUESDAY MORNINGS FOR: A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH THE MASS



SUNDAY MID DAYS
FROM
DECEMBER 1ST - DECEMBER 29TH
1:00PM - 2:30PM
FAITH FORMATION CENTER
ROOM 8

TUESDAY MORNINGS FROM DECEMBER 3RD - DECEMBER 31ST 9:30AM - 11:00AM FAITH FORMATION CENTER ROOM 8



## Bishop Hicks' Column December 2024

## Sacred Steps: Exploring Pilgrimages Near and Far



Have you ever made or wanted to make a pilgrimage to a holy site? Before answering that, let's establish the difference between a vacation and a pilgrimage. A vacation is a leisure trip for a "getaway," usually focused on relaxation, entertainment, and exploration. A Catholic pilgrimage, on the other hand, is a spiritual journey to a sacred site with the purpose of deepening one's faith, seeking divine grace, or fulfilling a religious vow. While vacations prioritize personal enjoyment, pilgrimages emphasize not only some personal enjoyment but also spiritual growth and devotion.

The foundation of a pilgrimage is found throughout both the Old and New Testaments. Examples include Abraham's journey of faith and St. Paul's missionary journeys with and for our Lord. Even the Gospels provide accounts of pilgrimage: each year, Jesus' parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Feast of Passover. In His adult life, Jesus continued this tradition, journeying throughout the Holy Land and ultimately returning to Jerusalem to face His suffering, death, and resurrection.

One of my favorite pilgrimage sites is the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico. Because I worked in Mexico and lived in close proximity to the sanctuary, I have visited many times and have brought friends and family to this holy site. The basilica and grounds are stunning and reflect vibrant cultural expressions of faith and devotion. This inspirational site is where countless people bring their hopes, struggles, and gratitude. Standing before the image of the Virgin, you can palpably feel the love and trust people have placed in her for centuries.

As we approach the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12, I am certain that many of you would love to travel on a pilgrimage to Mexico to visit her. However, because of distance, time, expense, or other constraints, that possibility may be out of reach. Let me offer some ideas for making a more local pilgrimage, particularly to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

This past October, I had the opportunity to join the Knights and Dames of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher. Their investiture Mass took place at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse, Wisconsin. It is just a short four-hour drive from the Joliet area. Completed in 2008, this Marian shrine

invites pilgrims and visitors to an extraordinarily beautiful place of prayer and devotion. With a variety of chapels and gardens, the 70-acre site evokes similar feelings of love for Our Lady and her Son, Jesus, as I have felt while visiting the shrine in Mexico.

If La Crosse still feels too far to travel, consider "El Cerrito" in Des Plaines, IL. This Sanctuary of Our Lady of Guadalupe includes life-sized statues depicting the apparitions of the Virgin Mary to Saint Juan Diego. These statues are part of a dedicated space within the sanctuary, offering visitors a chance to pray and reflect on this sacred moment.

Perhaps your holiday travels this season unexpectedly bring you close to a shrine. It's convenient to locate various shrines on-line at sites such as www.catholicshrines.org or www.catholicpilgrimagesites.wordpress.com/sites-by-state.

If you prefer staying closer to home for your pilgrimage, consider doing a Visitation of the Seven Churches in your local community during Holy Week. In this Catholic tradition, pilgrims visit multiple churches on the evening of Holy Thursday to reflect, pray, and meditate on Christ's Passion and sacrifice. It may not be a pilgrimage of long distance, yet it certainly embodies the spiritual journey of faith and devotion.

Several priests in the Diocese of Joliet from time to time offer Catholic pilgrimages to various sacred sites around the world. One priest recently shared with me his motivation for leading pilgrimages: "Pilgrimages provide an opportunity to broaden our horizons as the past comes into contact with the present, and we are changed by this interaction. Every pilgrim is called by Jesus to go on a journey of encounter where He introduces us to our larger family as we meet the saints who wait for us at each holy site."

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, remember that shepherds, kings, and even angels made their pilgrimage to worship and adore our Savior at His birth. As we walk our own journeys of faith and life, may God bless you abundantly as, together, we as a Church continue to make our pilgrimage to our final destination: the heavenly Jerusalem.



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