



Christ the King Parish / *Paroquia de Cristo Rey*

5711 SW 9th St, Des Moines, Iowa 50315-5006
christthekingparish.org (515) 285-2888
Parish Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 8:00AM—5:00PM,
Friday 8:00AM—Noon

Pastor: Fr. PJ McManus
Associate: Fr. George Komo
Hispanic Pastor: Fr. Jose Reynaldo

Sunday, December 13, 2020

Mass times: Monday—Friday 5:30PM, Tuesday and Thursday 8:30AM, Saturday 5:30PM, Sunday 7:00AM, 9:00AM, 11:00AM and 3:15PM in Spanish. **Confession times:** Monday—Friday 6:00PM, Saturday 4:30PM—5:30PM, Sunday 4:30PM--5:30PM

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY DECEMBER 13, 2020

LIGHT

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

JOHN 1:6-7

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

[Welcome to Christ the King Catholic Church](#)

[Christ the King Catholic Church Mission Statement](#)

Christ the King is a Catholic community centered on The Risen Lord Jesus, proclaiming His Word and celebrating His presence in the Eucharist. Our commitment to spiritual growth as individuals and families is enhanced by providing opportunities for lifelong spiritual and faith formation. We are committed to becoming good stewards by sharing our time, talent, and treasure in gratitude to God for His many gifts to us. If you are interested in joining Christ the King please pick up a newcomer packet in the back of the Church, or go to our website: www.christthekingparish.org

A Letter From Father P.J.

Advent presents two figures to stir our imaginations; two actors who in this life lived extraordinarily different lives, but who in the life to come share in one common mission: John the Baptist and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Though in time Mary arrives on the scene long before John, in the Church's life and our praying our way through the scriptures John appears first. And he isn't presented initially as the unexpected babe in his aging mother's womb, but rather as the wild-eyed prophet calling from the ditchcrows insisting that passersby heed his warning to flee the coming wrath. John spooks us, and he should; he makes us worried and wary and hopefully gets us ready: Something is coming, some *One* is coming.

But as the days draw shorter and the light grows dim, the character which comes to frame our Faith is more unexpected still. Mary of Nazareth is perhaps the least likely person in all of history to change the world, and yet no one person has made more of an impact than she. How many times have we passed the pregnant teenager on the street, the child herself with child? How many times have we used the words which were directed first at her: slut, whore, tramp. And how many times have we presumed to know what was going on in someone else's life, especially those deepest and most personal realities in another person's life, only to be proven so disastrously wrong?

This last week belonged to Mary. On Tuesday we celebrated the day of her conception. How many of us even know the day we were conceived? Who would have the courage to ask our parents? And by celebrating it, and by celebrating it *as Immaculate* the Church rightly recognizes that when married couples do what married couples are meant to do, God can work miracles. On Saturday we claimed her together as *Our Lady*: Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of the Americas, Our Lady of Iowa, Our Lady of the Rivers, Our Lady of Des Moines, Our Lady of the Southside, Our Lady of the Fort.

Do you see the marvelous turn God has tucked inside our story? She who was least regarded has become the most praised. He who warned of God's coming judgment now points out the Prince of Peace. On those whom the world would count for nothing God has made everything depend—and as for them, so for us.

So in these last days: pay attention, be prepared, be ready.

Ours is a God who delights in surprises.



Fr. PJ

A Letter From Father Reynaldo

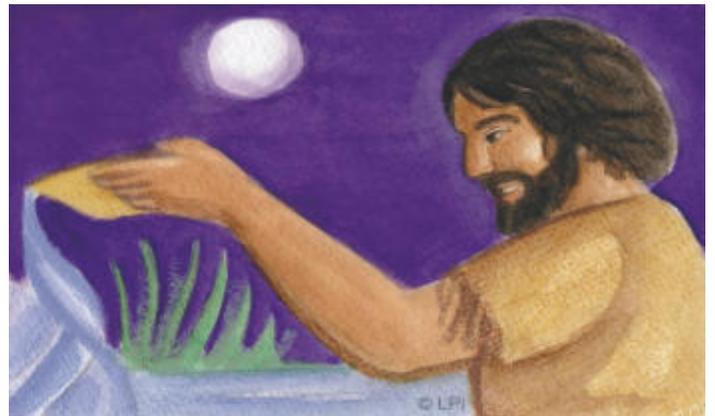
MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO – ALENTAR UN ENTEN-
DIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE LA ESCRITURA

13 de diciembre de 2020
3er Domingo de Adviento

La atmósfera de la Liturgia de hoy es de júbilo y de alegría, porque la luz del Nacimiento de Cristo se acerca. Juan Bautista invita con intensidad a que descubramos la identidad de Jesús. Él indica el camino, y aún más les dice a sus oyentes: *“Yo no soy digno de soltarle la correa de su sandalia”*. (Juan 1:27) Con esta expresión indica la grandeza del que viene. Su dignidad es grande, es de Rey. Juan es el profeta que tiene la alegría de dar esperanza a aquel pueblo que vivía en tinieblas. San Pablo también habla a los Tesalonicenses de la importancia de la fe a la luz de la alegría. *“Estén siempre alegres, oren sin cesar y den gracias a Dios en toda ocasión; esta es, por voluntad de Dios, su vocación de cristianos. Y añade: No apaguen el Espíritu, no desprecien lo que dicen los profetas. Examínenlo todo y quédense con lo bueno. Eviten toda clase de mal, dondequiera lo encuentren”*. (Tesalonicenses 5:16-22)

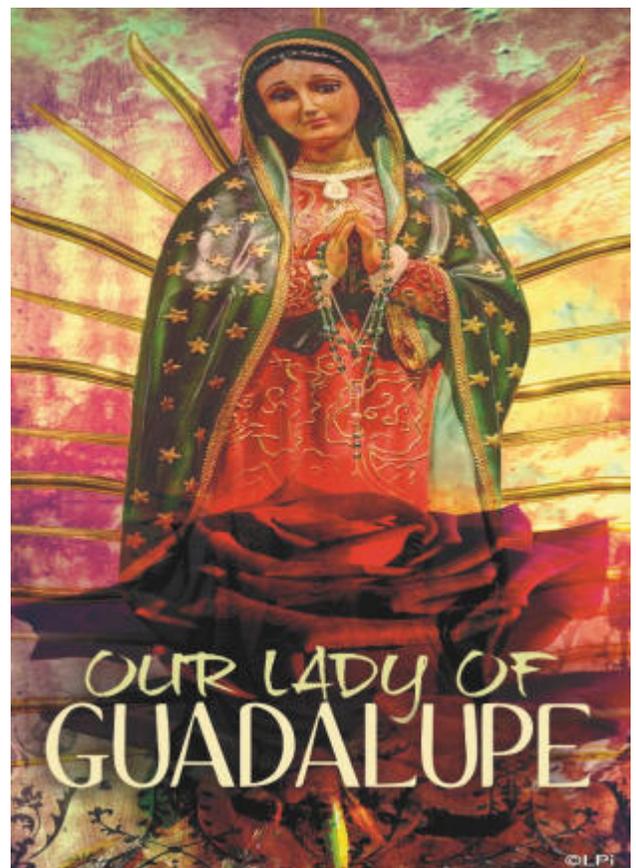
El Adviento es descubrir que Dios está en medio de nosotros. Y la alegría es el punto clave y esencial de nuestra vida de fe. Esa alegría se muestra en la convivencia familiar, en la ayuda al más vulnerable de la familia, en apoyar al inmigrante que sufre toda clase de desprecios. En fin, la generosidad no debe tener límites. Al Señor se le reconoce en el hermano/a con pensamientos y acciones efectivas. El Señor vendrá en unos días, sí, pero, su presencia en la Eucaristía está presente ya entre nosotros. ¿Lo reconoces ahí? ¡Ven Señor no tardes tanto en llegar!

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Hubo un hombre enviado por Dios, que se llamaba Juan. Este vino como testigo, para dar testimonio de la luz, para que todos creyeran por medio de él. El no era la luz, sino testigo de la luz. — Jn 1, 6-8

Lecciónaria | © 1976 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano



Going On In Our Parish

Parish Library

Would you like a movie, a book, or a CD from our Christ the King parish library during this time when the parish library is not open?

Email library@christthekingparish.org or call/text Betty at 515-240-2751. We can arrange delivery to you and pick-up when you are finished.

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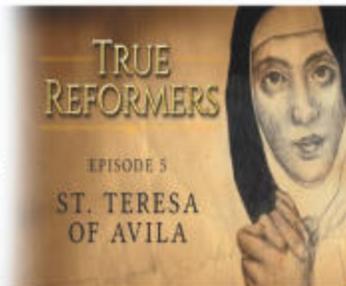
PICK OF THE WEEK

December 13, 2020

WATCH

SAINT TERESA OF ÁVILA: A STUDY IN PERSEVERANCE

Both St. John of the Cross and his dear friend St. Teresa of Ávila lived heroic lives of prayer. In honor of these spiritual masters, enjoy this film depicting the Carmelite way of life and the virtue of perseverance.

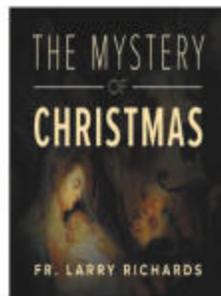


LECTIO: PRAYER—AN INTIMATE DIALOGUE

St. John of the Cross, Doctor of the Church, had a deep desire to help others grow in prayer. In honor of this mystical saint, join Dr. Gray as he dives into the simplicity and mystery of prayer.

LEARN

THE MYSTERY OF CHRISTMAS
BY FR. LARRY RICHARDS
In this talk, Fr. Larry Richards reminds us that in the mystery of Christmas, God gives humanity his greatest gift—the gift of his Son to the world.



LISTEN

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.

To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

Mass Intentions

Saturday December 12

8:30am – Robert & Marion White +, **5:30pm** George & Vera Kirkman+

Sunday December 13

7am– Colleen Black +, **9am** Billy Mc Fall +, **11am** – Our Parish

Monday December 14

8:30am– Kirby Black +, **5:30pm** – Ken Wadle +

Tuesday December 15

8:30am – Alberta Stiles +, **5:30pm** – Rae Cabrera +

Wednesday December 16

8:30am – Thomas Felice +, **5:30pm** – Edward & Jackie Jacobson +

Thursday December 17

8:30am – Angelina Gillotti +, **5:30pm** – Neva Berard +

Friday December 18

8:30am – Colleen Black +, **5:30pm** – Rose Mary Egan +

Saturday December 19

8:30am – David Burriss +, **5:30pm** – Jose Rivera +

Sunday December 20

7am – Richard Black +, **9am** – Our Parish, **11am** – Susan Swehla +



Going On In Our Parish

Magnificat

December Magnificat's are ready to be picked up in the Parish Office. Please call ahead and let us know you are coming, thank you. **515-285-2888**

Host Ministers and Lectors

If you would like to be a Host Minister or Lector this is the perfect time, needing extra help right now for all Masses. If you are interested please call the office at **515-285-2888 ext. 8070**

Mass Intentions

If you have someone you would like to have a Mass said for please contact Julie Lang at **515-285-2580**. She will get you put on the schedule for a Mass to be said for your loved one.

Prayer Chain

For prayer requests, please call one of the Prayer Chain Leaders listed below. We are always praying for you and for each other, God Bless.

Julie Bruner: 515-256-0216

Mara Camacho: 515-865-8093

Darlene Hiatt: 515-244-9205

Evelyn Shaw: 515-201-0280

I know this Advent is much different this year due to Covid-19, but what we all need to remember that it is God we must keep our eyes on. Jesus is the reason for the season, even though it will be different, we must remain faithful. What a wonderful time of year, when God sent his only son to be born of Mary a simple woman. This truly shows us her faith and love for God. Through this act, we are all saved but we must keep our faith in this difficult time. Let us all come closer to Jesus this year then we have ever been! Amen.

Poinsettia Memorial Donation

Envelopes

Christ the King has Poinsettia Envelopes at the back side of each entrance. If you would like a poinsettia to be placed on the altar for a loved one, pick up one of the envelopes and return as soon as possible to the parish office, thank you and God bless.



Christmas Mass Schedule

Thursday December 24– Christmas Eve
4:00PM in English, 6:00PM in English, 8:00PM in Spanish

Yes there will be a Midnight Mass at Midnight this year!

Friday December 25-Christmas Day
7:00AM English, 9:00AM English, 11AM in Spanish

The Parish Office

Will be closed on the following days

Monday December 21st– Sunday January 3rd, Office will reopen on Monday January 4th

Going On In Our Parish

A Message from the School

Greetings,

This year, more than ever in my lifetime, we all need the hope, promise, and anticipation that Advent brings. I pray that as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we allow Christ to be incarnated into our own bodies and lives. When we have Christ, nothing can keep us from living a good life. When we see the world through this lens, nothing that goes “wrong” in this world seems so bad.

At Christ the King School, we have the opportunity to help our students learn this essential skill and mindset, and it’s another benefit we are able to provide as a Catholic school.

I hope you all have a blessed remainder of your Advent season, and I look forward to sharing in the joy of the Christmas season with you all.

God bless,
Daniel Thole

A gift that lasts a lifetime...

This year, give the gift of Catholic education and your gift goes twice as far! Thanks to a generous matching gift, all new donors to the Catholic Tuition Organization between now and December 15 will have their gift matched dollar for dollar! To learn more,

visit CTOIowa.org or call 515.237.5010.

Un regalo que dura toda la vida ...

¡Este año, dé el regalo de la educación católica y su regalo llega al doble! Gracias a una generosa donación de contrapartida, todos los nuevos donantes de la Organización de matrículas católicas entre ahora y el 15 de diciembre tendrán su donación dólar por dólar! Para obtener más información, visite

CTOIowa.org o llame al 515.237.5010.



St. Vincent de Paul, Warm Clothing Drive

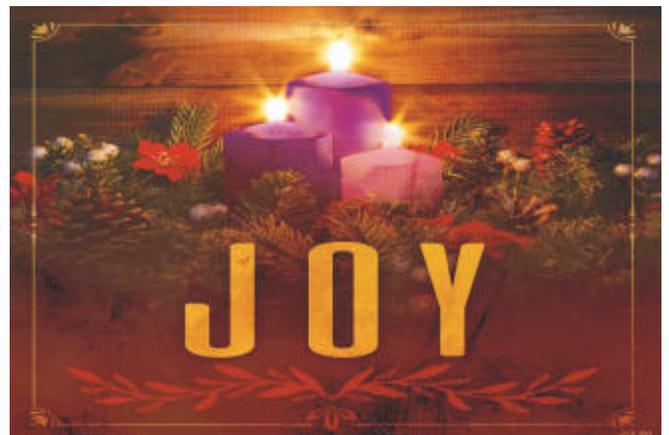
Help those in need stay warm this winter. St. Vincent de Paul Social Services is in need of gently used winter coats, gloves, hoodies, blankets, and sleeping bags. These items will be given out to those in need. Please drop items off at **St. Vincent de Paul Store 520 Army Post Road, and designate at drop off they are for Social Services.**

St. Vincent de Paul, Operation Santa

In 2019 we provided toys, games and books to 1,840 children encompassing 617 different families in partnership with Toys for Tots. Unfortunately, the toys we receive from Toys for Tots is never enough to cover the need. Which means, the number of families we help each year is limited by our available funds. Due to the hardship families are facing this year, we anticipate the need will be greater than ever.

Please consider making a donation to help meet the needs of as many children as possible this year. Make checks made payable to St. Vincent de Paul Society of Des Moines and send to Operation Santa Claus c/o SVdP 1426 6th Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50314. You can also make donations online at venmo.com/#operationsantaclaussdm

Thank you for your consideration and any donation amount would be appreciated. If you need additional information please feel free to contact us operationsantaclaussdm@gmail.com



SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

I rejoice heartily in the LORD,
in my God is the joy of my soul. (Is 61:10a)

PSALM:

My soul rejoices in my God. (Is 61:10b)

SECOND READING:

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy
and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body,
be preserved blameless for the coming of our
Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thes 5:23)

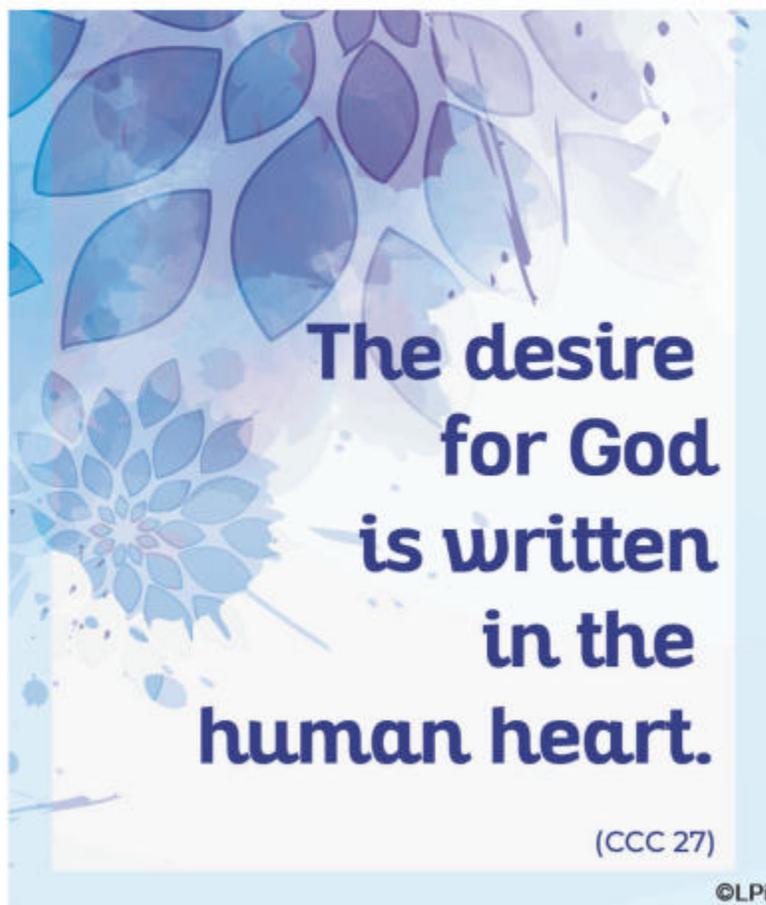
GOSPEL:

"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert,
'Make straight the way of the Lord.'" (Jn 1:23)

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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2020

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent
Monday: St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent



REFLECT

FIRST READING

Isaiah shares his understanding of his prophetic call and his experience of the Lord as a God of justice and compassion. As we continue in the season of Advent, what new spiritual insights are you discovering?

SECOND READING

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be thankful to God and be active in their newly found faith in Christ by following his moral imperatives. How are you putting your faith into practice during this Advent?

GOSPEL READING

John tells us that the religious leaders in Jerusalem questioned the identity of John the Baptist, wondering if he was the Messiah, Elijah, or the Prophet who Moses prophesied would come. John the Baptist responds in humility, with a clear sense of his own call. Do you humbly accept God's call in your life?

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