

LOCATION

Christ the King Rectory
84 Somerset St.
Wethersfield, CT 06109
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w: christthekingparishct.org
e: corpuschristi1@cox.net
[facebook.com/ChristtheKingCT](https://www.facebook.com/ChristtheKingCT)

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Masses
Mon. – Sat. 7:30am
Weekend Masses
Sat. – 4:00pm Vigil
Sun. – 8:00am 10:15am
5:15pm—first Sunday of the month
Daily and Saturday Vigil Masses
also live-stream on Facebook
Reconciliation Sat. – 2:30pm
Holy Hour Sat. – 8:00am-9:00am

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Nicholas P. Melo
frnickmelo@gmail.com

Parochial Vicar

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Deacon

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Thad Terzo

Plant Manager

Greg Silva

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Ann Sarpu

Secretary

Ann Marie Spina



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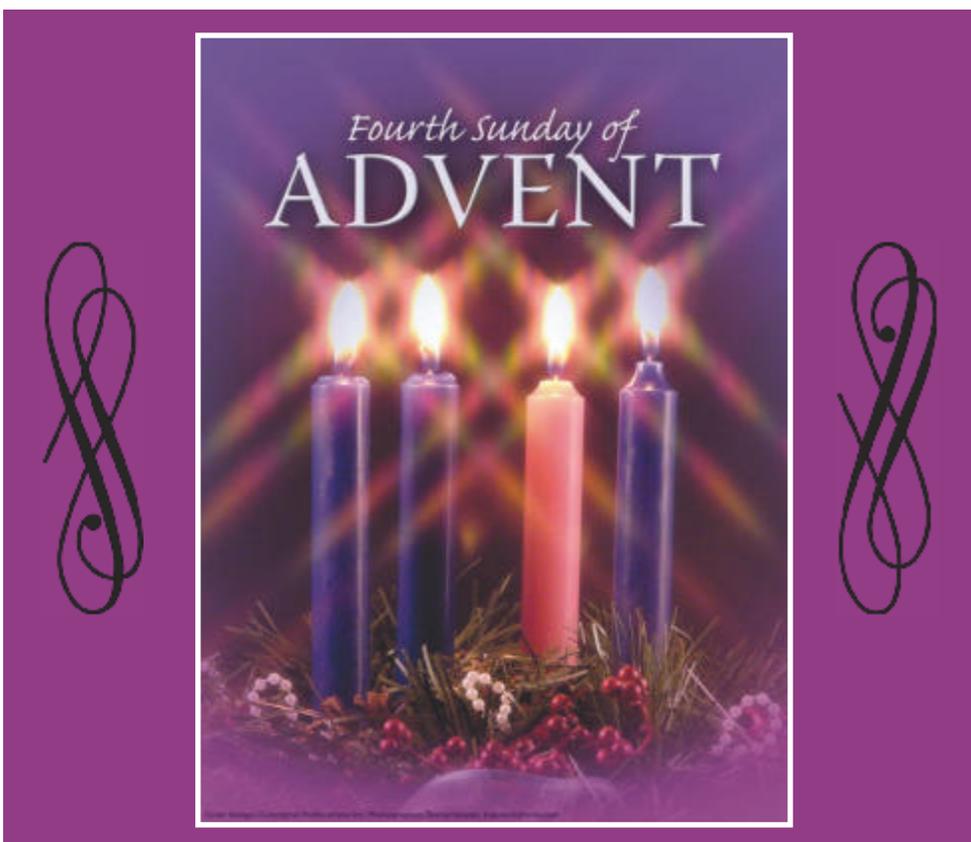
Corpus Christi Church

601 Silas Deane Highway
Wethersfield, CT 06109



Our Parish Mission Statement

Nourished weekly at the Table of the Lord, we go forth as disciples of Jesus to proclaim what we believe through our every word and deed.



BAPTISM

After 10:15am Sunday Mass
Registration is required.
Please call the rectory office.

SACRAMENTS FOR THE SICK

We are happy and honored to visit the sick or homebound.
Please notify the rectory.

MATRIMONY

Please contact rectory office at least six months in advance.

WELCOME

UPCOMING EVENTS

BEYOND BIBLE STUDY

MONDAY, 6:00pm. Meet in St. Joseph Hall.

CHOIR PRACTICE

TUESDAY, 6:30pm. Meet in choir loft.

The January 2, 2022 bulletin must go to print early. Any submissions to that edition must be received at the Rectory by **Friday, December 24 (4:00pm)**. Thank you.



- The Rectory Staff at Christ the King Parish

CANDLES—DECEMBER 19—DECEMBER 25

SANCTUARY CANDLE #1

Burns this week in memory of **Rosemarie Cattanio**, requested by her family.



SANCTUARY CANDLE #2

Burns this week in memory of **Salvatore and Anna Santapaola**, requested by the family.

BLESSED VIRGIN 7-DAY CANDLE #1

Burns this week in memory of **Nino Genovesi**, requested by his family.



BLESSED VIRGIN 7-DAY CANDLE #2

Burns this week in memory of **Mary and James Sweeney**, requested by the family.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18—

Vigil—Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:00pm Cindy Sampson—20th Anniversary, requested by Nella Kosciukiewicz.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19—FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00am Gerard Parent, requested by the family.

10:15am Theresa and Ned Hoey, requested by the family.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20—Late Advent Weekday

7:30am Salvatore Faraci, requested by his wife.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21—Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

7:30am Margaret B. Gill, requested by the family.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22—Late Advent Weekday

7:30am Elizabeth McCarthy—1 Year Anniversary, requested by her family.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23—Saint John of Kanty, Priest

7:30am Intentions of the Parishioners of Christ the King Parish.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24—Christmas Eve

3:00pm Michael DelMastro, requested by the family.

5:00pm Rosemarie Cattanio, requested by her family.

10:00pm Parishioners of Christ the King Parish.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25—THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (Christmas)

10:0am Parishioners of Christ the King Parish.

Please Note: There will be no Saturday Vigil Mass on Christmas Day.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26—THE MOST HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

8:00am Stephen Skelly, requested by Fred and Mary Anne Hepburn.

10:15am William J. Graver, requested by Bruce and Linda.



WORD TO THE FAITHFUL

Pastor's Corner

Christmas is just a few days away. And there is still so much to do.

How will it ever get done? And so the temptation is to gloss right over this 4th Sunday of Advent, not even noticing what the Lord is telling us in these final few days before we celebrate the birth of our savior. And so I plead with you to heed the message of today's celebration, for it will make next Saturday's celebration all the more special.

This is the day for the little ones, the marginalized, the ones most people don't notice. Start with the fact that Micah is classified among the "minor" prophets, less illustrious than his contemporaries, Isaiah, Amos and Hosea. On top of that, scholars agree that the selection we hear today was

probably written by someone else. So much for greatness!

Nevertheless, Micah understands God's preference for working through the very people who never attain places of prominence. Thus, Micah tells Israel that God's future plans will come about through people equally unnoted or even disdained.

Today's Gospel presents the encounter between Mary and Elizabeth, the two women pregnant with the future God was preparing. Continuing the pattern of God's action through those considered small, the revelation of God's future plans comes to life through women.

Elizabeth rejoiced in God's goodness without any hint of rivalry with Mary. Mary risked her reputation and therefore her life by accepting the angel's

invitation before she was with a husband. In so doing, she did what her Son would do and ask of his disciples: She gave up her life for the sake of God's plan.

My hope and prayer for all of us in this fourth and final week of Advent is that we will allow the Lord to work in and through us personally, letting Him use us as instruments in building His Kingdom here in Wethersfield.

On behalf of Fr. Moran, Fr. George, Deacon Michael, and the Transition Team, I extend to each of you and to your families best wishes for a Blessed Christmas. May our newborn Savior fill your hearts with peace, hope and joy!



Father Nick



Dear friends,

1. Floral arrangements: The Church encourages the use of fresh

flowers in the sanctuary as a way of engaging in the beauty of creation, of which God is the Creator and Sustainer, plus to enhance the worship experience. However, as in Lent, during advent the floral decorations on and around the altar are discouraged so as not to reflect the anticipation of the full joy of Christmas.

2. Biblical readings: For the four weeks of Advent, the Church has carefully selected passages which talk about the Messianic expectation of ancient Israel in the Old Testament, the Second Coming plus the Final

judgment, and the announcements of Christ's arrival by John the Baptist and by Angels in the New Testament.

3. Music and songs: Since Advent is a time of hope and of waiting patiently for the coming of the Lord, the Church recommends the omission of the Gloria and Christmas carols until Christmas Day. Instead, she suggests a selection of quieter, more subdued and contemplative music and songs appropriately reflecting the anticipation of the Lord's coming. It is a reminder that we, as Christians, wait until Christmas to celebrate Christmas. Because it seems like Christmas celebration gets to be earlier and earlier every year.

Christmas is overly commercialized: businesses are taking the celebration out of Christmas by starting it all too early. Shops start advertising and selling Christmas paraphernalia as early as August. Putting up Christmas decorations, playing Christmas music and singing Christmas carols too early might improve one's mood, bring up feelings of nostalgia and evoke strong feelings of belonging, in a world full of stress and anxiety.

At the same time, however, getting into the Christmas spirit too early may cause Christmas fatigue, meaning it takes the happiness out of one's celebration on 25th December.

.....continued on next page

OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

FROM FATHER'S DESK—Continued

Because, by the time you are really celebrating, you may be tired of the music, decorations, and the overall atmosphere. The actual beginning of Christmastide may feel like the end of Christmas.

4. Penitential Fasting: Even though fasting was a central aspect of Advent observances in the past, the Church has no longer set a requirement for fasting during Advent. However, as in Lent, fasting can still be a way to spiritually prepare for Christmas. Fasting is one of the ways to show one's humility and sorrow before the Lord for our sins.

What is the message for us?

We regard Advent as a time to prepare our minds and hearts not only to celebrate the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem over two thousand years ago and His Second Coming in power and great glory at the end of time, but also His coming in all the events of daily life, especially through the Sacraments, the

Scriptures, the community and at the moment of our death. Hence, while we prepare ourselves with lights and decorations, joyful songs, shopping and food, we must also truly share in the ancient longing for the coming of the Messiah and be alert to His coming.

Have a great week and here is a thought;

After the wedding, the little ring bearer asked his father, "How many brides can the groom marry?"

"One," his father said. "Why do you ask?"

"Because the priest said he could marry sixteen," the boy said, puzzled.

"How'd you come up with that?" his father asked.

"Easy," the little boy said. "All you have to do is add it up like the priest said: 4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer."

Father George

The Christ the King Parish 2022 Catholic Calendar will be available in the church next weekend and at all Christmas Masses.

DRIVING

We can effectively reduce emissions, drive more safely, and save money on fuel costs. Traveling for the holidays? Leave yourself plenty of time so you will not feel the need to speed. Aggressive driving (speeding, rapid acceleration, and braking) wastes gas. Waiting for someone? Turn off the engine and restart when ready to go. Combine trips and patronize providers and stores close to home whenever possible. Sensible driving is cheaper, safer, and friendlier to our planet. And, of course, electric cars are becoming more easily available and cheaper. A network of charging stations is now spanning the country. In countries, like Germany, gas powered vehicles will no longer be available after 2030.

Speed kills all creation not just humans.



"Let us keep a place for Christ in our lives, let us care for one another and let us be loving custodians of creation."

-Pope Francis

Parish Support

December 12.....	\$5,430.00
Retired Religious.....	\$1,899.00
On-Line Giving.....	\$2,396.51
TOTAL.....	\$9,725.51

We are so grateful to all who continue to support Christ the King Parish with your prayers and financial contributions!

Consider online giving!

Sign up on our Parish website

"Peace on earth will come to stay when we live Christmas every day."

- Helen Steiner Rice

WEEKLY FOOD DRIVES

We will continue to collect food for our Town and Hartford Churches each week. Because of the upcoming holidays, please include the following items in your generous donations. Thank you.

Canned corn, green beans, instant mashed potatoes, boxed stuffing, cans of gravy, cranberry sauce, dessert mixes (brownies, cakes, frosting, cookies), quick breads/corn bread, juice, mac & cheese.



Additionally, ongoing food needs per the Wethersfield Hunger Action Taskforce include:

Canned green beans, carrots, and peas, canned ravioli, ramen noodles, instant oatmeal, soups (Chunky or Progresso), snacks, jelly, peanut butter, and pasta sauce.

JOIN US

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



**Next week: December 26
No Class**



HOMELESS BAGS

We are continuing to collect hats, sock and gloves/mittens for the homeless (please see blue bin in church vestibule). We are especially in need of gloves/mittens for our next assembly. This will happen with collaboration from the Religious Education students, which will be sometime in January. We are also accepting monetary donations. We have a donor who will match any monetary donation for a total of \$2,500. Any donations you make will be doubled! Please consider donating any amount. Please make checks payable to: Christ the King Social Action Committee, with 'Homeless bags' in the memo.



Thank you for your continued generosity. For more information on how to get involved, please contact Nora Uricchio/860-830-5989 nuricchio3@gmail.com or Daisy Trahan/ Daisy.trahan@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Christmas marks the end of the Advent season and the beginning of the Christmas season. We have lighted four candles these past four weeks and asked God to help us be present to our neighbors and friends. Now in the Christmas season we are called to be Christ in the flesh to our world.

Let us pray...

God, You became human through the obedience of a simple young woman named Mary. Mary is our model of faith. May we be faithful to your word as Mary was.



Give us the courage to face each day with the yes that Mary gave to you.

We ask this through the incarnate God who comes to us again during this Christmas season. Amen.

2021 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Looking for year-end giving ideas?

This may be your last chance to help the Archbishop's Annual Appeal achieve the goal of \$10 Million for the 2021 tax year!

Please visit the Appeal website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org and follow the link Reaching Out, Healing Together, to learn more and make your gift today. All pledges can be paid through December 31st 2021 towards this year's Appeal.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/>.

No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.

WISH TREE GRATITUDE

Once again CTK Parish has demonstrated its ability to give selflessly and to love unconditionally, expecting nothing in return. The generosity of our parishioners, through our Wish Tree Project, has touched the lives of so many and through our gifts we have silently said to the neediest of our neighbors, "we believe your life matters."



We distributed 350 gifts cards, toys and toiletries to 12 agencies throughout Hartford county and beyond, making this one of our most successful Wish Tree projects to date. For each and every one of you who donated both large and small amounts, we thank you and ask that God Bless you always.

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
Cor. 2 9:7

Cheerfully, The Wish Tree is now decorated with different colored snowflakes and ribbon, representing the 12 agencies to whom we have given and will remain up through the Epiphany.

WISHING YOU ALL A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR.

If you have too much to do, with God's help, you will find time to do it all.

- St. Peter Canisius

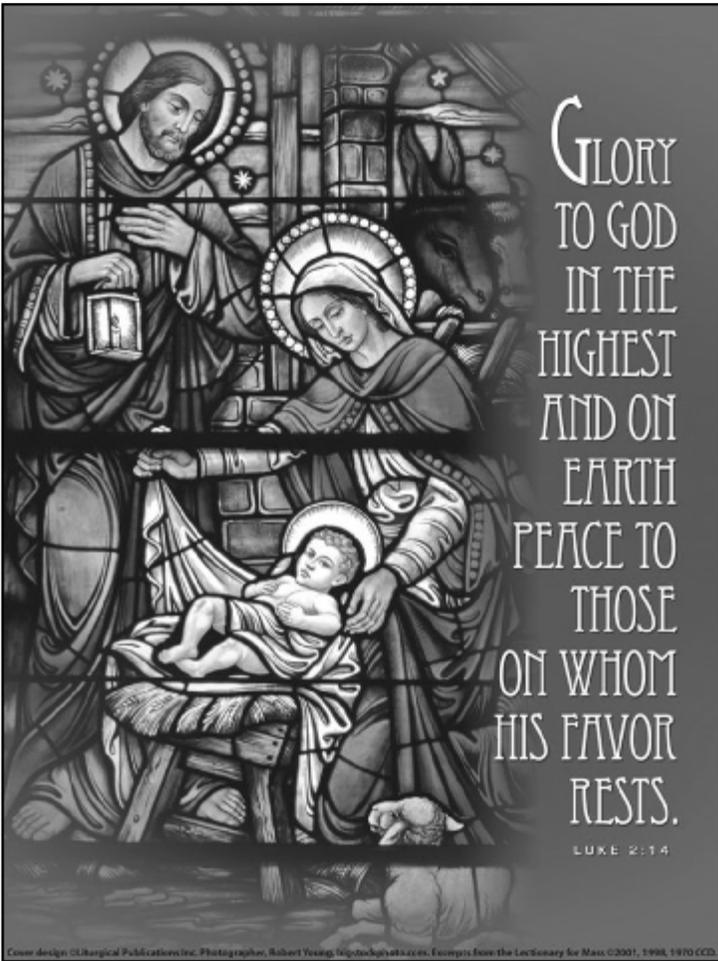
**There will be no
Rosary in the
Church
Friday,
December 24
and
December 31**



LEARN AND GROW

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING TO HELP CORPUS CHRISTI SCHOOL

If you want to get your shopping done early without having to leave home, Corpus Christi School can help! The school sells a wide variety of gift cards through the fundraising SCRIP Program. By participating, you are able to buy a gift card at its face value and the business will donate a portion of the proceeds back to the school. Stores like Barnes & Noble, Macy's, Dicks, LL Bean, Target, Marshalls, Home Depot and Walmart participate, as well as restaurants such as Panera, Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts, Burger King, Subway, Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, and Chili's, just to name a few. You can also pick up gift cards to grocery stores like Shop Rite, Stop and Shop, Big Y, and Stew Leonard's. Feel free to call us if you have a question regarding a specific retailer. All you need to do is call the school at 860-529-5487 during normal school hours (Monday - Friday, 8am - 2pm) to place your order. The school will contact you when your order has arrived and you can drop your check off when you pick up your cards. It is a very easy and safe process. Please consider purchasing your gift cards from us to help support our great school!



GLORY
TO GOD
IN THE
HIGHEST
AND ON
EARTH
PEACE TO
THOSE
ON WHOM
HIS FAVOR
RESTS.

LUKE 2:14

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WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and are seven sessions on weekdays from 7:00pm to 9:30pm. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call Frank & Margie Pearson at 860-337-2447 or visit them at <https://wwmectw.org/>. "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Sign up today to prepare your marriage to follow the Lord by attending one of the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experiences.





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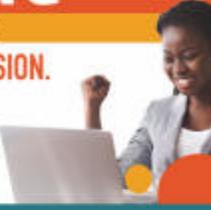

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