

The Church of Christ the King Medford, MN

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ: 8/16/20

School and REP are on the minds of parents and teachers and catechists and volunteers. We are currently working on how to go forward with REP regarding Diocesan guidelines as well as state guidelines during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We hope to have more detailed information for you next week.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Please keep our families with children in your good prayers. These are not easy times for parents and teachers.

Today our theme is salvation for everyone. God had to begin somewhere and when He chose a people, they were "really the smallest of all nations" (Deuteronomy 7:7). His mighty deeds became known throughout salvation history and the Hebrew people began to reveal to all other peoples the One True God. From God's chosen people comes the promised Messiah, Jesus. The woman in to-day's Gospel is a pagan mother who is suffering to see her daughter tormented by a demon. Why has she come to Jesus when she can go to her own pagan priests for help casting out the demon? The answer seems quite evident: her own pagan priests cannot drive out the demon! Living among the varied peoples and tribes of the region, she has obviously been impressed, as have many others, that this is a people different from all nations (see the oracle of Balaam in Numbers 23:7ff; "Here is a people that lives apart and does not reckon itself among the nations"). Matthew's Gospel is written for the Hebrews and they understand the Semitic idioms of Jesus' speech. They way Jesus addresses the woman is quite degrading; but this passage taken in its entirety reveals only the message Jesus can bring: SALVATION! The woman responds to Jesus' derogatory comment with FAITH! Jesus raises her status because of her faith! May we, too, have such faith in Jesus!

God Love You!!!

### Please keep the following in your prayers:

Luella Heim, Caleb Svenby, Dave Arnold, Barbara Steinbauer, Ann Willette, Jean Larson, Carolyn Willette, Kris Maas, Lawrence Giefer, Don Schultz, Mary Jean Malecha, Jim Thibodeau, Fr. Edward Mountain, Fr. Robert Herman, Tammy Pumper, Merle Gostomczik, and all who are ill. Please call the St. Joseph parish office to add to this list.

## Upcoming Rosary walks with Fr. Jim:

Please see the St. Joseph Parish website or Facebook page for dates, times and locations.

REMINDER: No 9am mass or 7pm



confessions on Friday, August 21st. 🧡

#### Directives for safe celebration of Mass during COVID-19 (Summary)

- Wearing a mask is required by all over the age of 5 unless medical or other health concerns prevent it.
- Those over age 65 are strongly encouraged not to attend, and anyone showing any symptoms of sickness, or anyone who has a household member who is sick should not come to church.
- Seating is limited. Only sit in open pews and do not move ropes unless directed by usher or other church personnel.
- Continue to follow all social distancing guidelines.
- The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains dispensed until further notice, and at this time no one is obliged to receive communion.
- Parishioners may only receive Communion on the hand.



# Sincerity in Prayer, Humility in Faith *written by* Br. John-Marmion Villa

See reflection for Sunday, August 16, 2020 at: https://www.4lpi.com/blog/sincerity-in-prayer-humility-infaith/

#### Prayer:

Lord, I feel as though I am losing my grip and can barely hang on a moment longer. In desperation, I reach my hand to you. Grab me and pull me out of this mess! I give my life to you today again, every bit of it. I am yours. Please help me. Be my God.

No longer will I build my life on shifting sand. You are my rock, and with your help, I will establish my life on your firm foundation. Deliver me from this pit, and I will praise you. I will tell of your great wonders. I will make known your wonderful ways, steadfast love, and unending power.

Thank you! I know you hear me, and that you save the humble and contrite heart. Forgive me for my decisions, actions, and attitudes that got me to this place. I receive your forgiveness and power to change. And as I am forgiven, I forgive each person that has contributed to my temporary defeat, for my victory is at hand. You are here. Amen.

# Christ the King Rosary Walk - August 7, 2020



# Upcoming Calendar

Tue. Aug. 18– 5:30pm CTK Parish Council mtg.
Fri. Aug. 21– NO 9am mass @ Christ the King



NO 7pm Confessions • Mon. Aug. 24– NO 9am mass @ Christ the King

Happy Birthday! Aug 17-23 Simona Hellevik, Nicholas VonRuden, Ed Cervenka, Mary Prokes, Alice Arnold, Kelly VonRuden, Barb Staska, Teresa Maas, Jessica McGraw, Brianna O'Connor, Joan Kuhlman



Are you, or someone you know, pregnant and in need of support? Catholic Charities offers free, confidential support to those who are pregnant or have a new baby. In addition to resources like free baby items and rental assistance, our social workers offer parenting education, decision-making counseling, and adoption planning and information. We are available to answer calls 24/7 at 800-222-5859. We can help you thoughtfully decide between parenting or adoption and confidently pursue the best plan for yourself and your baby.

August 16: Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time The Gospel today announces that the kingdom and salvation are for all people. It is our persistent calling out to Jesus and our faith that count, for Jesus always responds.

With love for your neighbors who have nothing, look around your house to see what furniture you no longer use...and give it to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, or determine if you are able to make a financial donation.



**Step aside** from the challenges and uncertainties of this time for a weekend of spiritual

connection and renewal at **Franciscan Retreats** and **Spirituality Center** in Prior Lake.

View our re-opening protocols to mitigate virus concerns on our website: <u>www.franciscanretreats.net</u>

Women's Mid-week Retreat - Sept 15-17 Retreat for those in Grief - Sept 18-20 Extended Silent Retreat - Sept 24-27

Theme for 2020: **Fear Not; I am With You Always**. Fear undermines and erodes our trust in God. Our 2020 Retreats will address the challenges and rewards woven into this contest between fear and trust.

*Franciscan Retreats and Spirituality Center - 16385 Saint Francis Lane, Prior Lake MN 55372 952-447-2182 <u>www.franciscanretreats.net</u>* 

## Novena for our Nation and our Church August 15 to Oct. 7, 2020

The Novena will begin on August 15th, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and will end on October 7th, the Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary.

We will have 2 intentions: to pray for the restoration of the faith in the United States, and for the universal Church.

https://rosarycoasttocoast.com/novena-for-our-nation/