

REFLECTION for the Feast of Christ the King

Fr. Don.

Christ is our King, in whom all things have unity, through whom all things were created, through whom and for whom all things were redeemed. We, his subjects, must shower honor, glory, and praise to Christ the King. His Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom. Admission is attained through enduring faith.

For this meditation, let us focus upon two occasions when Christ can and does become our King- when we fully participate in the sacred and holy Mass and when we experience our times of suffering and pain.

At Mass, and especially when the Body and Blood of Jesus is consecrated, there is made available a healing medicine for weak souls, nourishing food and drink for the daily journey of taking up our crosses. We join our King in His Court. Here is the finest wine of the Kingdom and the true bread of Heaven to put fire in our hearts, the Spirit-driven fire for the Kingdom. By our participation in that salvific act, we are offered forgiveness, mercy, love, compassion, hope, revitalization, and most of all eternal life.

Now let us address suffering more deeply. The throne of our King was the cross. The victory of our King is salvation for us. The resurrected Jesus embraces all that is good and all that is broken; belief in Jesus as King allows us, his suffering subjects, to make peace with our tormented and distraught body and soul. His death upon the cross won for us the hope of becoming a new creation. In truly honoring our King, we can become that new creation today by mastering our suffering right now. Let us pray to see beyond our present suffering. Just as His suffering was a blessing, so can ours be blessing for us and for others.

In today's Gospel, the Good Thief, suffering and anticipating his death, realizes that Jesus Christ is his King. He providentially recognizes that one must *'die to self'* and be *'born anew'* to enter the Kingdom of God. By his words, he acknowledges that the Kingdom is otherworldly but it is available right now. And Jesus quickly offers it to him. The Good Thief is a type- representing all who *'die to self'* and *'rise to Jesus.'*

Jesus also offers us an understanding of suffering which is life saving. Suffering itself is not good and we should not seek it. But when it comes, we must go through it – we can't avoid it. And we will only get through it with the strength that comes from understanding more deeply what is beyond our suffering. Thanks to our King, that comes to us through divinely infused gifts of love. It helps us to embrace a larger view of reality stretching all the way to eternity. Our suffering can be redemptive. It fills us with the knowledge of life's fleetingness. We become the Body of Christ and no one can defeat Christ the King.

This comes to us from God especially through the Sacrament of the Sick and the care and prayers of our Christians brothers and sisters. We start to see things more as they are. Hopefully, it brings us to cast off the feelings of rejection and powerlessness and to become filled with faith and hope. Our present world might come to an end and a new one start to come into being. Hope beyond hope. Suffering does not have to end with death. The King has the power to heal; but there always remains for us the bigger picture. Now has limits, forever has no limits. Suffering passes, salvation endures.

Oh, yes it takes faith to believe this; but just imagine: that great abyss of suffering, which only God can fill, may become the place of a surprising joy- right in the middle of the pain. We could experience the delight of the Good Thief who heard, amidst his suffering on his own cross, the words of Jesus, *'Today you will be with me in paradise.'* This is realization of the big picture; this is realization of true Christian living.

There is nothing in our world which is not from Him, nothing in that world which does not come from His throne, nothing that He has not won by His death on the cross. **All praise, glory, and honor to the King.**

Sacred Heart Parish



A Stewardship Parish in Love with Christ

Parish Information

Parish Administrator: Fr. Don Leonard

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:30 p.m. Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Reconciliation: Wednesday after Mass, or by request

Mass During the Week: No Masses

Holy Hour of Adoration: Third Sunday of the Month at 2 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church

Marriages: Six months' notice is required. A year's notice is recommended.

Baptisms: Celebrated at Weekend Mass after preparation session.

November 20, 2016
Solemnity of Christ the King

<u>RECEIVED WITH THANKS</u>	Nov. 12, 13
Collection	\$1,542.00
Shepherd's Fund	45.00
Bldg. Fund	85.00
Votive Candles	43.00
Windows	120.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Nov 26	Wm and Ada Myles
Nov 26	Nathan & Elizabeth Noseworthy
Nov 27	Parish Community

LITURGICAL MINISTERS (Nov 26,27)

<u>READERS</u>	<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</u>
Gen Quigley	Eileen Moore, Marie Byrne
Victoria Murphy	John Carroll
<i>*John Carroll- Communion Minister to the Sick</i>	

Dona Eldridge	Amelia Dicks, Calvin Gillis,
Debra Allen	Wayne Dicks

BIBLE STUDY

The group will meet in the parish house on Monday evening at 7:00 pm. We encourage newcomers to join us in 'breaking open the Word of God' as found in the Gospels.

SUNDAY MISSALS 2017

Our new **Missals** are now available. They cost \$5.00 each and begin on Nov. 27, the first Sunday in Advent.

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

Our Sunday Readings for the next month focus on prayer. Please join us in prayer for our young people to come join us at Sunday worship. We are looking for youth to serve as Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, and any other capacity. Spread this message of welcome to our young people. Tell them we need them with us to keep

us young at heart.

CHURCH ART CALENDARS 2017

We have ordered 150 of these beautifully illustrated wall calendars. They have our Parish information on the bottom and are for 13 months, beginning in December. They have feast days and daily readings. They will sell for \$5. **Calendars have arrived**—see John or pick one up at the office.

CANDLELIGHT ROSARY

Will be held on the **first Friday** of each month at **the Immaculate Heart of Mary School Chapel from 7:00-8:00 PM.** [for world peace]

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

To assist those in need - 638-9010. Donation envelopes are now available at the back of the church.

LARGE PRINT BIBLES---are still available at a cost \$30 each. Please see John or call the office.

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

These are also available for a cost of \$20.

ST. CECILIA, Nov 22

St. Cecilia was born in Rome in the 2nd century. Most of what is known of her life is legend. She lived a life of prayer and penance and when she was very young, her father gave her in marriage to a youthful pagan patrician named Valerian. She converted him to Christianity and she remained a virgin all her life. In these times of persecution, both were eventually killed. She is the patron saint of musicians and of the blind.

SAINT ANDREW DUNG & Companions, Nov 24

Andrew Dung-Lac was one of 117 people

martyred in Vietnam between 1820 and 1862. All were canonized by Pope John Paul II. It may help a people who associate Vietnam only with a 20th-century war to realize that the cross has long been a part of the lives of the people of that country. Even as some people ask again the unanswered questions about foreign involvement and disengagement, the faith rooted in Vietnam's soil proves hardier than the forces that willed to destroy it.

Shepherd's Fund Foundation Annual

Appeal You are reminded that the annual Shepherd's Fund collection will be taken up this weekend. For those who have a box of envelopes, there is a blue envelope included for the Shepherd's fund. If you are not able to make your contribution at this time, envelopes will continue to be available and donations will be accepted at any time. The Board of the Shepherd's Fund Foundation extends sincere appreciation for your kind support.

Ladies' Group Meeting

A meeting will take place this Sunday evening at 7pm. All members are encouraged to attend.

Bingo Dec. 4 at 2pm.

In December the ladies will not be calling to ask anyone for a donation. This will be a ham or turkey bingo and is the only game during the year when anyone or everyone who so desires can give a donation. Hams or turkeys can be dropped off at the office between now & Dec.2. Monetary donations can be clearly marked & put in the collection. Thank you for your generous support.

ADVENT FAITH DEVELOPMENT

On the first three Sundays of Advent the Liturgy

Committee will present three different sessions at 7pm. in the Parish House.

Nov. 27 WHO IS JESUS?

Dec. 4 THE HOLY SPIRIT & THE LIFE OF GRACE

Dec. 11 WHY DO I NEED THE CHURCH?

You are encouraged to take in all or any of these sessions. The usual cup of tea will follow.

Today we celebrate **the Feast of Christ King.** the This feast is observed on the last Sunday of the liturgical year. This feast day was begun by Pope Pius XI in 1925 at a time when it seemed as if respect for Christ and the Church was disappearing. This feast is meant to refocus faith and respect in the Kingship of Jesus and to remind us that Christ should be the King of our hearts and lives. It is fitting that we celebrate Christ's kingship right before Advent, as we prepare for the arrival of the promised Messiah. For an explanation of this feast along with some good music, check out the video on You Tube called "The Solemnity of Christ the King: an AFCC Audio-Video Presentation."

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Christmas Hamper Registration For those desiring a Christmas hamper from The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, you are advised that registration will take place at the entrance to the Most Holy Redeemer Cathedral on Mount Bernard from Wednesday, November 23rd to Friday, November 25th, from 10 AM till Noon and from 1:00 to 3:30 PM. Registrants must provide MCP numbers for all family members.

Jesus, have mercy upon us; we are sinners seeking divine redemption only you can give.