



*"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to Him by the glory both now and to the day of Eternity. Amen" 2 Peter 3:18*

April 12, 2018

Dear People of Christ the King Catholic Church and School,

About a month after I learned that I would be moving to Christ the King Catholic Church and School to be your pastor I took a trip to Madisonville. As I will soon begin this new assignment I want to share with you a little about that trip. My only purpose in the visit was to pray in the church. When I arrived I went directly into the church and up to the altar where I laid my hands and prayed. My prayer was to Jesus, to make a personal commitment to His service and His glory for the good of the Church, especially for Christ the King Church and Catholic School.

When we are building the church on earth there are many things that we believe are necessary for having a dynamic church. We put time and effort in having nice buildings to worship in. We spend our resources on having flashy signs in front of our buildings to attract people to come in and see what's inside. We work to build curb appeal that we believe will get people to take a second look at our church campus and draw them to want to be a member. All these things we do as a way to attract people to follow Jesus. But the most important thing that we can do to attract people to Jesus, to our Church, and our School is to speak His name. The more that we can speak His name, pray His name, and encourage others in His name, the more that others will follow us to His name.

As the pastor of Christ the King I especially look forward to working with our school families. One of the things that I will ask all of those involved with our school to do is work together and speak the name of Jesus. I ask that we speak the name of Jesus to one another, that we speak the name of Jesus to our leaders and teachers, that we speak the name of Jesus to our youth and children, that we speak the name of Jesus in our homes, that we speak the name of Jesus at our places of work, and that we speak the name of Jesus to the visitor and stranger that we meet.

I am looking forward to beginning my time as your pastor where I will lead and feed the Catholic community in Madisonville and Hopkins County. One of the ways that I will begin to do this with our parish and our school is by visiting each of you in your homes, places of work, the institutions that we serve, and the places where you play. In the coming weeks and months I look forward to getting to know each of you and learning how I can serve you best in the name of Jesus.

I also want you know that on a daily basis I will be going back to the altar that I first visited at Christ the King Church to pray to Jesus, so that we will grow together as the Body of Christ. I ask now that you join me at that altar to worship Jesus on Sunday, so that we will receive knowledge and instruction from His Word and strength from His Eucharist. It will be through doing this that I believe that we deepen our relationship in the name of Jesus and grow as His disciples.

In Peace,

Fr. Carl G. McCarthy