

**THY KINGDOM COME...!***Daniel. 7:13-14; Psalm 93:1-2, 5; Rev. 1:5-8; John 18:33-37*

"My kingdom does not belong to this world. If My kingdom did belong to this world, My attendants would be fighting to keep Me from being handed over to the Jews...My kingdom is not here." Our society is becoming more and more secular. Surveys have shown that many in today's society, especially the younger generation, do not have respect for authority. They disdain individual and institutional authority figures. Many have adopted such positions as wanting the government and/or the Church out of their lives. In an environment such as ours, it is difficult, if not near impossible to explain the concept of the feast of "Christ the King." What you and I must know is that Christ's kingship is different from any monarchical or political kingship.

Today being the last Sunday of the Liturgical Year the Church celebrates the solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ as King and Savior of the universe. The history of the universal celebration of this feast dates back to December 1925, when Pope Pius XI in his encyclical, *Quas Primas*, formally instituted "The Feast of Christ the King." The First World War had ended a few years earlier, and there was a rise in secularism. Many Christians, even Catholics, at that time, doubted Christ's existence and His authority, as well as the Church's teachings on basic moral issues. Pope Pius XI, at that time, also witnessed the rise of dictatorships and oppressive regimes in Europe, and saw innocent citizens, especially Christians, being taken in by these earthly and evil leaders. Obviously, respect for Christ and the Church was waning as it is in today's society.

In today's society we have witnessed an outburst in moral decadence, growth of relativist philosophy and godlessness. We have watched helplessly as ideologies contrary to Jesus' teaching take root in the hearts of many in our society. We feel hopeless as we watch a nation that was founded on Christian principles being hijacked by some ideologues and the *ungodly*. Leaders and people of "One nation indivisible under God..." are acting and at times behaving as though they were in a "Divided Nation under Satan." It is disheartening to see how our Supreme Court constantly ignores God's rule. Sadly, Christ has been taken out of our public discourse, schools and other public institutions. Some do not want to have anything to do with religion; some do not want Christ in their lives. The moral fabric of our society is decaying fast; and we need Jesus as our only Remedy.

Christ is a King Who shepherds His people to a greener pasture. It's high time we put Him back in our daily lives. Today's feast calls for a somber reflection on the role of Christ in our lives both as individuals and as a nation. You and I are challenged to do some introspection and to look at ourselves, and see where we are lacking. We must make a concerted effort to put Christ back at our family tables - put Him back in our family bedrooms - put Him back in our marriages - put Him back in our relationships - put Him back in our places of work. We must see Christ as our King and Leader. It's time to allow Him to take control of our minds and hearts - and that of our rulers. Christ must be the Chain that binds us together as a country - a Savior that saves us from damnation - a Leader that guides and leads our homes, our schools, our churches, and our nation out of solitude and misery. Jesus Christ is the "King of kings" Who has "received dominion, glory, and kingship; therefore, all peoples and nations must acknowledge Him as their Lord and King. He is the King Who wants a happy and better life for all His people.

**Rev. Anthony Ita Bassey, MSP**

**PARISH NEWS**

**PARENTS! TAKE NOTE!!**

All children in the children's choir will be singing at the 5 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup>. They will begin with Christmas carols at 4:30 p.m. We ask that the children attend all Tuesday practice sessions at 5:45 p.m. Part of these weekly practices will be in preparation for the Christmas Eve event.

**BECOME AN ASSOCIATE MISSIONARY OF ST. PAUL**

Father Felix Osasona, MSP will speak at all the Sunday Masses on the weekend of December 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, to invite us to join the Associate Missionaries of St. Paul (AMSP). The AMSP are Catholic men and women who actively support the missionary work of the Missionary Society of St. Paul through their prayers, moral support, and financial assistance. Like the holy women and men in the scriptures who assisted Christ and His apostles in their work, AMSP contribute regularly their treasures, time, talent, and prayers to the missions. They help train seminarians, preparing for the priesthood, through monthly or yearly sponsorship. They commit themselves, as do the missionary priests, in love striving to revive and strengthen those parts of the Church that are weak and make them self-reliant. They are also involved in works of charity supporting the people in mission countries. Father Felix will be available after the Masses to answer any questions you may have regarding enrollment in the AMSP.

There will be an information meeting with prospective members in the school building on Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m.

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION TRIPS**

The next Adult Faith Formation Trip opportunity is a visit to **Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster, Pennsylvania** to see *Noah* on Friday, March 22, 2013. The \$145 price includes the bus, the show, and great Amish cuisine at Miller's Smorgasbord after the show.



**HOLY HOUR:** This Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, the Divine Mercy Holy Hour will begin at 3 p.m. All are invited to spare an hour and come to adore Jesus Christ Who is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament.

The members of the **Rosary Altar Society** will attend the 8:30 a.m. Mass next Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.



The first Sunday evening of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass, our Youth Group meets in the McManus Parish Center. All youths age 13 and up are invited

# CHRIST THE KING

## PRAYER TO CHRIST THE KING

*Christ Jesus, I acknowledge You King of the universe.  
All that has been created has been made for You.  
Make full use of Your rights over me.*

*I renew the promises I made in Baptism,  
when I renounced Satan and all his pomp and works,  
and I promise to live a good Christian life  
and to do all in my power to procure  
the triumph of the rights of God and Your Church.*

*Divine Heart of Jesus,  
I offer you my efforts  
in order to obtain that all hearts  
may acknowledge your Sacred Royalty  
and that thus the Kingdom of Your peace  
may be established throughout the universe. Amen!*



**OUR FAMILY MASS:** Next Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will celebrate our Family Mass at 10 a.m. Every family is encouraged to attend and to sit together during Mass. "Family Breakfast" will take place at the McManus Parish Center after the Mass. Come and celebrate the Eucharist as a family.

The **ALTAR FLOWERS** for this week have been donated in loving memory of Frank G. Nanoia by Angela & Lou Brusco.



The **ALTAR BREAD & WINE, ALTAR CANDLES,** and **SANCTUARY LAMP** for the week have been donated in loving memory of Frank G. Nanoia by Angela & Lou Brusco.

**ANNUAL RETREAT:** St. Bartholomew's **Rosary Altar Society** is holding its annual one-day Retreat for women on **Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**, Feast of the Immaculate Conception, **from 9 a.m.-3p.m.** The program, *Encountering Mary as a Model of Gospel Living*, includes attendance at the 12 noon Mass and concludes with the Exposition of the Eucharist and Benediction. Fee is \$20 and includes breakfast and lunch. All women within and outside the parish are welcome! Please call Alice Jacob at 845-363-1088 or Dolly DeRosa at 914-969-6575 to make reservations.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!



**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION:** On Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a Holy Day of Obligation for all Catholics. The Masses are as follows:

- Friday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> Vigil Mass at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> 9 a.m. & 12 noon

*Saturday's 5 p.m. Mass on that day will not fulfill the obligation for the Holy Day; it is Mass for the second Sunday of Advent.*

✠ **STEWARDSHIP** ✉  
What shall I render unto the Lord  
for all his benefits to me?

## TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

November 27, 2011

Adults' Contribution	\$6249.30
Children's Contribution	\$147.55
<b>Last Year's Total</b>	<b>\$6396.85</b>

November 25, 2012

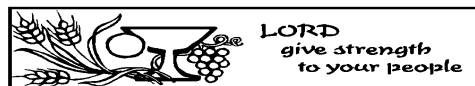
Adults' Contribution	\$6500.60
Children's Contribution	\$148.10
<b>This Year's Total</b>	<b>\$6648.70</b>

The collection for Catholic Campaign for Human Development totaled \$2023.35.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** Next Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will take up a second collection in support of our Parish buildings and grounds. Please, endeavor to donate generously.

## REMEMBER YOUR BELOVED PARISH

*Remember, "We make a living by what we earn. We make a life by what we share." Please remember our Parish in your Will as a lasting and loving gift to your parish family. Thank you!*



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Ethel Thomas, Aldina Pereira, Rebecca Conroy, Andy DeFabritis, Maria Marte, Barbara Rup, Jule Yaskovic, Rosalie Heit, Florence B. Swetz, Clare Yaskovic, Neil Caruso, Raymond Fitzpatrick, Sr., Deacon James Byrnes, Andrea Objay, Carmen Torres, John Esposito, Frank Marra, Deacon Patrick Troy, Josephine Apuzzo, Edith Dugan, Gary Roth, Joyann Allan, Anna Rita Morgante, Lois Burton, Mary DeStefano, Mark Cianfaglione, Shawn Colon, Margaret Maccia, Nicole Ryan Betancourt, Anthony Spinner, Audrey & Alfred Falcone, Kathleen Hayes, Marge Muraik, Stan Buoninfante, Donna Vasconez, Gene DelBene, Nicole Pisani-Frame, Louis Petrulo, Cynthia Swiatkowitz, Jimmy Maimone, Robert Mirsky, Steve Oddo, Roseann Mercandetti, Louis Brusco, Josephine Daniele, Jennifer Dorsey, Valerie Riccardi, Fatima Panik, Joanne Moscarello, Marian Fletcher, Anna Bonacci, Minerva Hernandez, Paula Parente, Barbara Olivieri, Carol Swetz, Bridget O'Malley, Anna Brucculeri, Peggy Clevenberg, Gerald Mazzerese, Jr., Patricia Keane, Louis Milone, Joey Bastardi, Carol Stola, and Amada Ortiz.



*Rest in Peace* Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially Maurice Hastings.

*Besides those of you who contribute throughout the year, the Social Ministry Committee would like to thank the parishioners who contributed to the Food Pantry for our Thanksgiving Drive. Twenty-seven very thankful families received Thanksgiving Baskets. May God continue to bless the very special people of St. Bartholomew's Parish!*

*We also want to mention the generosity of Stew Leonard's for donating 10 frozen turkeys to our Thanksgiving Food Drive.*

NOVEMBER 25, 2012

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*Mass for the  
Intentions  for the  
Week*

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**Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

**Saturday, November 24** (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM John Henry Roth +

**Sunday, November 25**

8:30 AM Anthony D'Addario +

10:00 AM Frank & Carmela Legio and Family +

11:30 AM Robert Sabatelli +

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

**Monday, November 26**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM Joseph Savage +

9:00 AM Frank G. Nanoia +

**Tuesday, November 27**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Joseph Frischman +

**Wednesday, November 28**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Margaret Foley +

**Thursday, November 29**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM Deceased Members of Bolduc & Savard Families

9:00 AM Lena Castaldo +

**Friday, November 30**

**Saint Andrew, Apostle**

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Edward Siravakian +

**Saturday, December 1**

**Weekday**

9:00 AM Angelina Brusco +

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**First Sunday of Advent**

**Saturday, December 1** (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Albert & Eugenia Pravana +

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**Sunday, December 2**

8:30 AM Adolf Steffens +

10:00 AM Ted Bajek + +

11:30 AM Deceased Members of Zucconi Family +

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish



## ADVENT and the Year of Faith

I'm sure many of you Catholic moms already have loads of fun Advent activities planned with your kids, such as buying Advent calendars, making Jesse Trees, Advent wreaths, etc. But don't forget that we're also now in the **Year of Faith**, a special year the Holy Father designated to encourage us to purposefully deepen our faith by knowing it better, living it more fully, and sharing it with others as part of the larger and ongoing New Evangelization.

So how can you super-size this Advent season to incorporate these goals of the **Year of Faith**? Here are some ideas:

- 1) **Plan to do something this Advent season that goes above and beyond what you've done in previous years.** You can do this by researching more into the meaning and purpose of Advent and what each of the four weeks of Advent represents. You can also learn more about the symbolization behind Advent traditions, such as the Advent wreath, and celebrate them even bigger and better this year. For example, as you light another candle on the wreath each Sunday of Advent, make it more special by incorporating prayers, such as the Liturgy of the Hours, or singing a song together as a family such as, *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*. There are also many Advent prayer books available that will guide you day by day through the hopeful expectation and "making room for Christ in your hearts" that the Advent season is all about.
- 2) **Take whatever Advent activity you're already doing with your kids, and invite other children to join in who may not have that tradition in their own families.** Maybe it's a neighbor kid, maybe it's one of your kid's friends from school (or two, or three, or four of them), maybe even one of your co-worker's kids (or two, or three, or four of them). Invite ALL of those kids over to your house to do a fun Advent activity, such as making a Jesse Tree or an Advent wreath. You can either buy Jesse Tree kits or a plain brass Advent wreath frame that can be decorated with any kind of material, or on a smaller budget (if you end up with a troop of kids at your house) there are lots of ways you can make these things, such as paper trees or paper wreaths, out of out of construction paper, tissue paper, and glue that you can get at the dollar store. Have the kids make these Advent crafts at your house, explain to them the rich symbolism and meaning of the Advent season, and let them take their wreath or their calendar or their Jesse Tree back into their own home. If your parish has an Advent activity already planned for the little ones, be sure to bring a van full of kids with you to join in. You never know what kind of faith you will spark in the hearts of these children by doing something as fun and simple as this.
- 3) **If you have close friends and family who don't get into Advent much, or at all, invite them too.** Get them interested in what you and your family are doing this Advent season. Talk to them about what you've learned in #1 and get them thinking about celebrating Advent in their homes with their own families. If they have kids, let them know there are fun seasonal activities that their kids will really enjoy. There are many inexpensive Advent booklets and pamphlets which you can also find that give brief explanations of the Advent season and how each week should be celebrated in anticipation of Christmas day, some even include short prayers and meditations. Buy a pack of 25 or 50 pamphlets and hand them out! There are so many people you are close to who probably have NO IDEA what Advent is all about (including myself--last year was the first Advent I ever celebrated; I had no idea about the Advent traditions because my own faith tradition didn't include it. But, I would've loved to have joined in this celebration years ago, if only I knew!). So ask everyone you know what they're doing for Advent. If they have no idea, give them the pamphlet! Hopefully this will be an opportunity for them to deepen their faith during this festive time of year.

by Gretchen Filz

