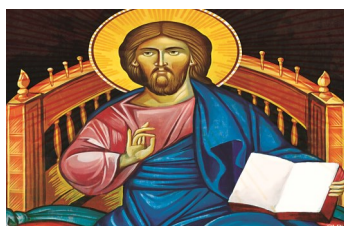
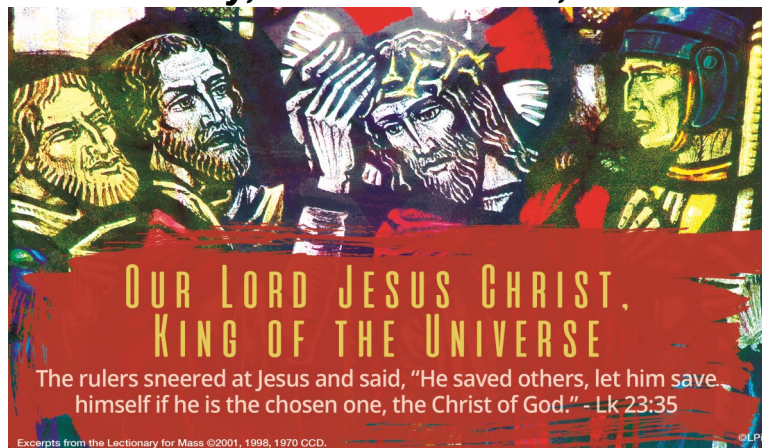


Rev. Chad Grennan, Pastor
 Email: frchadgrennan@gmail.com
 Rev. Deacon Jim McLaughlin
 (phone office for appointment)
 Liliana Haynes
 Office Administrator

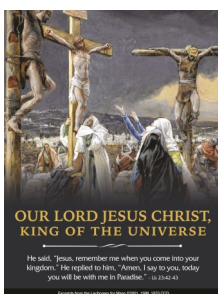


Sunday, November 24th, 2019



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

"The rulers sneered ... the soldiers jeered ... one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus." Is this the King of the Jews, the King of the Universe? If it is so, perhaps his kingdom is not at all what we would expect! In his letter to the laity, St. John Paul II spoke about how Christians share in the kingly mission of Christ. First, "they exercise their kingship as Christians, above all in the spiritual combat in which they seek to overcome in themselves the kingdom of sin." In other words, before we give any thought to transforming society, we must first allow God to transform us. Through daily prayer, regular self-examination, and frequent confession, we can recognize our faults more readily and choose love instead!



Second, St. John Paul II writes that the laity "makes a gift of themselves so as to serve, in justice and in charity, Jesus who is himself present in all his brothers and sisters, above all in the very least." Christ's kingship, and our own participation in it, requires us to look beyond the privileged of society. It goes with Jesus to the Cross!

Still, the kingship of Christ ought to effect society. "The lay faithful are called to restore to creation all its original value ... ordering creation to the authentic well-being of humanity." Jesus does this in a radical way through his death and resurrection. We, too, are invited to bring new life to the world around us. This means holding the world and everything in it as sacred. It means advocating for civil policies that respect life and paying special care to the vulnerable and marginalized in every stage of life. It means being disciples of Jesus, inviting people into authentic love so that one day we will together "be with Him in Paradise!"



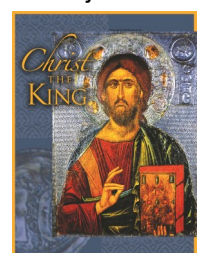
What's the story behind the Advent wreath? Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreaths adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about

Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love. Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we're roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas.

Families or individuals are asked to volunteer to light the candles during each of the weekend Masses of Advent. The sign up sheet is at the back of the church. You may choose a Mass during any of those weekends.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

How Would You Rule Your Kingdom? It would be kind of awesome to be a king or queen! Absolute rule, untold wealth, and people answering your every beck and call are things that wouldn't be half bad. Of course, I would be a benevolent monarch, and I would hope that all my subjects would love me. They could cheer me as I came out of the palace, and I think my popularity ratings in the polls would be through the roof. But if they weren't, that would be fine, too, because I would rule the kingdom. And that means no throwing me out of office. Talk about job security!



As great as that sounds, the King of kings could have had all that as well, but instead, he chose quite a different path. He gave up absolute rule so all his subjects could have the free will to choose to follow him. He gave up untold wealth so he could be treated like a common criminal and receive a death sentence. He gave up having servants at his disposal so he could be the servant of all his subjects himself. Yes, he was the King of kings, but he was nothing like a typical king. As much as I think it would be great to be a king myself, I would rather emulate this King instead. Who would you rather be like? You could have it all or choose to give away everything. You could choose a path of luxury or a path of trial. You could be respected by many or find yourself in a culture that increasingly finds you objectionable. Who would you rather be like? Do you arrive at an answer quickly, or do you need some time to think about it? The King of kings awaits your reply.

This year the feast day of the patroness of our Diocese, St. Catherine of Alexandria is celebrated on Monday, November 25. Since this is a diocesan patronal celebration, it is raised from an optional memorial to a Feast. We encourage parishioners to celebrate this feast with great joy and solemnity. St. Catherine of Alexandria, pray for us. **St. Catherine of Alexandria is the patron of philosophers and scholars and is believed to help protect against sudden death.**



Children's Liturgy During the Season of Advent:

The **Jesse Tree** is a popular Advent tradition. Named for the father of David, it is a tree that is decorated gradually throughout Advent with symbols or pictures of biblical persons associated with the gradual coming of the Messiah, Christ. This includes, among others, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and Joseph and Mary. The Jesse Tree tradition provides a wonderful teaching opportunity; reminding children about the preparatory nature of Advent. This tradition will be the focus of our Children's Liturgy classes during Advent. **If your child has not received the Sacrament of First Eucharist, he/she is most welcome to attend during the 9:30 am mass.**

Advent food drive: Baskets will be placed at the church entrance next weekend. Donations will be forwarded to Pelham Cares.

Cathedral Appeal: Visit the website at www.saintcd.com/appeal today or pick up a brochure and pledge form at the back of the church. Donations can be made at any time.

Please remember in your prayers the soul of †Imre (Jim) Lukacs whose funeral Mass was celebrated in our parish this past week. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

Parish Calendar

Nov 24th.... Christ the King
 Nov 23/24.... 2020 Offertory boxes available to pick up
December....
 Dec 3rd.....
 Dec 3rd..... CWL Christmas gathering, Mass 6pm & meal to Follow.
 Dec 6th... First Friday Holy Communion to sick and homebound. Phone the office to arrange a visit.
 Dec 11th.... Advent Reconciliation 7-9pm
 Dec 11th.... Final Youth Ministry for the year.
 Dec 12th.... Final Bingo for the year.
 Dec 19th.... School Advent Mass 9:30am
Schedule of Christmas Liturgical Celebrations will be in next weekend's bulletin.

2020 Offertory Envelopes: are available **this weekend** in the church hall. Please note that there have been updates made to the offertory numbering system. **FOR THE YEAR 2020, PLEASE USE ONLY THE ENVELOPES ASSIGNED TO YOU FOR THAT YEAR.** This will ensure that donations are credited to the proper person. **If you do not find a box prepared for you, please phone the office.** Also, please do not begin using your new envelopes until the new year. Thank you!

Catholic Women's League

A **HUGE** thank you to everyone for all the help with the bazaar - the perogy makers, those who donated wonderful basket fillings and those who wrapped them so nicely. Thank you to the knitters, crocheters & sewers. Thank you to those who set-up the hall and baked delicious treats. Thank you to the cooks, and all who worked at selling baskets, baked goods, tickets, perogies and everyone who worked hard to create a warm and pleasant atmosphere. Thank you to those who assisted with the school open house for the bazaar. And thank you to those who supported us by making purchases. It was a great day! **Donna Larocque, CWL President**

Catholic Women's League Christmas Gathering: All ladies of the parish are invited to join us for Mass on **Tuesday, December 3rd at 6pm** to be followed by a meal in the parish hall. **Please let us know by November 29 at the latest if you are planning to attend. Phone the office or Donna at 905-386-6703.**

CWL Membership: **FEES ARE \$25.** Please ensure your FULL MAILING ADDRESS OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS is included on your envelope with your payment.

All busy Catholic moms are invited to retreat into the quiet and beauty of Advent and refuel your vocation to motherhood and witness to the feminine genius. This morning retreat is being held **Saturday, December 7th** at St. Thomas Aquinas Church hall, 316 Queenston Street in St. Catharines. Doors open at 8:00 am; a continental breakfast will lead into the program that ends at noon. Tickets are \$10. Register by calling 905-684-0154 or emailing familyandyouth@saintcd.com. Visit the Diocesan website, www.saintcd.com, for more information.

Young Adults, ages 19-39, are invited to attend the next monthly **FEED YOUR FAITH FRIDAY** being held on **November 29, 2019** at the Catholic Centre, 3400 Merritville Highway, at 6:00 pm. Join us for supper, faithful discussions, and prayer. For more information, call Terri at 905-684-0154, #209.

Confessions from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses. Offertory November 16th & 17th, 2019

70 Envelopes	\$1, 783.00
Loose Collection	\$ 50.65
Total Offertory	\$1, 833.65
Deo Gratias	\$ 638.00

A reminder- Our website domain name has changed to the following: www.stannfenwick.com

