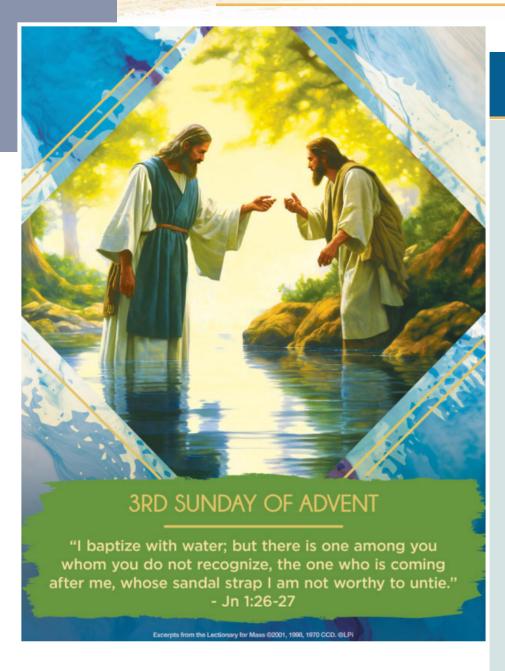
DECEMBER

172023

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Parish of

CHRIST CHURCH



MISSION STATEMENT

Christ the King Parish is called together by God as a faith sharing community to radiate, celebrate and proclaim Jesus Christ through prayer, word, worship and service as we seek to build up His one body, adapting to the diverse needs of the people in whose midst we live and witness.

Welcome!

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass

9:00am

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Weekend Mass

Saturday | 4:00pm Sunday | 8:00am, 11:00am Livestreamed & interpreted at 11am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday | 9:45-11am Saturday | 3:00pm Other | By Appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday | 9:30am - 8:00pm

Rosary

Wednesday | 6:15pm

CONTACT US

20 Sumter Ave Albany, NY 12203

Office hours: M-Th 8:30am-4pm, Friday 8:30am-noon

Phone and Fax: 518-456-1644 Unless requesting Last Rites, all calls to the parish office after office hours will be returned the next business day.

 $Of fice\ email: lcarducci@ctkparishny.org$

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LEARN ABOUT US

Parish Staff

Pastor

Rev. Richard Lesser rick.lesser@rcda.org

Parochial Vicars

Rev. Matthew Duclos matthew.duclos@rcda.org Rev. Charles Onyeneke charles.onyeneke@rcda.org

Deacons

Dcn. Tony Cortese tcortese@ctkparishny.org

Deacon Emeritus

Dcn. Joseph Markham

Parish Administrative Assistant

Linda Carducci lcarducci@ctkparishny.org

Pastoral Associate for Parish Life

LouAnn Cleary lcleary@ctkparishny.org

Pastoral Associate for Music

Melinda Cestaro mcestaro@ctkparishny.org

Business Manager

Michael Markham

Media Coordinator

Sarah Guerra sguerra@ctkparishny.org

Buildings and Grounds Supervisor

Gina Luce

Buildings and Grounds

James Murphy

Church Custodian

Lesley Markham

Parish Trustees

Colleen O'Hehir & Connor Kasuba

Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

Phone: 518-464-4776

Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

Lisanne Jensen

ljensen@ctkparishny.org

FF/YM Administrative Assistant

Tom Tommell

tom@ctkparishny.org

Christ the King Early Childhood Education Center

phone: 518-456-5400 Director, Stacie Boelkins sboelkins@ctkparishny.org



DEADLINES

Bulletin

Bulletin announcements need to be submitted to Sarah Guerra by noon on the Friday of the week prior, 9 days before the weekend you'd like it to appear.

Mass Intentions

Please schedule Mass intentions with the Parish Office *two months prior* to your desired date.

SACRAMENT INFORMATION

Care of the Sick

Our Visitation Ministry Team would like to bring Communion to our homebound parishioners as well as visit those in a hospital or a nursing facility. Please call the Parish Office to let us know of those who wish to be visited.

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated twice a month.
Baptisms may also be celebrated at
weekend Liturgies. A Baptismal
preparation program is expected prior to
celebrating the Sacrament. Please call
the Parish Office to arrange for your
baby's Baptism or for further
information.

Sacrament of Marriage

Please call the Parish Office to arrange a meeting with one of the priests at least 6 months prior to the planned wedding. A Marriage Preparation program and interviews are required.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is the process available for those wishing to explore becoming a member of our Catholic Christian Community. For more information, please contact Lisanne Jensen in the Faith Formation Office.

STEWARDSHIP FOR DECEMBER 9-10

Offertory	\$5,410.00
Feast of the Immaculate Conception	
Maintenance	
E-Giving Faith Direct	
Collection Total	
Budgeted Total Needed for Each Week	

PRAYER AND READINGS



MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, December 19 | 9 am

Bruna Grasso

*The O'Brien Family

Wednesday, December 20 | 9 am

Russell Kennedy

*Cindy Carlstead

Thursday, December 21 | 9 am

Mary Sheehan

*Tom Sheehan

Carol Thomson

*Family

For the Intentions of Dennis C.

*Mark & Megan

Saturday, December 23 | 4 pm

Gil Nevins (28th Anniversary)

*Rosemary Reichenbach

Jesse Stanchfield

*Bob & Mareda Verrigni

For the Intentions of Tammi & Tom

*Mark & Megan

Next Sunday, December 24 | 10 am

Paul Stelmaszyk

*The Ojukwu Family

If you are having a Mass offered, please contact the liturgy coordinator before Mass to bring up the gifts.

Next Sunday, December 24 | 4 pm

Thomas Patrick Morrison

*Family

Bette & Raymond Franklin

*Sherill Redmond

Harriet Rodwell

*Sherrill & Bob Redmond

Lillian Lemmo

*Sherrill & Bob Redmond

Jane Dreves

*Sherrill & Bob Redmond

For the Intentions of Cindy Carlstead on the

Occasion of her Birthday

*Sherrill Redmond

Next Sunday, December 24 | 7 pm

For the Intentions of the Breitenbach Family

*Mark & Megan

December 25 | 12 am Midnight

Janet & Charles Murphy

*Daughter, Kathleen Fisher

Fr. Jim Fitzmaurice

*Rich & Cheryl Haggerty & Family

Pray for...

Altar Bread & Wine

Our altar bread and wine for the month of December 2023 has been donated in loving memory of

Michael and Wallace Diehl

requested by Maria Diehl

Our Sick

Don McCarthy, Ryan Stoeppell, Carolyn Harris, Bob Wallace, Michele Peichota, Joshua Carpenter, Jorge Montiel, Carson Leonard, Patricia Boggs, Reed Dewitt, Rick Gelley, David Latina, Judi McGinn Michela, Marie Luce, Liz Stewart, Patricia Bruno, David Birkun, Rick Rodino, Luke Danker, Roman Hunt, Marylou Flanagan, Nicholas Smith, Ken Fitzpatrick, Mary Elaine, Sue Patterson, Robert K., Michael Tebaldi, Donna Johnson, Paul Pierce, Mary Ann Pierce, Christine Slattery, Dana Hesch, Mary Kehn, Betty Canape, Betty Low If you or someone you know are in need of our prayers, or if you had asked for prayer and your prayers were answered, please call the parish office. Names will be removed from the list periodically.

WEEKLY READINGS & OBSERVANCES

Sunday, December 17 **Third Sunday of Advent**

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday, December 18

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday, December 19

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday, December 20

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday, December 21

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Friday, December 22

1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Saturday, December 23

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-

Next Sunday, December 24 **Fourth Sunday of Advent**



2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-3

Reflection for the Week

Today's Gospel from John adds to what Mark talked about last week - the humility of John the Baptist. He didn't fall victim to those who thought he was the Messiah. He knew his place in God's plan.

Do I take time to discern what God's plan is for me?

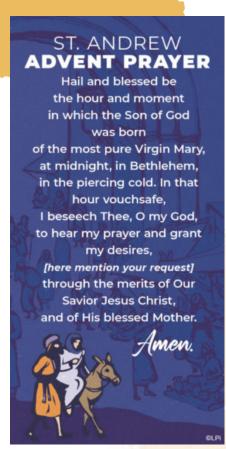
Our Beloved Deceased

Timothy Gray (November 10) Susan Maynard (November 23)

First Year Anniversary December 2022

Vincent Tomeo (December 5) Antonia Raponi (December 7) Elda Macri (December 18) Nuala DeSacia (December 28)

COMMUNITY



GUILDERLAND FOOD PANTRY

We are once again in need of cake mix, frosting, brownie mix and muffin mix.

The Food Pantry Drop Box is moving! The Food Pantry drop off is now located in the closet off of the Gathering Space. We have beautiful shelves where we can easily access your donations. Each shelf is labeled for easy drop off. We appreciate all you do.

Parish Masses of our Local Catholic Community

Altamont: St. Lucy's/St. Bernadette's 518-861-8770 Sunday - 9:30 am

Delmar: St. Thomas the Apostle 518-439-4951 Saturday - 5 pm | Sunday - 8 am, 10 am & 5 pm

Voorheesville: St. Matthew's 518-765-2805 Saturday - 5pm | Sunday - 9 am

Also, the Guilderland Food Pantry is participating HELP WANTED: ADVANCEMENT AND in Toys for Tots this year. If you'd like to drop off an unwrapped gift for Toys for Tots, you can leave St. Thomas the Apostle School has an opening it in the food pantry closet off of the Gathering Space. Otherwise, you can leave your unwrapped gift at the GFP between 9-11:30 am Mon-Fri.

CHRISTMAS WITH THE CHOSEN: HOLY NIGHT

In theaters December 12-17. Musical Guests include: Andrea Bocelli, Mat Maher, Phil Wickham, Brandon Lake, Zach Williams. Join St. Matthew's parishioners Dec 17 at 12:40pm at Crossgates Mall. Please let st.matts welcome@gmail.com know if you will be attending Holy Night in the theater with them.

BLOOD DRIVE WRAP-UP

On behalf of the American Red Cross, the members of Council #3357 want to thank the parishioners of the Church of Christ the King for stopping by on December 9th and rolling up your sleeves at our blood drive. Because of the generosity of people like you, we collected 33 units of blood to give to the Red Cross; eight units above our goal! These units have the potential of helping close to 100 patients. Thank you again, and we hope to see you at our drive on April 26, 2024!

MARKETING ASSOCIATE POSITION

for an Advancement and Marketing Associate to develop and implement engaging and successful fundraising strategies that will help support their mission. Please share this opportunity with your family and friends. Interested candidates should contact Mr. Biggs, Principal at abiggs@stthomas school.org.

2024 ITALY PILGRIMAGE WITH FR. MATT DUCLOS AND MARY DETURRIS POUST

Have you ever wanted to make a spiritual pilgrimage to Italy? Imagine visiting St. Peter's Basilica or walking the cobblestone streets of Assisi, eating fresh pasta under a Tuscan sun or maybe sitting in a gondola and watching Venice slide by. Fr. Matt Duclos and Mary DeTurris Poust invite you to join them on the journey of a lifetime Sept. 30 to Oct. 11, 2024, when they take a pilgrim group to Rome, Orvieto, Assisi, Siena, Florence, Padua, and Venice for 12 amazing days. Mary will serve as tour leader and Fr. Matt as priest chaplain on this pilgrimage operated by Select International Tours & Cruises. If you'd like more info, visit the Select website selectinter nationaltours.com/mary-deturris-poust/

Parish Calendar

Sunday, December 17

8 am Mass 8:30 am RCIA Meeting | Rectory 10 am Youth Choir Rehearsal | Knights Chapel 11 am Mass (Interpreted and Livestreamed) 1 pm The Chosen | Knights Chapel

Tuesday, December 19

9 am Mass/The Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet will follow Mass 9:45 am Adoration 6:30 pm Blue Christmas | Church

Wednesday, December 20

9 am Mass 6:15 pm Rosary 7 pm Choir Rehearsal | Church

Thursday, December 21

9 am Mass 1 pm Catholic Charities Alzheimer Support Group | Music Room 6 pm AA Meeting | Music Room

Saturday, December 23

8:30 am Zumba | Parish Center Gym 4 pm Mass

Sunday, December 24

10 am Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent 4 pm Christmas Vigil Mass 7 pm Christmas Vigil Mass 11:30 pm Christmas Midnight Mass (beginning with carols)

Monday, December 25

11 am Christmas Mass

PARISH NEWS

WELCOME!

A warm welcome to our newest parishioners Mr. Garrett Fittizzi and Mr. & Mrs. Ralph & Bianca Simeone and their son Ralph Michael Simeone. We are blessed to have you here.

THE CHOSEN

Viewing of The Chosen will happen at 1 pm on: December 17. Stay tuned for upcoming January dates.

ADVENT BANNER

Our Advent Banner adorning the wall behind the Altar has the symbols of the Jesse Tree, the "family tree" portraying the spiritual heritage of Jesus. This 'family tree" comes from the prophecy of Isaiah 11:1-2, "There shall come forth from the stump of Jesse a shoot." Traditionally, symbols of the family of Jesus from Adam and Eve to Joseph and Mary are hung on the tree while the story of that person is shared with the family. The stories can be found in Genesis, 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel in the Old Testament and in Luke in the New Testament. Harp and Star: The six-pointed star is the emblem of the Royal House of David even to this day. Christ who is born of the House of David, from whose line the Messiah can be born, can truly claim this emblem as His own. The harp is a symbol for David. "A servant spoke up to say: 'I have observed that one of the sons of Jesse of Bethlehem is a skillful harpist". (1 Sam 16:1:23) Lily: Mary, you will conceive and bear a son. "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." (Luke 1:26-38) **Ark**: God will save humanity from sin and death. Noah preserved the natural life of all within the Ark; Christ brings supernatural life to mankind and preserves that life within His Mystical Body the Church.

See last week's bulletin for the first three symbols.

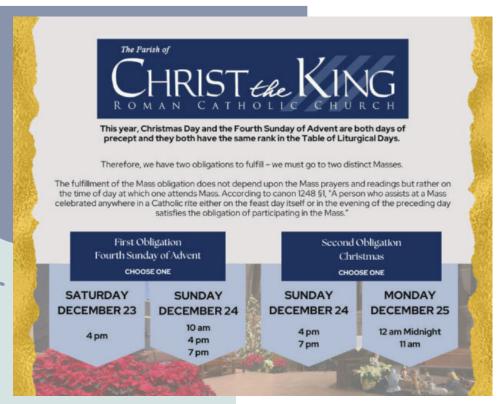
UPCOMING ADVENT OFFERINGS AT CTK

Sunday, December 17 - All Masses The Blessing of the Bambino | Bring your baby Jesus from your Creche to be blessed.

Tuesday, December 19 - 6:30 pm

Blue Christmas | Church

A gentle, contemplative prayer service for those who are carrying pain or loss during this season of celebration. The Holiday season is hard for those whose hearts are hurting. You are not alone.



PRAYER SHAWLS

If you are in need of a prayer shawl, they are available in the parish office during office hours. They are lovingly made by our Prayer Shawl Ministry and represent a way to share God's love and compassion to those in need of comfort and solace.

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

FIRST RECONCILIATION RETREAT

Will be held on Saturday, January 6th from 9:45 am- noon in the church. At least one parent must participate in this retreat along with their child. We'll enjoy different activity stations as well as a special story from professional storyteller and CTK parishioner Barbara Palumbo! Grade 2 families, save the date!

Don't forget to check us out on socials and our website: www.ctkffym.org





WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Why do Catholics give the sign of peace to one another at Mass?

Inspired by the Jesus' words to his first followers, we stand together in a spirit of communion to pray as Jesus taught us: "Our Father who art in heaven..." The rite of peace follows. As the celebrant prays that Christ's peace will fill our hearts, our communities, the Church, & the whole world, we extend to those around us a sign of peace (usually a hug or a handshake) as a symbol of the communion that we experience now & will experience forever in the fullness of the reign of God. We are also reminded of Jesus' teachings that if we are at prayer & remember that a brother or sister is holding something against us, then we are to go & seek reconciliation with them before we continue our prayer (see Matthew 5:23). And so, the sign of peace also reminds us of the need to truly be in communion — united in love & peace — with God & one another before we approach the altar to receive the Eucharist. So, the next time you're at Mass & the time comes for the sign of peace, remember that this is a moment to celebrate the gift of Christ's peace that each of us has received from God & to pass that peace along to those around us. We need this moment to practice, because this is also the same peace of Christ that we are instructed to carry out into the world at the end of Mass when the priest or deacon says to us, "Go, in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life." ©LPi

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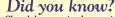




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