

Christ the King THE BROADCAST



JULY 7, 2024

20800 Grand River Avenue Detroit, Michigan 48219

PARISH MISSION

We are Christ the King Parish, a richly diverse Christian Community in Northwest Detroit. We are on a journey of Discipleship with Jesus, seeking conversion, reconciliation and renewal. We reach out in welcome to all the people within our neighborhood, proclaiming the good News of Christ the King, building community, celebrating together, serving one another's needs and the needs of all our neighbors.

Nobel-prizing winning author, Toni Morrison, assessing the times, asks this question: "Why should we want to know a stranger when it is easier to estrange another? Why should we want to close the distance when we can close the gate?" Except this isn't a question, it's a judgment. It's a negative judgment on both our society and our churches. Where are our hearts really at? Are we trying more to close the distance between us and what's foreign, or are we into closing gates to keep strangers estranged?

In fairness, it might be pointed out that this has always been a struggle. There hasn't been a golden age within which people wholeheartedly welcomed the stranger. There have been golden individuals and even golden communities who were welcoming, but never society or church as a whole. Much as this issue is so front and center in our politics today, as countries everywhere struggle with their immigration policies and with what to do with millions of refugees and migrants wanting to enter their country, I want to take Morrison's challenge, to close the distance rather than close the gate, to our churches: Are we inviting in the stranger? Or, are we content to let the estranged remain outside?

There is a challenging motif within Jesus' parable of the over-generous vineyard owner which can easily be missed because of the overall lesson within the story. It concerns the question that the vineyard owner asks the last group of workers, those who will work for only one hour. Unlike the first group, he doesn't ask them: "Do you want to work in my vineyard?" Rather he asks them: "Why aren't you working?" Their answer: "Because no one has hired us!" Notice they don't answer by saying that their non-employment is be-

cause they are lazy, incompetent, or disinterested. Neither does the vineyard owner's question imply that. They aren't working simply because no one has given them the invitation to work!

Sadly, I believe this is the case for so many people who are seemingly cold or indifferent to religion and our churches. Nobody has invited them in! And that was true too at the time of Jesus. Whole groups of people were seen as being indifferent and hostile to religion and were deemed simply as sinners. This included prostitutes, tax collectors, foreigners, and criminals. Jesus invited them in and many of them responded with a sincerity, contrition, and devotion that shamed those who considered themselves true believers. For the so-called sinners, all that stood between them and entry into the kingdom was a genuine invitation.

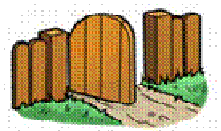
*Why aren't you practicing a faith?
No one has invited us!*

Just in my own, admittedly limited, pastoral experience, I have seen a number of individuals who from childhood to early or late mid-life were indifferent to, and even somewhat paranoid about, religion and church. It was a world from which they had always felt excluded. But, thanks to some gracious person or fortunate circumstance, at a moment, they felt invited in and they gave themselves over to their new religious family with a disarming warmth, fervor, and gratitude, often taking a fierce pride in their new identity. Witnessing this several times, I now understand why the prostitutes and tax collectors, more than the church people at the time, believed in Jesus. He was the first religious person to truly invite them in.

Sadly, too, there's a reverse side to this is where, all too often, in all religious sincerity, we not only don't invite certain others in, we positively close the gates on them. We see that, for example, a number of times in the Gospels where those around Jesus block others from having access to him, as is the case in that rather colorful story where some people are trying to bring a paralytic to Jesus but are blocked by the crowds surrounding him and consequently have to make a hole in the roof in order to lower the paralytic into Jesus' presence. Too frequently, unknowingly, sincerely, but blindly, we are that crowd around Jesus, blocking access to him by our presence. This is an occupational danger especially for all of us who are in ministry. We so easily, in all sincerity, in the name of Christ, in the name of orthodox theology, and in the name of sound pastoral practice set ourselves up as gatekeepers, as guardians of our churches, through whom others must pass in order to have access to God. We need to more clearly remember that Christ is the gatekeeper, and the only gatekeeper, and we need to refresh ourselves on what that means by looking at why Jesus chased the moneychangers out of the temple in John's Gospel. They, the moneychangers, had set themselves up as a medium through which people has to pass in order to offer workshop to God. Jesus would have none of it.

Our mission as disciples of Jesus is not to be gatekeepers. We need instead to work at closing the distance rather than closing the gate.

*Fr. Ron Rolheiser,
OMI*



Christ the King Parish ~ Grand River at Burt Road

Rectory

16805 Pierson.....313-532-1211

School

16800 Trinity.....313-532-1213

Parish website

www.ctkcatholicdetroit.org

St. Christine Christian Services

15317 Dacosta at Fenkell.....313-535-7272

www.SCCSdetroit.org

Siena Literacy

16888 Trinity Caitlyn Pisarski 313-532-8404

Pastoral Staff

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Parish Office/Mrs. Nicole Archibald.....

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Mrs. Brittany Culkowski.....Principal

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Little Scholars - Christ the King Campus

Shirley Wright-Hailey, Director 313-693-4260

Parish Unity Team Members:

Angela Varner.....Team Leader
Mark Barkey, Paulette Washburn, Judy Bruttell, Susan Groenenboom, Kevin Gordon, Ron Eady

Teams

Deacon Chris Remus.....Evangelical Charity

Carole Ann Beaman.....Worship

Ron Hildebrandt.....Finance Council

Jahmal Ross.....Parish Director

Angela Varner.....Faith Formation

Joshua Webb.....Engagement

St. Vincent dePaul.....313-535-7272

Liturgy Schedule

Sunday.....10:45am

Tuesdays:(Every other Tuesday) Virtual Bible Study

Wednesdays: 8:40am Mass *during the school year*

Becoming Catholic

Adults, Children, Youth: If you are interested in becoming a member of the Catholic faith or learning more about the Catholic Church, the Adult Catechumenate will prepare you for this decision. Please call the Parish Office if you would like more information.

Infants: At the celebration of Baptism, parents publicly affirm their decision to raise their child in the faith of the church. To make arrangements for your infant to be baptized, please contact the Parish Office. Pre-Baptismal classes for parents and godparents are necessary, held as arranged with families.

Holy Eucharist and Confirmation Preparation

Call the Parish Office.....313-532-1211

Anointing of the sick.....313-532-1211

Marriage Call the parish office; 6 months preparation

PRAYER & WORSHIP

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday July 7, 2024

10:45am Stephen Fenbert

By Fiends at Christ the King
Monday & Tuesday ~ No Mass

Wednesday CHRIST THE KING

8:40am Gertrude Dingeman

By Worship Team

Thursday 9am at SS/OLGH

Friday & Saturday ~ No Mass

Sunday July 14, 2024

10:45am Margery Holland

By Marge & andi



Don't forget to sign up to sponsor Coffee Hour. During these hot days of summer, it would be great to stop in the Hall after Mass for a cup of coffee or a cold drink!



THE WORDS OF FR. THOMAS HALIK



“Christianity offers a different vision, the vision of a merciful and loving God, whose “silence” about our sins need not be interpreted as a sign of His nonexistence, but instead as an expression of His patience and readiness to forgive.”

“In the spirit of Paul the apostle, we should not ask for the body of Christianity to be freed from the thorn of atheism. That thorn should instead constantly awaken our faith from the complacency of false certainties, so that we rely more on the power of grace—a grace that shows itself most in our times of weakness.”

“Truth happens in the course of dialogue. There is always a temptation to allow our answers to bring to an end the process of searching, as if the topic of the conversation was a problem that has now been solved. But when a fresh question arrives, the unexhausted depths of mystery show through once more. Let it be said over and over again: faith is not a question of problems but of mystery, so we must never abandon the path of seeking and asking.”

FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

7/7 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 2:2-5, 2 Cor 12:7-10, Mk 6:1-6a

Mon 7/8 Hos 2:16, 22, Mt 9:18-26

Tue 7/9 Hos 8:4-13, Mt 9:32-38

Wed 7/10 Hos 10:1-12, Mt 10:1-7

Thur 7/11 Hos 11:1-9, Mt 10:7-15

Fri 7/12 Hos 14:2-10, Mt 10:16-23

Sat 7/13 Is 6:1-8, Mt 10:24-33

7/14 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Am 7:12-15, Eph 1:3-14, Mk 6:7-13

OUR LITURGICAL MINISTERS

For NEXT Sunday, July 14

Lectors: Karen Seefelt & Shirley Carne

Minister of Service: Nicole Evans

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun. 7/7 10:45am Mass

Don't forget about our Garage Sale! Come and Shop and bring a friend.

Weekdays 11am to 5pm

Saturdays 10am to 4pm

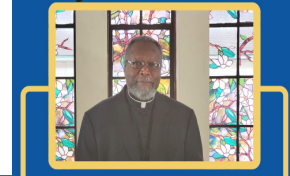
Sundays Noon to 2pm

Ben could still use a lot of help! Stop in and see what YOU can do to help make the Garage Sale a success! It takes 600 hours to do sales!

RETIREMENT

Of Fr. Ted Parker

Come to St. Suzanne Parish and offer your good wishes to Fr. Parker as he begins his journey into retirement.



Saturday, July 13, 2024 ~ 12PM

~Farewell on the Lawn ~

Outdoor Gathering & Celebration

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL NOVENA OF ST. ANNES BASILICA
**AFRICAN/AFRICAN AMERICAN
 CULTURAL NIGHT**

@ The Basilica

1000 ST ANNE ST, DETROIT, MI 48216

**WEDNESDAY JULY 17 2024
 7:00PM**

OUTDOOR LIVE MUSIC FOLLOWING MASS

**Choir lead by Coleman Ward of St. Moses
 the Black.**



A Few Words on this week's Scripture

- A prophet has been described as someone who comforts the afflicted and afflicts the comfortable. It is no surprise then, that many would resist, as they did after Ezekiel spoke out. No matter how much or how little we do to bear witness to the gospel, we tend to feel that we are doing well enough. We don't want to hear that we need to carry our cross, or be more selfless, or change our lifestyle, or do more for those in need. We have grown comfortable with the way we live our life. When we receive reproof from the prophetic voices we hear, let us react not with obstinacy of heart, but recognize this as guidance for what God calls us to be and heed their warnings.

- Saul, persecutor of Christians, seemed to be comfortable in that role, right up until he received a jolt on his way to Damascus. Now, as Paul, apostle to the Gentiles, he speaks of an affliction—"a thorn in the flesh"—that bedevils him (2 Corinthians 12:7). Three times he begged the Lord for relief, but the Lord told him that "power is made perfect in weakness" (12:9). Like Jesus himself, who by becoming flesh made himself weak, who also begged his Father three times (in Gethsemane) to be released from his suffering, who in the end triumphed over sin and death by submitting himself to the cross, Paul realizes that by enduring "weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and constraints" he is made strong (12:10).

- Last week we heard of two people with exceptionally strong faith: Jairus, whose daughter was near death, and a woman who had been afflicted for twelve years with an incurable/ untreatable condition. In the course of curing each, Jesus told both how vital each one's faith was: "Your faith has saved you, "Do not be afraid; Just have faith" (Mark 5:34, 36). Today we hear Mark write that in his native place, Jesus "was amazed by their lack of faith" (6:6). Therefore, he was not able to cure more than a

Church Announcements



Please be sure to make your CSA donation. **Remember!** If we fall short of our goal, the balance will need to be made up by the parish! Please do your part. Our school and parish benefit greatly from this campaign.



Be sure to sign up to bring your favorite soup to the Golden Ladle Soup Contest, September 28 at 5pm in Koelzer Hall. This is a

family friendly event with prizes for Kids, 50/50, and a great Drop Raffle in addition to the drawing for our Super Raffle. You don't want to miss this.

Annual Resource Fair

August 13 from 11am to 3pm for our Annual Resource Fair. In past years this has proven to be a very important, very well attended event where you can find answers to your questions about Social Security, Water bills, Friend of the Court and so much more. More information is coming soon!

School Announcements

1. Summer school and camp were a huge success. Thank you to those who participated and supported.
2. The school office will reopen tomorrow July 8, 2024 8:30 to 4:00pm
3. The first day of school will be August 26, 2024 so please have your student registered by August 1st.

Tickets \$100.00 Each
 Second prize \$2,000
 Third prize \$750
 Fourth prize \$250

Christ the King Fall Super Raffle

Top Prize \$10,000.00 Only 300 TICKETS SOLD

If 180 tickets are not sold, the drawing reverts to a 50/50 raffle

Some folks don't realize that you can share a ticket! 10 people pay \$10.00 dollars or 5 people pay \$20.00 and share in any prize that might be won. We hope that offering to add names to a ticket will help make this raffle accessible to anyone who would like to participate.

