ST. THERESA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fr, Paulinus Okpala, Pastor
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Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm Sunday: 9:30 am (English) & 12:15 pm (Spanish)
Daily: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday: Noon Wednesday: 6:00 pm
Adoration: Wednesday 5:00 pm Private Prayer: Wednesday 8:00 am – 7:00 pm

JESUS CHRIST IS KING

Today is the Solemnity of Christ the King. On this last Sunday of the Liturgical year, the Church focuses on the center of our entire life and journey as Christians: God's kingship in our lives. This truth is both central and of utmost importance for us believers for two major reasons: it gives us great peace of mind that all things and events are completely under God's control, and it helps us keep centering our lives on him.

The Church wants us to really believe and enjoy the truth of today's psalm (23), "The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want." To truly believe that God is king every day means trusting that he guides the events in our lives and can use both good and bad to bring out the best in us, just as he uses day and night, light and darkness, to give us healthy lives. A sad truth is that many Christians believe more in the presence and power of the evil one than in the Presence and Power of God. The result is more fear and less faith. The source of constant, deep joy for Christians is the full knowledge that the whole universe is our Father's House, and that God embodies it through His Word, Jesus Christ, and fills it with His Love, the Holy Spirit. A Christian cannot live in fear and hopelessness, but rather in peace, faith, hope, joy, and constant effort to love like God our Father.

Jesus' parable of the final judgment in today's gospel is designed to remove the separation in our minds between Christ and his Body: "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me." The message could be summed up in what we can call "Love balance." There is an imbalance in a direct exchange of love between God and us. Everything God gives us is totally undeserved. Everything we give back to God is totally deserved and even below his high dignity as God. Therefore, to balance this love, God chooses to come to us disguised as our neighbors, expecting love and gifts from us. When we return love to God in this way, it really becomes a gift. This is the balance of love God is asking of us today. May God help us every day to recognize and love him in our neighbors, especially the unattractive and the often-forgotten people. Amen

Happy Solemnity of Christ the King to you all, Fr. Paulinus

Sacraments

Baptism, Marriage, & Anointing of the Sick – Call for appointment
First Communion, Confirmation & Religious Ed –
Sunday 11:00 am – 12 Noon
Youth Group – December 8 at 7:00 – 8:30 pm
OCIA – Thursday 7:00 pm
Confessions: Sunday: 8:45-9:15 pm & 11:30 am to Noon:
Saturday: 4:15 – 4:45 pm; Wednesday: 5:15 – 5:45 pm
and by appointment

Prison Ministry Collection ~ we are taking collections for the Prison Ministry through this Sunday. Cards and stamps, toiletries such as soap, shampoo, shaving cream, toothpaste and toothbrushes are needed. These are items that are luxuries to the prisoners. Please help if you can.

Second Collection ~ this weekend is for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

Children's Christmas Program ~ All youth who are interested in participating in the Christmas Program on December 16 are welcome to join us. We will begin practice this Sunday at 11:00 am.

Condolences~ to the family of Mrs. Mary Olson who passed away Wednesday, November 18. Her funeral Mass was held on Saturday. Please pray for the repose of Mrs. Mary's soul and keep Mr. Frank and the family in your prayers as well.

Father Francois Pellissier ~ passed away this week. Please pray for repose of his soul. Many may remember Fr. Francois when he came to visit our parish at different times and his long-time service to the prison Ministry.

Advent ~ begins next Sunday. Please feel free to take the items that are available in the Narthex to help you prepare for the Lord.

Today's Readings can be found on page 950 in the St. Augustine Hymnal

Our Gifts to God:

Weekly Budget Goal: $2,875 Last Year's Offering: $3,033.00

Last Sunday's Offering: $2,698.66 (In pew: $2145, Online: $553.66)

Children: $71

Harvest of Hope Goal: $128,508

Pledges Remaining: $21,685.24 Total Given: $57,625.73

DAILY MASS

November 21
5:00 pm Mass
Raymond J Konecny Jr

November 22
9:30 am Mass
Vernard Olek+
12:15 PM Mass

November 23
Noon Mass

November 24
Noon Mass

November 25
5:00 pm Holy Hour
6:00 pm Mass

November 26
Thanksgiving Day
10:00 am Mass

November 27
Noon Mass

You can scan the QR code to donate online.