

# CHRIST THE KING PARISH

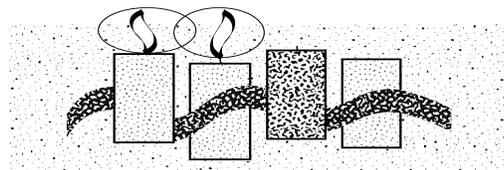
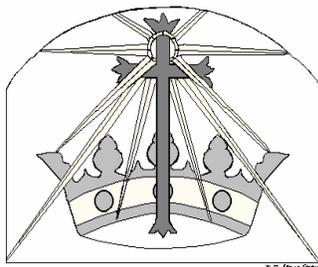
P.O. Box 156 Spencer, WI 54479 (715) 659-4480

Website: [ctkspencer.net](http://ctkspencer.net)

Church address: 208 S. LaSalle St.

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 10, 2017**



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**Mass Schedule / Scripture Readings / Intentions / Ministry Participants**

**Monday - December 11, 2017 \* Communion Service @ 8:30 am \* Is 35: 1-10 \* Lk 5: 17-26**

**Tuesday - December 12, 2017 \*\*\* Mass @ 7:30 am \*\*\* Zec 2: 14-17 \* Lk 1: 26-38 \* Mass Intention: + Clarence Willcome**

**Wednesday - December 13, 2017 \* Communion Service @ 8:30 am \* Is 40: 25-31 \* Mt 11: 28-30**

**Thursday - December 14, 2017 \* Mass @ 8:30 am \* Is 41: 13-20 \* Mt 11: 11-15**

**Mass Intention: + Deceased members of Dennis and Robert Bauer Families**

**Friday - December 15, 2017 \* Communion Service @ 8:30 am \* Is 48: 17-19 \* Mt 11: 16-19**

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**Saturday - December 16, 2017 \* 4 p.m. Mass**                      **Readings: Sir 48: 1-4, 9-11 \* Mt 17: 9, 10-13**

**Mass Intention: + Patricia Wentzel**

**Lector: Laurie Weber**

**Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Sue Kappel \* Laurie Weber \* Volunteer Needed**

**Servers: Bradley and Darron Willcome                      Crucifix Bearer: Alyssa Willcome**

**Ministers of Welcome: Sue Kappel and Jordan Willcome**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Sunday - December 17, 2017 \* 8 a.m. Mass**                      **\* Third Sunday of Advent**

**Readings: Is 61: 1-2, 10-11 \* 1 Thes 5: 16-24 \* Jn 1: 6-8, 19-28**

**Mass Intention: + Harry Witmer**

**Lector: Bob / Barb Wesle**

**Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Kay Derks \* Marcia Draeger \* Volunteer Needed**

**Servers: Kyle Johnson and Montanna Kohls                      Crucifix Bearer: Nathan Derks**

**Minister of Welcome: Jerome Lang and Austyn Kohls**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Sunday - December 17, 2017 \* 10 a.m. Mass**                      **\* Third Sunday of Advent**

**Readings: Is 61: 1-2, 10-11 \* 1 Thes 5: 16-24 \* Jn 1: 6-8, 19-28**

**\*\*\*After 10 a.m. Mass decorating church for Christmas \*\*\***

**Mass Intention: Priest's Intention**

**Lector: Pauline Frome**

**Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Sue Mews \* Richard Bruss \* Volunteer Needed**

**Servers: Nathan Rucker \* Needed                      Crucifix Bearer: Needed**

**Ministers of Welcome: Dawn Allar and Jim Bauer**

One mightier than I is coming after me.  
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.



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## [ From the Desk of : Father Samuel Martin ]

Praised be Jesus Christ! *"Since golden October declined into somber November, and the apples were gathered and stored, and the land became brown sharp points of death in a waste of water and mud. The New Year waits, breathes, waits, whispers in darkness."* As we descend into the darkest days of the year, one of my favorite T.S. Eliot quotes reminds us that it won't be long and what now lies dormant in the earth will once again be summoned to life. As we continue our Advent meditation on what we can give to Our Lord as a fitting gift at Christmas, this week we consider myrrh. As you may already know, myrrh is a resin which can be extracted from trees found in Africa, Arabia and India. It can be burned as a type of incense, but was most commonly used in the process of embalming. Bodies buried with myrrh stayed relatively incorrupt, as the myrrh was able to dry up any moisture and prevent the generation of worms (disgusting, eh?!). This gift was given to the Baby Jesus as a prophecy – His parents and apparently the Magi were well aware that He was destined to offer His life as a sacrifice that would save us from our sins. Over the centuries many parallels have been drawn between the wood of Jesus' manger and the wood of His cross. One of my favorite stories is completely fictional, but it is delightful nevertheless. It is the story of three little trees growing up on a mountain. One day they shared their dreams about what sort of future they were hoping for and the first admitted he was hoping to become a treasure chest filled with the world's greatest riches. The second was the most adventurous and confessed that he was hoping to become a ship carrying great kings and travelling through dangerous waters. Finally, the third little tree admitted that he would be happy to stay and grow on the mountain, one day becoming so tall that when people walked by they would raise their eyes to Heaven and think of God. Well, years passed and things didn't turn out for the little trees the way they had hoped. The first tree was chopped down and made into a feed box for animals. The second tree did become a boat, but not a mighty sailing ship. No, he was made into a simple fishing boat, far too small to sail in the ocean – instead, he was taken to a little lake. The third tree's dream didn't work out either; he was chopped down, turned into strong beams, and stored in a lumberyard for years. The trees gradually forgot about their innocent dreams until one day a young woman placed her newborn baby in the feed box. It was then that the first tree knew he was holding the greatest treasure in the world. Years passed and the fishing boat was transporting a tired traveler and his friends across the lake. The traveler fell asleep immediately, but was later awakened by a terrible storm. The traveler stretched out his hand and said "Peace" and that was the end of the storm. It was then that the second tree knew he was carrying the King of Heaven and Earth. Some months later on a Friday morning the beams were yanked from the forgotten wood pile. Carried through an angry, jeering crowd, suddenly a man's hands and feet were nailed to him. The third tree felt ugly, harsh, and sad. But on Sunday morning the third tree knew somehow everything had changed. From now on the third tree knew that people would forever look at him and think of God's great love and this was more than he had ever dreamed possible. The story ends with this line: *"The next time you feel down because you didn't get what you wanted, sit tight and be happy because God is thinking of something better to give you."*

May God give us the faith that transforms death into life!  
Your friend in Christ,  
Father Martin

## Mission Statement

As members of God's family, Christ the King Parish will always be a welcoming community that comforts, shares its Catholic faith, and inspires others.

## Sacraments

**Baptism..** Expectant parents are to participate in the Baptism preparation program offered in February, June and October. The Baptisms are then scheduled for the second and fourth Sundays of the month, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass

**Marriage..** Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance by contacting the parish pastor.

**Anointing of the Sick..** (which was known as Extreme Unction or Last Rites) has taken a different connotation since The Second Vatican Council. The sacrament is celebrated not only for those who are dying, but to those preparing for major surgery, the aged, and the sick. It is time for the Church to pray for and with those who are ill and anoint them with oil. The proper celebrant of this sacrament is a priest. Those who desire to receive this sacrament are to contact Fr. Martin, in advance.

**Penance . .** Saturday afternoon 3:15 p.m. until 3:45 p.m.  
or by appointment



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## Ministry to the Homebound...

First Sunday... Joan Meyer  
Second Sunday... Barb Ward  
Third Sunday... Sue Mews  
Fourth Sunday... Deacon Jeff and Rita Austin  
Fifth Sunday... Shelly Schultz  
Sue Kappel (substitute)  
Rosie Frank (substitute)  
Jack and Kris Franklin (substitute)  
Sue Strebe (substitute)



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## Christ the King Parish

Email address: [ck\\_spencer@frontier.com](mailto:ck_spencer@frontier.com)

Parish Office Address: 107 East Wendell St.

Church Building address: 208 South LaSalle St.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND AREA EVENTS

**Please support the Retirement Fund for Religious The collection for this campaign will happen the weekend of Dec. 9-10.** Thank you for your Support!

**Please note:** On **Tuesday-December 12, 2017** the morning mass **will be at 7:30 am** \* Father Martin will be helping to hear student confessions @ Columbus Catholic Schools for preparation of Christmas.

**A heartfelt "Thank you"** for those ladies in St Catherine's Circle and other ladies who so generously provided items for the Bake \* Craft Sale and those ladies who organized and helped at the sale. This sale was very successful !!! **Thank you** to those people who took time after each mass to go to the dining hall to look over items and made a purchase. God's blessings to you and your families during this Christmas season !

**"Tis almost the season already, and music rehearsals for December 24th Christmas Evening mass will be starting soon!**

The scheduled dates for rehearsal are: **Sunday -December 10.** Practice will begin immediately following the 10 a.m. mass, starting approximately 11:15 a.m. **As always, we extend an invitation for you to join us as a singer or instrumentalist. Please consider joining us !!!**

Questions can be directed to Theresa Schauer

### **Christmas Eve Children's Mass @ 4 pm**

Any Child (pre-k thru 8) interested in singing, acting reading and also some high school students that would like to be involved there will be practices Mondays after school form 3:30 pm until 4:45 pm **Practices will be** December 4 \* December 11 \* December 18. If you are interested in participating please contact Bernice be email bbacres@gmail.com or phone (715-650-2659). Give your child's name, age, grade and contact phone number. We are praying for a huge group of children to help in the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

### **Ministry Participants are needed for the Christmas celebrations**

here @ Christ the King Parish. **Christmas eve. \* Dec. 24, 2017 children's mass @ 4 pm and Christmas Eve.\* Dec 24 Mass @ 10 pm** and on **Christmas Day \* Dec 25 mass @ 10 am.** Sign-up sheets have been placed on table in gathering room of church. If you will be attending any of these Christmas masses your help is greatly appreciated. God's blessings.

### **Christmas Mass times @ St John's in Mfld. are:**

Dec 24 \* Christmas Eve. @ 4 pm / 6 pm / 8 pm

Dec. 25 \* Christmas Day @ 7 am / 9 am / 11 am

### **Advent 2017 "Sacrament of Reconciliation"**

**@ 5:30 p.m. at these parishes:**

**Thursday-December 14, 2017 @ Sacred Heart in Mfld.**

**Thursday-December 21, 2017 @ St John's in Mfld.**

**Christmas cards** will be mailed to Fr. Aaron Becker, Sister Karol Marie and Faith Becker If you wish to have your card included, in our mailing, please place it in the basket in the gathering room of church **by December 17th (no later)**. If you have any questions please contact Deb Mlsna

**2018 Contribution envelopes** have been placed in church for you to pick up as soon as possible. They are not mailed out as to save money in postage for the parish

### **Church decorating for Christmas will take place on Sunday-December 17th, 2017 after the 10 a.m. mass.**

There is a saying "many hands help complete the task, to be completed in a timely manner". In previous years, we were done by noon, with the fantastic volunteers, who gave their time and talent to make the church look great for our Christmas masses. It would be nice to have more youth help in the way of carrying items where needed. **A sign-up sheet** has been placed on back table, if you are able to give your time and talent in helping us. Thank you (-:

**Evening of Recollection** \* Led by Fr. Martin \* Eucharistic Adoration and Reflection \* The evenings will alternate between St. John and Christ the King parishes. Time: 6:30 pm-8 pm **Thursday- Dec 14th, 2017** Theme: Faith Seeks to Understand @ Christ the King in Spencer.

St. John's Presents "**Movie of The Month Club**" Looking for something to do on a Sunday afternoon? Come join Fr Martin in the **Columbia Room @ 1 pm** for a great movie. There is no cost and it's a chance to take in a movie with other members of the parish. **Doors open @ 12:30 pm** Feel free to bring snacks and non-alcoholic beverages.

**Sunday- Dec 17** Title of movie: The Song of Bernadette

**Ministry Participants: January \* February \* March \* April \* May of 2018** **schedule has been completed.** Please stop to pick your copy up at the back table in the gathering room of church. Your time and talent in helping with these ministries is greatly appreciated.

**Bring the Joy of Christ to others** by helping St. Vincent de Paul raise funds through the Red Kettle campaign. During your shift, you can help bring a smile to hundreds of people – that is a wonderful gift! If each household took just one, 2-hour shift, all the shifts would be covered! If interested, please call Barb at 715-451-0950.

**Diocesan audit:** Every three years we are audited by the Diocese of La Crosse and this is our lucky year! In all seriousness, this is important business because it promotes transparency with how your sacrificial giving is being used. Sadly, human beings are sometimes inordinately attracted to money and serious breaches of trust have resulted. Given that the Church is staffed by people like you and me, we do well to have a system in place that protects us from temptation. Even though this is a somewhat onerous process, we gladly submit so that the light of Christ dispels the darkness that might otherwise overtake us. I just thought you had a right to know. Father Samuel Martin

**Priestly ring:** Some have noticed that in late September I began wearing a wedding ring. Over the years I noticed some priests doing this as an outward sign of their consecration to Mary, the Mother of God. I'm not exactly sure why this year I felt a strong tug to make my consecration more public, but I wonder if it's related to the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Fatima. My Dad has had a lifelong devotion to Our Lady of Fatima and maybe my desire to consecrate my heart more fully to Mary is connected to the innumerable prayers Dad said over the years to God through Mary. On a lighter note, one youngster asked, "Father, who are you married to?" After explaining that I am married to God and to the Church, I then mentioned that in a way I was married to her. Her face crinkled in pain and she exclaimed, "You're not married to me. Yuck!" That was a about 6 weeks ago and I'm still reeling . . . . At any rate, the ring symbolizes a desire to be faithful to God as Mary always was, and at this point in my life I am beginning to rely on her intercession more and more.

## Religious Education

D.R.E:

Mrs. Deb Mlsna

715-659-4480 ext. #3

ReligiousEd@frontier.com



**December 13 & 20:** Reconciliation for the CCD students. Both nights are scheduled for reconciliation during Advent with two priests each night. Parents and parishioners are more than welcomed to join us, but we ask that the students celebrate the sacrament first. Arriving around 7:15pm would be a good time to plan on if you would like to celebrate the sacrament.

Upcoming Events:

**Wednesday, December 13 & 20:** Reconciliation (parents/parishioners welcomed after the students)

**Sunday, December 24:** *No Sunday school*, Christmas break

**Wednesday, December 27:** *No classes*, Christmas break

**Sunday, December 31:** *No Sunday school*, Christmas break

**Wednesday, January 3:** *No classes for students*, Christmas break; **\*\*Catechist In-Service at St. John's\*\***

## Youth Ministry News

### March for Life Pilgrimage 2018

The March for Life pilgrimage will be Jan 17-21, 2018. All people 13 years of age and older are invited to be a witness to the dignity of life for the unborn, elderly, and those who society regards as useless. We'll travel with a Diocesan group via motorcoach. This is for YOUTH & ADULTS. Cost is ~\$355 for teens, \$315 for chaperones. Pilgrims will also get a hooded sweatshirt. Fundraising options and need-based scholarships are available. (\*\$25 less if you have a hood from previous March) For more information, please contact Mr. Dan Kitzhaber.

### Pilgrims for Life Fundraiser – Need Quart Jars & Cloth

The youth preparing to participate in the March for Life will again be making and selling delicious Jar Mixes. We need more **Quart** size canning jars as well as Christmas colored cloth scraps for covering jars. If you have some to donate, please contact Mr. Dan Kitzhaber.

**SHS High School Luncheon Bible Study:** Every Tuesday meet in room 310 during your lunch period. Bring a hunger to grow in your faith & a bag lunch (or school lunch). We read, discuss & share God's Word and the food. This year, we are reading 1 Corinthians. This is a GREAT opportunity! Bring your friends!!

### Teen & Young Adult Retreat Team

Looking for teens and young adults to help lead youth retreats. Living Stones is the name of the group and it rocks! Meet lots of great people, grow in your faith, and have tons of fun. If interested, contact Mr. Dan Kitzhaber

**Youth Minister:**

**Mr. Dan Kitzhaber**

**Christ the King:**

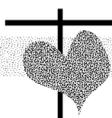
715-659-4480 ext. #4

**St. John the Baptist:**

715-384-3252 ext. #6

Email:

yministry@frontier.com



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**\*\*\* Pray daily for vocations to the priesthood, religious life, and sacramental marriage \*\*\***

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**History book is to arrive shortly and will be available after all masses the weekend of December 16th & 17th**

**\* Diocese of La Crosse \* Building Upon A Tradition of Faith** The Diocese of La Crosse will be celebrating its 150th anniversary as a Diocese. To commemorate this special event a full color 400 plus page hardcover book depicting all the parishes in our diocese will be **available for purchase at the price of \$33.00** if you **wish to purchase a book please have the exact monies** (if you are paying cash, there will be no way of giving change) or you may write out a check or money order to: Christ the King Catholic Church and in memo write : 2018 History book \*  
You may also reserve your copy by calling Judy @ the parish office 715-659-4480 Ext. 0 and than pick up during regular office hours, that are listed in the bulletin.

**\*\*\* Important Tax Information \*\*\*** Diocesan Ann Appeal Contributions - Payments must be received at the diocesan office by **Friday, December 15, 2017**, in order to be reported on your Annual Appeal 2017 Tax Statement from them. To allow sufficient time for your donation to be processed and mailed by Monday-December 11, 2017 to: Diocese of La Crosse PO Box 4004 La Crosse, WI 54602-4004 Tax statements will be mailed by the Diocese to those contributing to the Annual Appeal. **These contributions are NOT reported on your Christ the King yearly statement .**

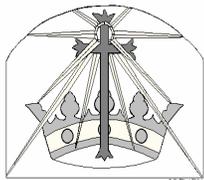
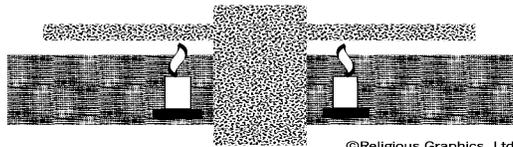
**Tax Information Clarification \*\*\* All 2017 contributions to Christ the King Parish must be received by Thursday-December 28, 2017 in order to be deposited and included on your yearly 2017 contribution statement**

**\*\*\* 2017 "Giving Tree" !!!** The tree has been placed in the Gathering Room. Each year the Family Life & Social Justice Committee members and the families who receive the gifts are overwhelmed by your generosity. **As a reminder: If you take a tag, please write your name and phone number on the sign-out sheet located near the tree.** Also very important , please place the gift tag number on the top of the gift so that it goes to the right person / family. **Please return your gifts, as soon as possible, so we can get begin to sort them. This really helps to get a head start with the sorting according to the family / person receiving them. The latest return is Sunday-December 17, 2017, this helps to get the gifts to the families in a timely manner.** Any questions please call Sue Toufar @ 715-659-7729

**BELOVED \* Finding Happiness in Your Marriage** \* The Marshfield Catholic Deanery presents a series on marriage: Experience the Deeper Meaning Behind **Time and Dates** \* 3 pm. until 4:15 pm. \* **December 17** \* February 11, 2018 \* March 18, 2018 \* April 15, 2018 **Location:** St John's Catholic School / Columbia Room / Mfld. **Cost:** FREE Childcare: Please R.S.V.P. By Wednesday prior for onsite daycare. Assistance available for babysitting in your home. For more info. and to R.SVP contact Dan Kitzhaber @ 715-384-3252 Ext. 6 or yministry@frontier.com

**Christmas Cards FOR SALE** single or box available ... Sponsored by the P CCW.. Please take time to look over all the wonderful selections. The price is marked on each box. (Located in carport / north entrance of the church ) **PCCW Church Cookbook - Consider purchasing the 2011 PCCW Cookbook as a gift** or for other upcoming events, such as birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, graduations, etc. The cost: \$12.00. You can pick them up at the parish office during weekday office hours.

**The Diocese of La Crosse is committed to creating a safe environment within the Church for children and youth. We continue to have a special care for and a commitment to reaching out to victims of sexual abuse and their families.**



**To place a prayer request on the Christ the King Prayer Chain, please call these prayer leaders:**  
Marcia Draeger (715-659-5182), Kay Derks (715-659-4046), Joan Meyer (715-384-2774)  
Each of these has a list of people to call and inform them about your prayer requests, do not call parish office.  
**You may also place your requests** on the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Prayer Chain by calling Shirley @ 715-384-3613 and Donna 715-384-2479 (there are 2 lists) and they will take your request.

**Christ the King Staff:** Fr. Samuel Martin : Pastor \* Fr. Daniel Sedlacek : Associate Pastor \* Deacon Jeff Austin : Permanent Deacon  
\* Judy A. Drechsler : Parish Secretary \* Bonnie Jakel : Sacristan \* Gary Niziolek : Part-time Maintenance \* Jim Kilty : Snow Removal  
**Parish office Hours Are:** Monday \* Tuesday \* Wednesday - 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Thursday - 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. \* Friday - Office is CLOSED

A voice of one  
crying in  
the wilderness



**PREPARE THE WAY OF THE  
LORD  
MAKE STRAIGHT  
HIS PATHS**

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**Diocese of La Crosse Guidelines  
For Reporting Instances of Child  
Abuse.**

The Diocese of La Crosse is committed to creating a safe environment within the Church for children and youth. We continue to have a special care for and a commitment to reaching out to the victims of sexual abuse and their families. \* To report allegations of sexual abuse by a member of the clergy, lay employees or volunteers of the Diocese of La Crosse please fill out the report form found at: [www.dioc.org/safe-environment/reporting](http://www.dioc.org/safe-environment/reporting) \* Alternatively, you can also contact these people: Msgr. David Kunz, Vicar for Clergy @ 608-791-2679 or Mrs. Karen Becker, Victim Assistance Ministry @ 608-519-8002  
Victims of sexual abuse, in addition to contacting civil authorities, are asked to come forward in order to receive pastoral assistance. Such assistance can be received from: Deacon David Allen, Victim Assistance Coordinator @ 608-792-9684