

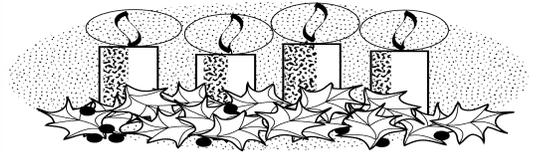
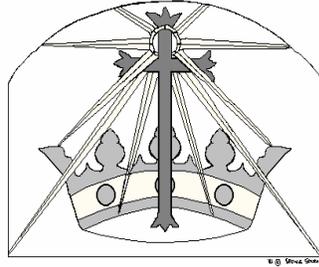
CHRIST THE KING PARISH

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

Website: ctkspencer.net

Church address: 208 S. LaSalle St.

**Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 24, 2017**



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Mass Schedule / Scripture Readings / Intentions / Ministry Participants

Sunday * Christmas Eve. * December 24, 2017 * Children's Mass @ 4 pm music to begin @ 3:30 pm

Mass Intention @ 4 pm mass: +Val, Mark and Thomas Bychinski

Sunday * Christmas Eve. * December 24, 2017 * Mass @ 10 pm and choir to begin singing @ 9:30 pm.

*** Mass Intention @ 10 pm Mass: + Tony and Anita Schecklman and John Kromanaker**

Monday * Christmas Day * December 25, 2017 * Mass @ 10 am * Mass Intention: Dave Taylor

Tuesday - Dec. 26, 2017 * Mass @ 8:30 am * Acts 6: 8-10; 7:54-59 * Mt 10: 17-22* Mass Intention: + Emil and Ronald Weiland

Wednesday - December 27, 2017 * Communion Service @ 8:30 am * 1 Jn 1:1-4 * Jn 20: 1, 2-8

Thursday - December 28, 2017 * Mass @ 8:30 am * 1 Jn 1:5-2:2* Mt 2: 13-18 * Mass Intention: Special Intention

Friday - December 29, 2017 * Communion Service @ 8:30 am * 1 Jn 2:3-11 * Lk 2: 22-35

Saturday - December 30, 2017 * 4 p.m. Mass **Readings: 1 Jn 2: 12-17 * Lk 2:36-40**

Mass Intention: + Deceased members of the Parish Council of Catholic Women

Lector: Anita Ruger

Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Sue Kappel * Joan Meyer * Volunteer Needed

Servers: Bradley and Darron Willcome Crucifix Bearer: Alyssa Willcome

Ministers of Welcome: Sue Kappel and Jordan Willcome

Sunday - December 31, 2017 * 8 a.m. Mass **Readings: Sir 3: 2-6 * Col 3: 12-21 * Lk 2: 22-40**

Mass Intention: Priest's Intention * The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Lector: Dan McNeely

Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Kent Johnson * Ann Pankratz * Volunteer Needed

Servers: Luke and David Ellefson Crucifix Bearer: Needed

Minister of Welcome: Bruce Trampush and Kurt Feind

Sunday - December 31, 2017 * 10 a.m. Mass **Readings: Sir 3: 2-6 * Col 3: 12-21 * Lk 2: 22-40**

Mass Intention: + Gilbert and Jerry LaSee * The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Lector: Sue Mews

Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Mary Buss * Dennis Gonnering * Volunteer Needed

Servers: Shane Bauer and Needed Crucifix Bearer: Needed

Ministers of Welcome: Todd Schesel and Steven Fleischmann



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— From the Desk of : Father Samuel Martin —

Praised be Jesus Christ! Well, ready or not, we've arrived at the doorstep of Christmas. This will be a fast weekend with the 4th Sunday of Advent lasting merely 24 hours. Some of you might be wondering what the priests will do once all the Masses are offered and things quiet down around here. Father Sedlacek is going home and then will spend a few days relaxing with friends. He hinted that he might be spending a good chunk of time at an indoor firing range because he missed at least three deer this fall. I told him it would be easier to see the deer if he actually had a scope, but he's old school. I will be around this week to cover Masses but it will be a somewhat reduced schedule. As you know, I'll be heading to Brewton, Alabama for the annual reunion with my classmates from our years together in Rome. A smaller group (around a dozen) is coming this year, but the hope is to have a great showing next year as we celebrate our 20th anniversary as priests in 2019. Because I really enjoyed my brief opportunity to hunt this year (I got out a couple of hours on Thanksgiving afternoon and then each of the next two mornings), I plan on both hunting and harvesting a number of deer. I thought the associate would take care of things (he did last year), but I guess it's up to me to fill the freezer this time around. If things go well, you won't hear any more homilies characterized by a whiny priest who complains of being chronically hungry. Now before I get too carried away, a few thoughts about the book we're giving away for our annual Christmas gift. Titled The Shadow of His Wings, this book is one of my all-time favorites. Set in World War II, it demonstrates the power of intercessory prayer and the mysterious workings of Divine Providence. Some of my favorite characters in the book (besides the author) are Sister Solana May, Sister Jeanne, and Mere Monique. For those of you who enjoy reading, you won't be able to put this book down. By the way, another fine read when it comes to the reality that our prayers affect others is the document titled "Eucharistic Adoration for the Sanctification of Priests and Spiritual Maternity." You can find this document online and it's one of the finest articles I've ever read in terms of the power of Adoration and how God's people have literally changed the course of human history by their sincere practice of the faith. The stories found in the article are so inspiring that one cannot help but be deeply touched by the power of prayer. Writing this has impelled me to read it again – I'm printing it right now! Realizing that some of you are not avid readers, maybe someone in your family can take the time to share some of the stories found either in the aforementioned article or the book we're giving away. Stories are a wonderful way to teach as we enter the narrative and see ourselves in a different light. Allow me to conclude by thanking each of you for making Christmas so happy and holy for Father Sedlacek and me. We're grateful for the gifts of food, money, and gift cards. More importantly, we thank you for your prayers (especially the many Masses that you've had offered for us), as we could never live this life without your spiritual support. I'm sorry that I cannot thank each of you personally, but I pray for you every day and I hope you feel more of God's love this way.

May God bless you and your loved ones with the most joyful and peaceful Christmas ever!

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.

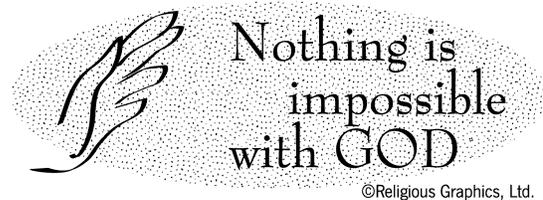
Sacraments

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



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)



Christ the King Parish

Email address: ck_spencer@frontier.com

Parish Office Address: 107 East Wendell St.

Church Building address: 208 South LaSalle St.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND AREA EVENTS

Christ the King parish office will be “closed” in celebration of Christmas * Monday * December 25th and * Tuesday * December 26th and for the New Year Holiday * Monday* January 1, 2018 .

“Thank You” to the members of Christ the King Parish. This year’s “Giving Tree” was a success!!! We were able to bring Christmas joy to 85 individuals The recipients were so thankful for your kindness! You all had such a Christmas giving spirit. We would like to acknowledge the Lion’s Club of Spencer for contributing \$400.00, to this worthy cause and the money was used for those gift tags not taken. We wish to thank Sue Toufar, for her part in organizing all aspects of this project from the beginning by getting gifts tags on the tree and than sorting out the gifts and taking time than to distribute to the participants before Christmas and the Family Life Committee Members for their support with this yearly project.

THANK YOU * There is a saying “many hands help the task, to be completed in a timely manner and those who came on Sunday-December 17th to help decorate the church for Christmas mass celebration, proved this to be true! The church looks so beautiful with poinsettias, the manger scene, both inside and outside and decorated trees giving us special meaning for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. There was a change that happened this year, in the placement of the indoor Nativity Scene, after much placing it, here and there, Shane Bauer suggested the location to the left of the front altar table where it has been placed to be seen by all during this holy time of the year.

*** 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 is **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 get 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.**

The Family Life Committee members of Christ the King have discussed and agreed to take on a “new” informational endeavor, called: **“Meet Your Parish Family.”** Every one to two months, one of our parish families will be contacted by a Family Life Committee member asking them, first for their permission, than facts about their family and requesting a time when a Family Life member can take a family picture or the family can provide them with a picture.

Please take time, after mass, to look at the **“Meet Your Parish Family”** easel that has been placed in the gathering room of the church. We hope that this will become a way for every family of our parish to get to know the names and faces of those who are registered members.

Parishioners of Christ the King * there is an **“URGENT”** need for your assistance in the “Ministry of Music” and to be part of your parish choir or choir leader as cantors at all the weekend masses. All questions and interest can be addressed to the music director, choir members or organist at the mass you attend. We welcome you to participate!

Community Outreach Meal for Everyone on Tuesday-December 26, 2017 with serving from 5-6 p.m. at St John’s Lutheran Church B3750 Hwy 13 North in Spencer.

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.

Help Refugees this Christmas This Christmas, consider donating to help the millions of persons and families who have been displaced by the violence in Syria and Iraq. Here are three excellent Catholic organizations you can choose from.

Catholic Relief Services – www.crs.org

Knights of Columbus – www.kofc.org
(click on “Give Through Us”)

Aid to the Church in Need – www.churchinneed.org

FATHER-DAUGHTER DATE NIGHT Save the date!

There will be a Marshfield Deanery "Father-Daughter Dinner and Dance" on Sat. February 3rd 5-7:30pm for fathers (or father-figures) and their daughters. This event will take place in Dillenburg Hall at Our Lady of Peace. Registration details coming soon.

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

*** **Important Tax Information** *** Contribution 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 .**

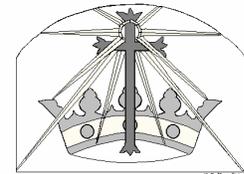
Tax Information Clarification * All 2017 contributions to Christ the King Parish must be received by Thursday-December 28, 2017 @ noon, in order to be deposited and included on your yearly 2017 contribution statement. Contribution envelopes received after December 28th will be placed in your 2018 record for giving to the parish.**

Adult Confirmation classes will begin Mid-January in 2018
To register or for more information please contact Deb Mlsna * 715-613-4458

Connect with your Parish like never before!

Get parish and diocesan messages, daily readings, Catholic news and more by downloading the free myParish app today! Text “app” to “88202” to download the myParish App on your mobile device. You can also find it on iTunes or Google Play stores by searching for myParishApp.

Christ the King Catholic Parish Finance Report



for: Month of November * 2017 (November 1 thru November 30)

Income of: \$ 20,567.95

Expenses of: \$ 19,663.81

Credit of : \$ 904.14

Detailed report can be located on main bulletin board in church.

Religious Education

D.R.E:

Mrs. Deb Mlsna

715-659-4480 ext. #3

ReligiousEd@frontier.com



No Sunday School on December 24 or December 31

December 27 - There are no CCD classes, Merry Christmas!

January 3, 2018 - There are no CCD classes, Merry Christmas!

January 3 - Catechists have in-service at St John's.

January 17: First Reconciliation for 2nd graders (First Communion is April 29)
Please pray for our second grade students as they prepare for these sacraments!

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 Wide-mouth 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:

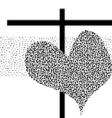
715-659-4480 ext. #4

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

***** Important Tax Information ***** Contribution 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 .**

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Parishioners of Christ the King * 2017 / 2018 Diocesan Annual Appeal *** Theme: Stewards of Hope Our pledge goal is \$34,985.00** Our hope is that we have 100% participation. Every gift of sacrifice is important and needed and with the help of everyone we can easily obtain this goal ! In your Annual Appeal packet you received a pledge card. It is very important when making a pledge and/or payment that you use that card as it has a scan code that is personal to you. It is very important that you read over the entire card carefully and fill in the correct information. Returning this card ensures that your pledge will be processed more quickly and accurately. All checks (please do not send cash) should be made out to the Diocese of La Crosse and in memo line write: Diocesan Annual Appeal / All cards and pledges/payments should be sent directly to the Diocesan Office in La Crosse in envelope that is provided with your packet. ***** Update: 155 responses received from Christ the King parishioners (310 families in this parish) Amount pledged and received : \$ 30,897.00 with \$4,088.00 as balance to reach our goal !!!**

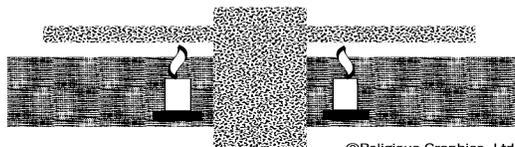
If you have not received a pledge card, we ask that you contact, Judy, at the parish office by calling 715-659-4480 and she will provide you with a pledge card. We “thank” those that have given and ask those who have not given to please help us make our goal by spring of 2018.

***** Out of Town Mass times ***** When you and your family are traveling, do not stress out about missing Mass. It is easy to locate a Parish near where you are staying by visiting this website: www.masstimes.org to find mass time for out-of-town churches, with a number of options (zip code, city, etc.)

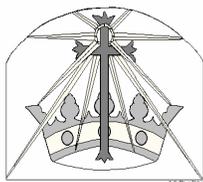
Attention Engaged Couples: Registration is now open for the *Married Love: Two Becoming One* classes in Marshfield starting this fall. The dates for 2018 are: **February 17, and April 7.** Couples should first contact their priest and then plan to attend a class at least six months before their wedding. Be sure to register early because classes fill quickly. For questions or to register, contact Alanna Hart at hart_alanna@yahoo.com or 715-650-7310.

High School Seniors of Christ the King Parish: Is your faith important to you? Do you plan to continue practicing it in your career and as you attend college, technical or another institute of learning. If so, two scholarships sponsored by the parish P.C.C.W. and Holy Name Society are available. If you are interested, please see your guidance counselor at the high school or stop by the parish rectory office for an application during weekday office hours. Other students, who have already graduated from high school, who are members of the parish may also apply, but first priority will go to the high school seniors, of our parish. Return your completed application to the parish office by **deadline of Monday*April 2, 2018 @ noon.**

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.



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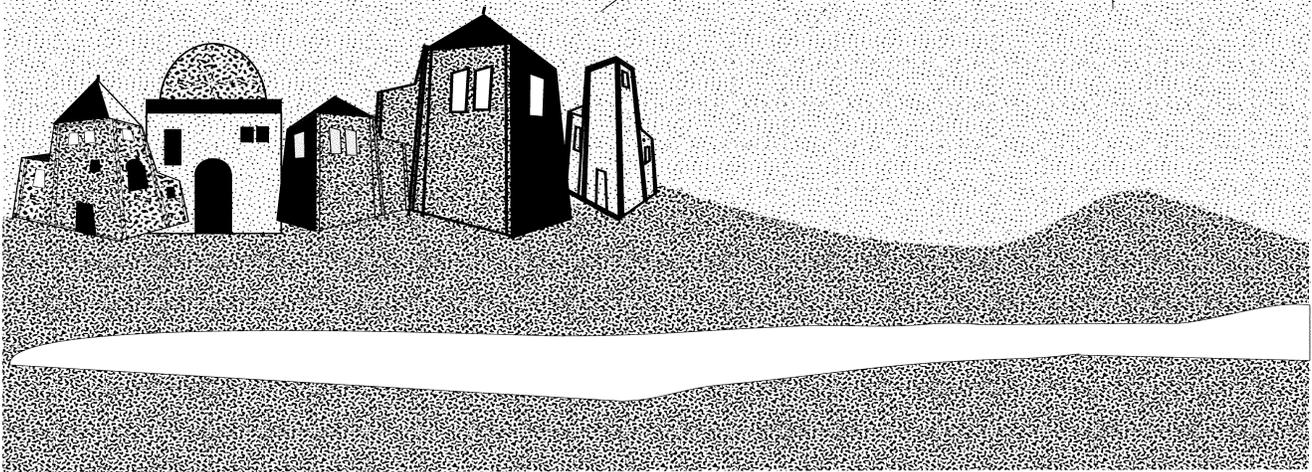
To place a prayer request on the Christ the King Prayer Chain, please call these prayer leaders:
Marcia Draeger (715-659-5182), Kay Derks (715-659-4046), Joan Meyer (715-384-2774)
Each of these has a list of people to call and inform them about your prayer requests, do not call parish office.
You may 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

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

The people who
walked in darkness
have seen a
great light.
Today in the city
of Bethlehem
is born our savior
CHRIST the LORD



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PROMISE TO  *Protect*
PLEDGE TO *Heal*

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 * 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