

# Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

## TODAY'S MESSAGE

Year of Faith – The Second Coming of Jesus, King of the Universe

The readings for the last Sunday after Pentecost are full of references to the return of Christ, when evil will be defeated and Jesus will begin his final reign as King of kings. In Advent, the Church year begins with a focus on the final restoration of all creation to its original glory. In preparation, on the last Sunday of the Church year, we proclaim the advent of the Lord of lords and King of kings.

After Vatican Council II (1962-65), the Roman Catholic Church moved this celebration to the last Sunday of the Church's liturgical year (from late October where it had been celebrated since 1925) in order to make it coincide with the revised lectionary readings. This festival is known as Christ the King

Most of us Americans have no experience of being the subjects of a monarch. How can we understand the kingship of Christ and integrate its implications into our lives? The Anglican Prayer of the Day gives us at least one phrase to help us understand, in part, the nature of the kingship of Christ: "Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united under the glorious and gentle rule of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ." Unlike earthly kings who simply maintain order, the kingship of Christ involves the restoration of all things to their original relationship to God.

Celebrating Christ's kingship proclaims the good news that his second coming will bring joy rather than fear, hope rather than despair. We are cleansed and renewed and brought closer to our God. How appropriate it is to sing hymns and carry banners on this festival of our King! In Advent, the new Church year will begin with a focus on the final restoration of all creation to its original glory. In preparation, on the last Sunday of the Church year, we proclaim the expected advent of the Lord of lords and King of kings.

Fr. Matt

## WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

What you commit to God's work here at St. Thomas Aquinas will significantly impact our programs, ministries, services, staffing, buildings and grounds. May our good and generous God guide you. We encourage everyone to consider using the

 *Our Weekly Offering*

NOV 11 Actual: \$10,000 \* Goal: \$11,000  
St. Elizabeth Seton School: \$2,500

Sunday Offertory Envelopes or Online Giving as a way of giving to the Lord the "first fruits" of the "treasure" we have received. THANK YOU FOR SHARING GOD'S GIFTS!

*Please Pray*

**FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** — Norman Swope, Devin Wakefield, Robert Kerrigan Sr., Kathleen Briggs Kerrigan, William McNerny, Theresa Diulus, Fr. Thierry Geris, Douglas Hein, Consuelo Hernandez, Kathy Gibbs, George Kimm, John Braun, Bill Jodd, Lester Connelly, Lil Nguyen, Tom Kocal, Rochelle Ford, Gary Goodahl, Carl Bunje, Marguerite Purcell

**FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED** — Joan Sterling, Mary Stivala Peterson, Lorraine Schemel, Talia Rodriguez, Diomira Quinta, Betty Stivala, Elizabeth Hiegel, George Locke, Barbara Jorpin, Frances Galea, Virginia Marovich, Jerry McGovern, Gary Fazzino, Francis Tucker O'Brien

Pray For Lists guidelines: • Have permission from the person to be listed. • Go through the Pastoral Home Ministry to list the names. • Names will be on the list for 3 months and then be removed. • Can request names to be continued after 3 months. Contact the Pastoral Home Ministry 650-494-2496 x22 or [fongmt@hotmail.com](mailto:fongmt@hotmail.com)

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, November 25:

8:45 am STA... Tony Razzano †  
9:00 am SAG ... John McCarthy †  
10:30 am OLR .. Bill & Betty Hiegel †  
12:00 pm STA .. Francois & Maria Cecilia  
Torregrosa †

Readings: Dn 7:13-14; Ps 93; Rv 1:5-8;  
Jn 18:33b-37

Monday, November 26:

8:30 am OLR ... Bill & Betty Hiegel †  
Readings: Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5; Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday, November 27:

8:30 am OLR ... Zell Cooper †  
Readings: Rv 14:14-19; Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday, November 28:

7:15 am STA... Andrew Kutches †  
8:30 am OLR ... Marianne Kelly (sp. int.)  
12:15 pm STA .. Marie Barr †  
Readings: Rv 15:1-4; Lk 21:12-19

Thursday, November 29:

8:30 am OLR ... Frank M. Briggs †  
12:15 pm STA .. Thomas & Sons (sp. int.)  
Readings: Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a; Lk 21:20-28

Friday, November 30: St. Andrew

All Masses. .... All Souls †  
Readings: Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22

Saturday, December 1:

Readings: Rv 22:1-7; Lk 21:34-36

## PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday December 1 & 2, 2012

St. Albert the Great  
Sat 5:00 pm ..... Fr. Seimas  
Sun 9:00 am ..... Fr. Valenton  
Sun 11:00 am ..... Fr. Hernandez

St. Thomas Aquinas  
Sun 7:30 am ..... Fr. Hester  
Sun 8:45 am ..... Fr. Sandersfeld  
Sun 10:30 am ..... Fr. Valenton  
Sun 12 noon ..... TBA

Our Lady of the Rosary

Sun 9:00 am ..... Fr. Gammad  
Sun 10:30 am ..... Fr. Stanley  
Sun 6:00 pm Youth ..... Fr. Seimas

# St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, November 25: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe  
4:00 pm . . . . STAYouth (DC)

Monday, November 26: Thirty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time  
7:00 pm . . . . RCIA (PC)  
7:00 pm . . . . TMC Liturgy (TH)

Tuesday, November 27:  
3:00 pm . . . . SESS Choir Practice (SAG)  
7:00 pm . . . . Knights of Columbus (DC)  
7:00 pm . . . . Spirituality Tuesdays (SAGH)

Wednesday, November 28:  
9:15 am . . . . History Class (OLRH)  
9:30 am . . . . Bldg. & Maint. (PC)  
6:00 pm . . . . RCIA for Children (DC)

Thursday, November 29:  
7:00 pm . . . . Centering Prayer (DC)  
7:00 pm . . . . Hispanic First Comm. (PC)  
7:00 pm . . . . Taize Prayer (OLR)

Friday, November 30:  
7:30 pm . . . . Hispanic Young Adult (OLRH)

Saturday, December 1: Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday  
8:00 am . . . . Environment Team (OLR)

## THE NAMES OF THE DEAD

During the month of November, a special book will be placed near the Easter Candle. You are invited to inscribe the names of your departed family members and loved ones in this book. These people will be remembered in the prayers of our parish community throughout the month.

## RCIA FOR CHILDREN

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults adapted for children is the proper venue for sacramental preparation for these children. Our formation classes are held on Wednesdays from 6 - 7 pm in the Dermody Center. Please contact Susan at the Pastoral Center (650-494-2694, ext. 25) if you have questions about the RCIA adapted for children or just join us in the Dermody Center on Wednesday.

## SPIRITUALITY TUESDAYS

Tuesday, November 27: Spirituality Tuesday Assembly: The Catholic Position on Climate Change — Our presenter will be Dr. Tony Strawa. The Catholic Church has taken a strong and active stand with respect to climate change. Last year Pope Benedict XVI encouraged world leaders attending the United Nations Climate Change Summit in Durban, South Africa to “agree on a responsible and credible response to this worrisome and complex phenomenon, taking into account the needs of the poorest and future generations.” This talk will describe the Catholic Church’s position on Climate Change, the connection between Catholic teachings and the environment, and describe the local and global actions being taken.  
7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at the St. Albert the Great Hospitality Center. Refreshments follow.

## THE ADVENT WREATH

Next Sunday, December 2nd, the Church enters into a new season. Advent is a winter feast celebrated for the four darkest weeks of the year. The sun rises later and later and sets long before the day is complete. Christmas comes during the darkest of this dark time. It is the Feast of Light, the celebration of Him who is the Light of the World. And so, throughout these four Advent weeks, we light a candle for each of the weeks. As the advent of Christ overcame the darkness of the world, so also, does Christ overcome the darkness within our lives.

The wreath (a circle) is the symbol for eternity; the evergreen symbolize life; the purple candles, hope; the rose (pink) candle, a sign of joy for the Third Sunday and third week of Advent; and the number of candles (four) is symbolic of the four weeks of Advent and the of the traditional legends that the world waited four-thousand years for the advent of the Redeemer.

Many families keep alive the tradition of the Advent Wreath in their homes. If the Advent Wreath is not yet a familiar sight in your home, perhaps, this year might be the time to begin. The wreath can be placed on the dinner table or in another prominent place in your home where all can see and can be used as a part of the grace before each evening meal throughout the Advent Season.

## SANCTUARY RECONSTRUCTION AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH

Construction work for Phase I of the interior work has begun and will continue through mid-December. Work will be confined to the sanctuary and will include reconfiguring the altar platform, installing new oak flooring on part of the altar platform, and some wiring under the platform. Work will be scheduled to allow 7:45 am and 12:15 pm weekday Masses to be held. The sanctuary will be blocked off and a few of the front pews removed temporarily. Notice will be posted in the church vestibule explaining the continuance of Mass schedules.

## TAIZE PRAYER THURSDAY EVENINGS THIS FALL

This is an opportunity to take a few moments for yourself and for your soul. Taizé (tay-zay) Prayer uses the psalms, scripture, songs and silence. It uses music, chants, prayer and meditation to promote a sense of inner peace. The Taize music, songs and chants, are simple to learn and sing. This form of prayer service originated in the small town of Taize, France in 1940 and is ecumenical in origin. Please join us! Fr. Randy says: “Bring a friend for a personal encounter with Jesus”. Please join us at Our Lady Of The Rosary Church November 29th and December 6th and 20th from 7:00-8:00 pm.

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# November 25, 2012

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## FAITH FORMATION NEWS

No class this week (November 25) due to the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Parents, Catechists & Children are invited to a New Year Celebration: Happy Advent!!! Sunday, December 2:  
9:15 - 10:15 a.m. - OLR Hall, 10:15 - 11:15 - SESA Hall

All are invited to celebrate the beginning of our new liturgical year as we enter the season of Advent and prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. Children and parents will have an opportunity to participate in activities to help us learn about and celebrate the season of Advent. Sign-ups for our Christmas Pageant will be taken. Refreshments will be served. Some special guests have been invited. You don't want to miss seeing them!

If you'd like to help with refreshments or other activities, or if you have questions, contact Susan Olsen at the Pastoral Center. 650-494-2496, ext. 25

## FAITH FORMATION HELP NEEDED

**JOBS AVAILABLE** — three paid positions are available, with the possibility of combining two into one for additional hours:

1. Administrative assistant to work in the office during the week keeping records of faith formation program for children. Good organizational and computer skills required. 10-12 hours per week.
2. Site Coordinator for OLR - Open classrooms and assist catechists, children, and parents as needed for Sunday morning classes. 3-4 hours on Sunday
3. Site Coordinator for SAG - Open and close classrooms and assist catechists, children, and parents as needed for Sunday morning classes. 3-4 hours on Sunday

We would like whoever fills these positions to begin in early December to take advantage of Angela's continued presence for training. If you are interested in any of these positions, or if you know of someone who might be interested, please contact Susan in the Pastoral Center (650-4949-2496. Ext. 25).

## TAX VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

A few hours of your time can help low-income workers receive refunds and credits that they need very much. Volunteer to prepare taxes on some Saturday mornings February to mid-April. The Catholic Charities TaxEZ program is located at St. Athanasius Church on Rengstorff. To learn how to train for the IRS certification, contact Paul Chestnut, 650 493-8237 our site coordinator.