

CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING NEW VERNON, NJ

*We are a grateful and welcoming Catholic family of faith,
nourished by the Word and Eucharist,
called to serve as disciples of Christ, the King.*

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 10, 2017



During the season of Advent we turn our focus on waiting once again to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. The media can sometimes challenge us as parents to do just that. This season why not come as a family to our annual Christmas Pageant to help our children understand what the focus of the season should be.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 at 2pm

Come and join the children of our parish as they tell the story of Christmas!



16 Blue Mill Road
PO Box 368
New Vernon, NJ 07976
973.539.4955 phone
973.267.7070 fax
www.churchofchristtheking.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 AM & 5:30 PM
Saturday (vigil) 5:00 PM

Weekdays

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 7:00 AM
Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday 9:00 AM

CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING

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New Vernon, New Jersey 07976
973-539-4955
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PASTOR

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PAROCHIAL VICAR

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Pastoral Ministry

Susan Clifford, ext. 14
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CUSTODIAN

Louis Sauchelli, ext. 25

PARISH DEVOTIONS

Novena Prayers in Honor of the Sacred Heart

First Fridays during morning Mass at 7:00am.

Novena Prayer in Honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

Mondays after the 7:00am Mass

Rosary

Tuesdays and Thursdays after the 9:00am Mass

Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Saturday of the month, 8:00am

Reconciliation (Individual Confession)

Saturday 9:30-10:15am

BAPTISMS

Sundays after the 11:00am Mass at 12:15pm, schedule permitting.
Please call the Parish Office to make the necessary arrangements
for a Baptismal Preparation Session.

MARRIAGES

Please contact the Parish Office a year prior to the requested
wedding date so the proper marriage preparation can be
completed. Pre Cana takes place in the spring and fall.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Kindergarten

Optional program for families whose oldest child is in Kindergarten
Monthly on Sunday 10:00-10:45am (as scheduled)

Family Based Model

Grade 5 may select FBRE or Jr. High option
Families with children K-5

Thursday or Friday 6-8pm, (monthly as scheduled)

Junior High – Grades 5-8

Sundays 5:30-8:00pm (twice a month)

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA)

September—May

Adults interested in becoming Roman Catholic Christians should
contact Sister Mary Joseph Schultz, SCC, ext. 13.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND

Priests and Ministers of Communion are available to visit the sick
and homebound. Please call the Parish Office to schedule.

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome new parishioners to register at any time.
Please call the Parish Office.

eNEWSLETTER (*monthly*)

Do you want to know more of what is happening
in our parish community?

SIGN UP to receive our parish eNewsletter at
www.churchofchristtheking.org

2nd Sunday of Advent

*Prepare the way of the Lord in our hearts
and in the hearts of those around us.*



In today's Gospel, we hear that a prophecy from Isaiah is being fulfilled by John the Baptist. John is the one of whom it is written, Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." John the Baptist fulfilled this prophecy two thousand years ago by preaching that Jesus was the Messiah, and pointing toward him in all of his words and actions. But preparing the way for the Lord was not just a task for John the Baptist — it's a task for each one of us. Now it's our turn to prepare the way of the Lord in our own hearts as well as in the world around us.

One of the most important things we can do this Advent season is to prepare our own heart to receive Jesus. The big question is: how do I do this? First and foremost, we must spend some time with Jesus in prayer. We can treat our prayer time like an appointment, setting aside some time each day to spend with God, even if it's only five or ten minutes. We can refrain from giving God the "leftovers" of our day, instead offering the first fruits of time when we're awake and alert. We might prepare the way of the Lord in our hearts by spending time reading Scripture, praying a rosary or praying in adoration in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Whatever we do, it will help us prepare our hearts to receive Jesus.

But our focus can't be only on self during this season of Advent. Just like John the Baptist, we want to prepare the way of the Lord in such a way that those around us might more easily be brought into an encounter with Jesus. John the Baptist, through his words and actions, was able to bring people into an encounter with the Lord; our words and actions can have the same effect if we're intentional about them.

During this Advent season, we can take some time to talk to family, friends, co-workers, or classmates about the true meaning of Christmas. It may be a small action or a simple word from us that opens up the way of the Lord in that person's heart. Just like John, we should point to Jesus in all that we do and say. Be a witness for Christ. After all, we have all been called by name to a life of discipleship.

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 11

7am Elizabeth Spindler

Tuesday, December 12

9am Walker Dillard Kirby
Richard Simon

Wednesday, December 13

7am Albert Young

Thursday, December 14

9am Cecelia Duerr

Friday, December 15

7am Edward Carroll

Saturday, December 16

9am Robert L. Clifford
5pm Dave Willean

Sunday, December 17

7am Frank & Michalina Oberc
9am Mary Louise O'Connor
11am Philip & Dorsey Thebault
5:30pm Kevin Daley

If you are a family member or friend of the person being remembered at Sunday Mass, please feel free to approach an usher and offer to bring up the gifts.

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in memory of Anthony P. Manuele at the request of the Lury family.

Pray for the Sick

Terry Zimmer, Joan Dagostino, Kristen Johnson, Kathryn Olden, Grant Martin Scruggs, John Allen, Paula Dugan, Tawny Wamack, Rex Linnehan, and all those listed in Our Lady's Chapel prayer book of intentions.

Collection

Last Weekend Collection: \$15,551.00*

Included in this number is Faith Direct, electronic giving. The weekly average for electronic giving is \$5,476.00. For an easier more consistent way of supporting Christ the King, please consider using Faith Direct at www.faithdirect.net. Our parish code is **NJ658**.

Communion for the Sick and Homebound

Eucharistic Ministers are available to visit and bring Holy Communion to anyone who is sick or homebound. If you, or someone you know, would like to be visited by a Eucharistic Minister, please call the parish office.

Christmas Liturgies

EM, Lectors & Altar Servers

Sign-up sheets are posted in the Priest's Sacristy. Please indicate your availability to serve for the Christmas liturgies.

Christmas Mass Schedule



4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23 | 5pm
Sunday, December 24 | 7am & 10am

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24 | 4, 6 & 8pm
Carols & Songs of Christmas | 11:30pm
Midnight Mass | 12am

Christmas Day

Monday, December 25 | 10am & 12noon

Solemnity of Mary

Monday, January 1 | 11am

Religious Education



Junior High Religious Education

(Grades 5, 6, 7 & 8)

Parent & Student Session

December 10, 6:30 – 8pm

All sessions will gather in the Parish Hall. We encourage families to attend the 5:30pm Sunday Evening Mass.

GRADES 1-5 Learning Session

Wednesday, December 20
4 to 5pm – Parish Life Center

Daily Reading

Find Today's Readings at www.bit.ly/2gGKsiU

Volunteers Needed

Birth Haven, a local non-profit shelter for pregnant teens, is currently seeking volunteers to join their Spring Tea Committee. The committee is looking for energetic and vibrant women who are willing to share their passion, skill set and talents to help plan and execute an annual fundraiser. Please consider joining the committee and helping to assist homeless and pregnant, young mothers and babies at Birth Haven. For additional information about joining the committee, please contact Tina Magarino, Executive Director at tina@birthhaven.org. To learn more about Birth Haven, please visit www.birthhaven.org

Giving Tree

Today is the final day to bring gifts from the giving trees. All agencies will be picking up the gifts this week. Thanks to all for your huge generosity in this project!

Book of the Month



The next meeting of the *Book of the Month* will take place on **January 9 at 10am** in the Parish Life Center Library. The book to be discussed is "*I Will Have Vengeance; The Winter of Commisario Ricciardi*", by Maurizio de Giovanni. All are welcome!

December Prayer

Gracious Lord,

*Let your goodness reveal itself to us, that we,
made in your image, may conform ourselves to it.*

*We cannot imagine your majesty,
power and wonder on our own; nor is it fitting for us to try.
But your kindness and mercy reach from the heavens,
through the clones, to the earth below to show us
the fruits of your incarnation.*

*You have come to us as a small child,
but you have brought us the greatest of all gifts,
the gift of your eternal love.*

*Caress us with your tiny hands,
embrace us with your tiny arms,
and soften our hearts with your tender voice so that
we might respond as humble towards of your active
presence in the world.*

*We pray this through Christ, your Son who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.*

Amen.

Adapted from a prayer by St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Meetings & Happenings

Sunday, December 10

Wreath Sale *(after all Masses)*

12:30pm Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

2pm Christmas Pageant

4:30pm Rock Retreat Follow Up

4:30pm Cookies for Soldiers Packaging

6:30pm Jr. High RE – Parent/Student Session

Tuesday, December 12

9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry

5pm Family Promise

7pm RCIA Session

7pm Adult Choir

Thursday, December 14

9:30am Bible 101

Friday, December 15

10:30am Bible Study

8pm Family Promise

Saturday, December 16

9am Family Promise

9:30am Reconciliation

Christmas Flowers

in memory of a loved one



Beautiful Christmas trees and flowers will fill our church's sanctuary during this holy season, which are donated by parishioners who contribute an offering in memory of a deceased loved one. All the names of those loved ones will be printed in one of the Christmas season bulletins. Christmas Flower envelopes were included in your bi-monthly collection envelope mailing. If you would like to make such an offering, please return the completed envelope in the collection basket.

Day of Prayer

Dark Night: Through darkness and doubt often comes the greatest strengthening of our faith

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

9am – 3pm

Loyola Jesuit Center

161 James St – Morristown

In the silence of this "night of faith" we return to simplicity and sincerity of heart. We learn deeper listening for God's will, in direct and simple attention to reality... It is a place which leads to a deeply tranquil and joyful spirituality since it brings us in direct contact with The Source of all joy and all life... Jesus Christ. (adapted from Thomas Merton)

Anna Graziano, presenter

To register call Renee at 973.539.0740

Saint of the Week

December 12 | *Our Lady of Guadalupe*



Mary, under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, is one of the most endearing stories in Church history. She continues to be held in reverence and is honored by millions of people who journey to the Mexican basilica each year.

In 1531 Juan Diego, an Indian peasant who lived near Mexico City, was walking to Mass early one morning. He heard someone call his name and went to investigate. He saw a lovely lady dressed in shining garments and she asked him to visit the bishop and request that a church be built on that spot in her honor. Juan did as he was asked and though the bishop received him kindly, his story was not believed.

Mary visited him again, even though Juan tried to avoid her. She told him to go to the top of the hill and gather flowers there as proof for the bishop. He did so, amazed that flowers were growing in the middle of winter. As he opened his cloak in the presence of the bishop, the Castilian roses dropped to the floor and both of them saw the miraculous image of Mary on the inside of Juan's cloak – the image we know as Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Church was built and the image was enshrined there, where it remains to this day, in the new basilica. Within six years of the apparition, six million Aztec Indians were converted to the Catholic faith.

Mary, the Queen and Mother of the Mexican people, is pictured as a pregnant woman in native dress, as she appeared to Juan. The image has been scientifically tested over the years but remains inexplicable in its substance and origin. It has withstood floods, smoke damage, and even a bomb that exploded in the Church. The cloak remained unharmed, and the method used to create the image is still unknown.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, bless our Mexican brothers and sisters. Intercede for all of us that we may grow in love and peace.

Villa Walsh Academy O Holy Night | Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 10 - 3pm

Mother Ninetta Auditorium

455 Western Avenue, Morristown

Donations: \$10.00 – www.villawalsh.org

06.26 - 07.05
2018

POLAND

FOOTSTEPS OF
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Pilgrimage with Fr. Artur 908-608-7368 or fratur@churchofchristtheking.org

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