

# CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING NEWVERNON, 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.*

**3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
December 17, 2017

## CHRISTMAS SEASON

### Mass Schedule

#### 4th Sunday of Advent

**Saturday, December 23**

5pm Mass

**Sunday, December 24**

7 & 10am Mass

#### Christmas Eve

**Sunday, December 24**

4, 6 & 8pm Mass

11:30pm Carols & Songs of Christmas

12am Midnight Mass

#### CAROLS & SONGS OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas Eve

**Sunday, December 24 — 11:30pm**

with Christ the King Adult Choir

#### Christmas Day

**Monday, December 25**

Masses at 10am & 12pm

#### Solemnity of Mary

**Sunday, January 1**

11am Mass



16 Blue Mill Road  
PO Box 368  
New Vernon, NJ 07976  
973.539.4955 phone  
973.267.7070 fax  
[www.churchofchristtheking.org](http://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

16 Blue Mill Road – PO Box 368  
New Vernon, New Jersey 07976  
973-539-4955  
[www.churchofchristtheking.org](http://www.churchofchristtheking.org)



### PASTOR

Rev. Brian C. Sullivan, ext. 11  
[fbriansullivan@me.com](mailto:fbriansullivan@me.com)

### PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Artur P. Zaba, ext. 30  
[frartur@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:frartur@churchofchristtheking.org)

### WEEKEND ASSISTANT

Rev. Richard Cronin, O.S.B.  
[richard@delbarton.org](mailto:richard@delbarton.org)

### PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

**Adult Education, RCIA & Social Outreach**  
Sister Mary Joseph Schultz, SCC, ext. 13  
[srmaryjoseph@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:srmaryjoseph@churchofchristtheking.org)

### PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

**Music & Graphic Arts**  
Elias G. Scultori, PCC, MM, ext. 21  
[elias@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:elias@churchofchristtheking.org)

### DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Catechesis

Erin Ranft, ext. 22  
[erin@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:erin@churchofchristtheking.org)

### YOUTH MINISTER

**Confirmation Coordinator**  
Christa Romano, ext. 15  
[christa@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:christa@churchofchristtheking.org)

### PARISH SECRETARY

**Office Manager**  
Carol Scanlan, ext. 10  
[cscanlan@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:cscanlan@churchofchristtheking.org)

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

**Pastoral Ministry**  
Susan Clifford, ext. 14  
[sclifford@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:sclifford@churchofchristtheking.org)

### 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](http://www.churchofchristtheking.org)

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

*Let us be prophets for our time.*



**A**s we always do in the first part of Advent, today we encounter John the Baptist in the town of Bethany, near the Jordan. In John's Gospel, the Baptist is being confronted by religious officials: priests and Levites who have come from Jerusalem to question him. He readily admits that he is not the Christ, nor is he Elijah or the Prophet. He insists, quoting Isaiah, that he is only the voice of one crying out in the desert, "make straight the way of the Lord."

The religious leaders questioned him further, asking: Why then do you baptize? John answers, I baptize with water; but there is one ... coming after me whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.

Like all prophets, then, this was John's calling – to prepare the world for Jesus, to announce his coming. Even in his mother Elizabeth's womb, he had leapt for joy at the visit of Mary and his Lord. He was to confront the sins and sinners of his age, to encourage their repentance and to give them a ritual bath in the Jordan. John the Baptist brought to completion the work of the Old Testament prophets, and bore witness to the truth that Jesus is the Son of God (CCC 719).

How can we be more like John the Baptist? We can begin by better appreciating our own baptism, our own anointing, and our own call to holiness and mission. The Spirit of the Lord is upon us, and the Lord has anointed us to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the Lord.

Each of us can be the voice of one crying out in the desert. Strengthened by the word, graced by the sacraments, surrounded by our parish and fortified by a worldwide community of believers, we can truly live as followers of Jesus.

Let us pledge to stand together for the sake of the Gospel, and to raise our voices in defense of the truth. Speak up. That's what prophets do best.

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## Mass Intentions

### Monday, December 18

7am Rose Taschler

### Tuesday, December 19

9am Stanley Borant

### Wednesday, December 20

7am Walker Dillard Kirby

### Thursday, December 21

9am Rick, Brian and Daniel Paris

### Friday, December 22

7am Roger Doyle

### Saturday, December 23

9am Mary Bell

5pm Josephine Ferrer

### Sunday, December 24

7am Arthur Duerr

10am Phyllis Caulfield

*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.*

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## Pray for the Sick

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

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## Collection

### Last Weekend Collection: \$15,258.00\*

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](http://www.faithdirect.net). Our parish code is **NJ658**.

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## Baptism

This weekend we welcome into the Church through the waters of Baptism Nicholas Ralph Pester, son of Scott and Tracy (Nee Meerwarth).

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## 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.

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## 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



### 4<sup>th</sup> 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

## 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.

## Daily Reading

Find Today's Readings at [www.bit.ly/2gGKsiU](http://www.bit.ly/2gGKsiU)

## 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.*

### Kindergarten Religious Education

(Monthly Sunday)

January 7, 10am – 10:45am – PLC Library

### Family-Based Religious Education

Thursday Session January 4

4 to 6pm – In the Parish Hall

Friday Session January 5

6 to 8pm – In the Parish Hall

*Pizza will be served for both sessions at 5:45pm*

### Junior High Religious Education

(Grades 5, 6, 7 & 8)

Student Sessions

Sunday January 7 & 21, 6:30pm – 8:00pm,

### First Communion Preparation Liturgy

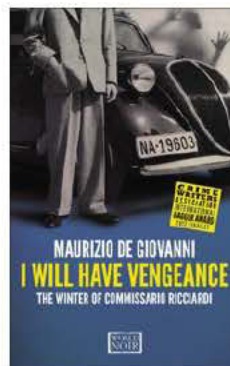
Sunday, January 7 – 9am Mass

### GRADES 1-5 Learning Session

Wednesday, December 20

4 to 5pm – Parish Life Center

## 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 Commissario Ricciardi*", by Maurizio de Giovanni.

All are welcome!

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## Meetings & Happenings

### Tuesday, December 19

9am Breakfast Club  
7pm Adult Choir

### Wednesday, December 20

4pm RE Wednesday Afternoon Session

### Friday, December 22

10:30am Bible Study

### Saturday, December 23

9:30am Reconciliation  
5pm Mass (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent)

### Sunday, December 24

7am Mass (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent)  
10am Mass (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent)  
Christmas Mass Schedule (*see previous page*)

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## Faith Direct



Faith Direct enables parishioners to make your Church contributions through either direct debit from your checking/savings account or through your credit/debit card. No more writing checks or searching for envelopes on the way out the door. Now you can apply the convenience of direct debit to your parish offerings in much the same way as you may now use it to make your mortgage, car or tuition payments. Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) to enroll securely online. Our parish code is NJ658.

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## Men's Weekend Retreat "Transformation"

January 19 - 21, 2018

Led by Rev. George Collins, S.J.

Sponsored by: The Dominic Galdieri Group

Please join men from our parish family for a retreat at Loyola Jesuit Center in Morristown. It will offer you a time to relax, reflect and get a fresh start for the New Year. This year's theme is "Transformation" - letting go of past hurts and wounds so that we can be transformed into the person God has called us to be, living a full and joyful life! The weekend includes preached reflections for prayer, optional private consultations, celebration of Mass, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Healing, and so much more. It is truly a wonderful experience and the cost is a free will offering. To register call 973-539-0740 or visit



[www.loyola.org](http://www.loyola.org)

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## Saint of the Week

December 17 | *St. Olympias*



Olympias is a great saint of the Eastern Church. She lived in the fourth century and was a friend of St. John Chrysostom. Because she was orphaned at a young age, Olympias was brought up by her uncle. In 384 she married the prefect of Constantinople. Two years later her husband died and she devoted herself to works of charity and Christian service.

Heiress to a great fortune, St. Olympias lived on an estate and enjoyed the favor of the emperor. When she refused to re-marry one of his kinsmen, her estate was impounded by the emperor, but later on he had a change of heart. Olympias went on with her devotion to the poor and sick. She founded a convent next to the cathedral, an orphanage, a hospital, and a hospice for strangers.

She was befriended by several holy people of her day: Sts. Basil and Gregory and Peter Sebaste, in addition to St. John Chrysostom. She supported John even to the point of persecution when he was exiled by the emperor.

When Olympias died in exile in 408, she was only in her mid-forties. Her body was taken back to Constantinople and buried in the convent she founded. She is remembered for her extreme generosity to the poor and for the value she placed on friendship.

*St. Olympias, teach us to value our friends and stay loyal to them even when it entails suffering for ourselves.*

06.26 - 07.05  
2018

# POLAND

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Pilgrimage with Fr. Artur 908-608-7368 or [fratur@churchofchristtheking.org](mailto:fratur@churchofchristtheking.org)

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WIELICZKA - LAGIEWNIKI - KRAKOW - KAZIMIERZ DOLNY - WARSZAWA

