



# INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

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**OAKLAND APOSTOLATE AT  
SAINT MARGARET MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Mailing Address:  
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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020**

MASS TEXTS IN THE PARISH BULLETIN , P. 6-7

Dear Faithful,

It is almost upon us! Here we are already arrived at the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Holy Mother Church now has us stir up within our hearts as much as possible the longing for our coming Redeemer; Christ the Lord. Soon the grace of His humble birth in the stable of Bethlehem, more than two-thousand years ago, will be poured forth into our world again. Are our hearts ready? Now is the time to unite our souls as much as possible in prayer to the Holy Family, preferably in front of the family crèche. Let us make one final effort as well to faithfully observe our Advent penance during the coming days.

This coming Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> is Christmas Eve. There will be the usual 12 noon Mass on this day. As is the custom, there will be three Masses for Christmas; this Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup>: Midnight Mass\* at 12 am, the Mass at Dawn, at 7 am, and the Mass of the Day, at 12:30 pm. The mystical symbolism of these three Masses, as explained by St. Thomas Aquinas, is the “triple birth of Christ” – in Eternity, in Time, and in our souls, when we receive the Sacrament of Baptism. (**\*Regarding Midnight Mass - please be aware that this schedule is still subject to change. Should that occur, I will send an update via email.**)

Here at St. Margaret Mary’s, we always honor the seasonal change of the Marian antiphon, and we would like everyone to be able to join in these hymns to Our Blessed Mother when they are sung after Mass. The next time you take a bulletin, please look for a small music sheet which will also have been put out featuring the words and notes of the current Marian antiphon. As we are in Advent, that which is now being sung is the beloved and ancient “*Alma Redemptoris Mater*.”

Some of you were not able to drop off your Christmas cards for the Institute’s seminarians last Sunday, on account of the inclement weather. Please be sure to do so this Sunday. If you are unable, you may also mail them yourselves directly to Gricigliano (the global rate to Italy is \$1.20 for a 1oz letter):

**Villa Martelli – Via di Gricigliano, 52  
50065 Sieci (FI)  
ITALY**

The seminarians always appreciate that you remember them this time of year!

God bless,  
Canon Benjamin Norman

**St. Nicholas on Gaudete Sunday: A big thank-you** to all who made possible and participated in our St. Nicholas visit. A fair amount of planning and preparation were necessary for this occasion, and it paid off. The visit was well received, and we all learned a bit more about this saint of the Early Church. Most importantly — St. Nick delivered his goods to the children!

## Modified Daily Mass Schedule

**\*\* Tuesday - Thursday at 12 Noon \*\***

Mondays & Fridays remain at 6 PM

Saturdays remain at 10 AM

\*\* This is a **temporary** change during the fall and winter season, as long as indoor services remain forbidden. We will return to the former daily Mass schedule either on March 15th or when we are able to return indoors, whichever comes first. Thank you to all who responded to the proposed changes in daily Mass times; your input made it clear that most would find it helpful to have more mid-day Masses (rather than evening Masses) during these times of colder and darker weather.

## Did you know? ... The Origin of the Crèche



What true Catholic doesn’t love to pray before the crèche, or Nativity Scene, this time of year? We have a very great saint to thank for popularizing this custom: St. Francis of Assisi. In 1223, this saint, who has been referred to as “the most beautiful image of Jesus that has ever been in the Catholic Church,” and also the patron of his namesake city of San Francisco, built a Christmas crèche for the veneration of the faithful. Up to that point it had been reserved to the clergy. Ever since, the crèche has been at the heart of Catholic devotion in honor of the birth of Our Lord.

## Notes on Pious Practices

1) Many of you set a very good example of traditional Catholic piety in asking for blessings of your various items, such as rosaries, scapulars and miraculous medals. Instead of blessing items after Mass, which can lead to scheduling conflicts for myself and others, I ask you to please contact me by phone, text or email to schedule blessings for your pious articles. Thank you for your understanding.

2) Your assistance at Holy Mass is also very edifying, and for that I thank you. Please note however that at Low Masses, the responses to the prayers of the priest are to be made by the servers, not by the congregation. This is of course different for High Mass, where all are encouraged to chant those parts of the Mass which concern the faithful, such as the Asperges, the responses, the Gloria and the Credo (alternating verses with the choir).

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## LITURGICAL CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Date	Time	Mass of the Day	Celebrant	Intention
Sun., 12/20	7:00 am <i>Low Mass</i>	<b>Fourth Sunday in Advent</b> <i>1st Class / Violet</i>	Canon Norman	Family of Martin Welch <i>by Eric Welch</i>
	12:30 pm <i>Low Mass</i>		Canon Norman	Vlasta Burkart <i>by Marketa Umova</i>
Mon., 12/21	6:00 pm <i>Low Mass</i>	<b>St. Thomas, Apostle</b> <i>2nd Class / Red</i>	Father Staal	Peter Thuat† <i>by Luong Do</i>
→ Tue., 12/22	12:00 noon <i>Low Mass</i>	<b>Feria/ Mass of the 4th Sunday of Advent</b> <i>3rd Class / Violet</i>	Canon Norman	Petra Rowe <i>by Brigitte Krispel</i>
→ Wed., 12/23	12:00 noon <i>Low Mass</i>	<b>Feria/ Mass of the 4th Sunday of Advent</b> <i>3rd Class / Violet</i>	Canon Norman	President Donald Trump
Thurs., 12/24	12:00 noon <i>Low Mass</i>	<b>Vigil of the Nativity</b> <i>1st Class / Violet</i>	Canon Norman	Barbara Powell† <i>by Thomas Dinh</i>
Fri., 12/25	*12:00 am <i>Low Mass</i>	<b>Nativity of Our Lord</b> <i>1st Class / White</i>  *Midnight Mass schedule may be subject to change, in which case I will notify the faithful via email.	Canon Norman	John Cristobal† <i>by Cristobal Family</i>
	7:00 am <i>Low Mass</i>		Canon Norman	Cecilia Soejoto <i>by Marianne Gutierrez</i>
	12:30 pm <i>Low Mass</i>		Canon Norman	Rosario Family <i>by Eon Dan</i>
Sat., 12/26	10:00 am <i>Low Mass</i>	<b>St. Stephen, First Martyr</b> <i>2nd Class / Red</i>	Canon Norman	Richard St. Lezin† <i>by Anne&amp;Larry St. Lezin</i>
Sun., 12/27	7:00 am <i>Low Mass</i>	<b>Sunday within the Octave of the Nativity</b> <i>2nd Class / White</i>	Canon Norman	Pat Choy <i>by Joe Choy</i>
	12:30 pm <i>Low Mass</i>		Canon Norman	Michael Fernandez <i>by Jacqueline Fernandez</i>

### EMAIL LIST OF THE APOSTOLATE

If you wish to receive an electronic copy of the bulletin, or other communication from Canon Norman regarding this apostolate, or get the Zoom link for catechism class, please send your request to: [oakland@institute-christ-king.org](mailto:oakland@institute-christ-king.org)

### SACRAMENTS

For preparation and reception of the Sacraments, please contact Canon Norman, by email or by phone.

### CATECHISM CLASSES (ON ZOOM)

**Children's class: Tuesdays 4:00pm. Adult Class: Saturdays 2:30pm.**

**NOTE Catechism Class Christmas break:** After December 22, the youth class will resume on **January 5**, and the adult class will resume on **January 9**.

### PRAYER LISTS

In your kindness, please keep these requests in your prayers. Thank you. (To be added to this list, please send an email to [oakland@institute-christ-king.org](mailto:oakland@institute-christ-king.org))

### For the sick:

Thomas Henriksson	Nancy Duenas	Gigi Cunningham
Dario Gonzalez	Rose Stone	Paula Case
Timothy Paul Irving	Veronica Seder	LianeClaver
Eurydice Buenger	Elizabeth Pawek	Paulann Dymond
Marie-Terese Karel-Michaan	Canons with Covid (Chicago)	

### For the repose of the souls of our beloved departed:

Barbara Powell	Pauline Marie Longchamp
Pedro Barreto	Walter Wagoner
Cn Fragelli's father, Luiz Antonio	<i>Requiescant in pace.</i>

## Merry Christmas!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 22 (Tuesday)—Youth Catechism, 4:00pm**  
**December 24—Vigil of the Nativity: Mass at 12 Noon**  
**December 25—Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ**  
 Christmas Mass Schedule: (may be subject to change)  
 12 am (Midnight Mass) preceded by caroling  
 7:00am (Low Mass), 12:30pm (Low Mass)  
**December 31—Last day of 2020, Mass at 12 noon**  
**January 1, 2021—Mass at 6:30am, 6:00pm**

### END OF YEAR DONATIONS TO THE INSTITUTE

All the work of the Institute is supported by donations from the faithful. We are most grateful for your love of the Institute, generous prayers and donations, which enable us to carry out our mission in Oakland and in the whole world. If you wish to support the Institute's work in Oakland, at the Seminary, the Sisters' convents, or our online resources, please make out your check to the "Institute of Christ the King" and note in the memo line one of the above mentioned causes. **Thank you for your generosity!** To donate online, go to

<https://institute-christ-king.org/donate-apostolates>

### ONLINE RESOURCES FROM THE INSTITUTE

Please visit our website [www.institute-christ-king.org](http://www.institute-christ-king.org) for the latest news and online resources, including sermons, archived broadcasts, live streamed liturgies, podcasts, and much more.