

INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

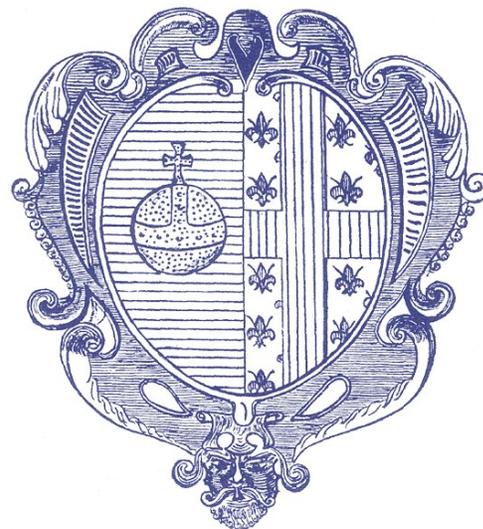
Veritatem Facientes in Caritate

SAINT PATRICK PARISH AND ORATORY

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QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY FEBRUARY 14, AD 2021

Superiors of the Institute of Christ the King

Very Rev. Msgr. R. Michael Schmitz,
STD, JCD, Vicar General of the Institute

Rev. Canon Matthew Talarico, Provincial
Superior of the Institute's U.S. Province

Clergy and Staff of the Parish and Oratory

Rev. Canon Joel Estrada, Pastor & Rector

Abbé Kevin Kerscher, Pastoral Assistant &
Clerical Oblate

David Hughes, Organist & Choirmaster

The Archbishop of Hartford has extended his dispensation from the obligation of assisting Sunday Masses and Holy Days of Obligation through May 23, 2021.

MASS TIMES

Sunday: 8:30am Low Mass
10:30am High Mass
Monday to Saturday: 8:00am Low Mass

CONFESSIONS

30 minutes before each Holy Mass **EVERY DAY**
& **DURING** each weekly Holy Hour of Adoration

DEVOTIONS

Wednesday: Litany to St. Joseph after 8am Mass
Friday: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 5pm
First Friday: additional Mass at 6pm preceded by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 5pm
Saturday (except 1st Saturday): Prayers to our Mother of Perpetual Help after 8am Mass
First Saturday: after Holy Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Rosary & Benediction with Spiritual Conference (unless an announcement indicates otherwise)

LET US BEGIN LENT !

The command to do penance was uttered by Jesus Christ in no uncertain terms: **“Unless you do penance, you shall all likewise perish,”** (Luke 13: 3-5). After Christ’s resurrection we again find in Luke 24: 46-47, **“It behooved Christ to suffer and to rise again from the dead the third day: that penance and remission of sins should be preached in His Name.”**

While the external circumstances of penance have changed in this modern age, the burden of fasting having been lightened and dispensations multiplied to fit the less physically strong but more hurried and strained modern-day lifestyle, we are still called by our Master to deny ourselves and take up the Cross to follow Him, praying with Him in the desert.

The materialistic notion that many have of penance often leads to its entire neglect or unworthy performance. The **superficial** is satisfied with only the external act of penance; the **self-indulgent** find it too burdensome to even attempt. This is why penance has lost its proper place and many have wandered away from it.

The primary purpose of penance is a closer union of the soul with God. Man was made for God and sin frustrates this purpose. True penance is a turning away from sin and a returning unto God. The external act of penance is a **means to an end** which should not just be the self-satisfaction we feel for the expiation of personal sin, but the impulse of love to remove all that is disruptive, obnoxious, or offensive to our Blessed Lord. The external acts are very necessary, but if it lacks this true spirit, it is as dust.

The Church instructs us, during Lent, to turn away from sinful pursuits and even harmless and legitimate ones as well, in order to have more time for God, to enter more fully into the life of Christ, and to participate in His Passion as willing disciples and explore the depths of His love. We frustrate the interior purpose of penance when we find ready excuses for frequenting time-consuming entertainments that are often fatiguing and that leave us less time and taste for prayer, spiritual reading, Stations of the Cross, daily Mass, and even an unreadiness for receiving Holy Communion.

Fasting and abstinence cultivates strength in unselfishness, subordinating our lusts to reason and will. These laws of Holy Mother the Church will help us cultivate temperance and preserve life, and in the practical cultivation of this spirit, the letter of the law will acquire new meaning and even attraction.

LENTEN REGULATIONS TO OBSERVE

1. **Ash Wednesday** (February 17, AD 2021) and **Good Friday** (April 2, AD 2021) are days of **COMPLETE ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT; AND ARE ALSO DAYS OF FAST**, that is, only one full meal is allowed; with no eating between meals. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one’s needs but they together should not equal that of the full meal.
2. The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat.
3. The obligation to abstain from meat binds on all who have reached the age of 14.
4. The obligation to fast binds all between the ages of 18 and 59.
5. Unless there is a just reason, the obligation to do penance is a serious one and no Catholic should lightly excuse himself from this obligation in the Lenten season. **Practices of Lenten penances and acts of mortification, increased devotion and prayer, and acts of mercy and charity and almsgiving, are worthy elements of our preparation for Easter.**
6. Abstinence on all Fridays of the year (outside of the Lenten season), though not obligatory under pain of sin, is **“especially recommended”**.
7. Fasting on weekdays of Lent, though not obligatory under pain of sin, is **“strongly recommended”** (National Conference of Catholic Bishops, November 18, 1966).
8. Catholics, after having received their 1st Holy Communion, are bound by the obligation of receiving Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept should be fulfilled during the Easter Season (between the First Sunday of Lent and Trinity Sunday).
9. Catholics are also bound to confess mortal sins at least once a year, but this is not limited to the Lenten/Easter Season. We must be well disposed to receive our Lord each time at Holy Communion and therefore **it is strongly recommended to go to confession frequently (at least once a month).**

Have a true, and not fake, devotion

wisdom from Saint Francis de Sales

You aim at a devout life, dear child, because as a Christian you know that such devotion is most acceptable to God's Divine Majesty, but seeing that the small errors people are accustomed to commit in the beginning of any undertaking are likely to increase as they advance, and to become irreparable at last, it is most important that you should thoroughly understand wherein lies the grace of true devotion.

There are also many spurious and idle semblances thereof; and unless you know which is real, you may mistake, and waste your energy in pursuing an empty, profitless shadow.

All of us depict devotion according to our own preferences and fancies.

One man sets great value on fasting, and believes himself to be leading a very devout life, so long as he fasts rigorously, although the while his heart is full of bitterness; and while he will not moisten his lips with wine, perhaps not even with water, in his great abstinence, he does not scruple to steep them in his neighbor's blood, through slander and detraction.

Another man reckons himself as devout because he repeats many prayers daily, although at the same time he does not refrain from all manner of angry, irritating, conceited or insulting speeches among his family and neighbors.

This man freely opens his purse in almsgiving, but closes his heart to all gentle and forgiving feelings towards those who are opposed to him.

Another one is ready enough to forgive his enemies, but will never pay his rightful debts save under pressure.

Meanwhile all these people are conventionally called religious, but nevertheless they are in no true sense really devout.

Many people dress up an exterior with the visible acts expressive of earnest devotion, and the world supposes them to be really devout and spiritual-minded, while all the time they are mere lay figures, mere phantasms of devotion.

(Introduction to the Devout Life, Book I, Chapter 1)

FROM THE PASTOR & RECTOR

There are only a few more days before the beginning of Lent, and what blessings have we all received in the reflections and meditations we had during this season of Septuagesima, which is about to conclude.

It is my hope that you are already set for the spiritual and penitential program for Lent, with your planned penances (of course having let your spiritual director know about them, or, if you do not have one, your regular confessor, for his recommendations and approval), additional devotions and prayers, and acts of charity and mortification.

Although we are canonically bound to fast only twice a year, we are encouraged to multiply them during the weekdays of the Lenten Season, as done in the recent history of the Church, practiced not so long ago even by our own parents and grandparents, and by the numerous generations of Catholics. Let us reflect on **Saint Francis de Sales**, patron of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest, to help us further in our considerations for Lent, especially that of our fasting during the Season, one of the major pillars of Lent:

I thought of speaking to you of the conditions which render fasting good and meritorious. Understand that of itself fasting is not a virtue. It is a virtue only when it is accompanied by conditions which render it pleasing to God.

We find some people who think that to fast well during the holy season of Lent it is enough to abstain from eating some prohibited food. We know very well that it is not enough to fast exteriorly if we do not also fast interiorly, and if we do not accompany the fast of the body with that of the spirit.

Now among all the conditions required for fasting well, I will select 3 principal ones and speak familiarly about them.

The **first condition** is that we must fast with our whole heart, willingly, wholeheartedly, universally and entirely.

The **second condition** is never to fast through vanity but always through humility.

The **third condition** necessary for fasting well is to look to God and to do everything to please Him, withdrawing within ourselves in imitation of a great saint, St. Gregory the Great who withdrew into a secret place where he remained for a time.

Let us certainly pray for one another during this holy time that it be spiritually fruitful for all.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Sunday, February 14 Quinquagesima Sunday

8:30am Low Mass, followed by Holy Face Novena
Dennis & Jo-Ann Pesino
by Michael & Rosemary Perrone

10:30am High Mass, followed by Holy Face Novena
& Holy Hour of Reparation
Margaret Contrares
by Kate Dion

Please join us with a Holy Hour of Adoration following the High Mass (and after the Monday and Tuesday Holy Mass) in reparation for sins committed during Carnavale, the days of riotous celebration before Ash Wednesday.

Monday, February 15 Ss. Faustinus & Jovita

8:00am Low Mass, followed by Holy Face novena & Holy Hour of Reparation
† Colette Swinnen
by Moran family

Tuesday, February 16 Holy Face of Jesus ([link to propers](#))

8:00am Low Mass, followed by Holy Face novena & Holy Hour of Reparation
† Jan Kubala (27th yr. anniv.)
by Bianca & Joanna Czaderna

Wednesday, February 17 Ash Wednesday

DAY OF OBLIGATORY FASTING & ABSTINENCE

8:00am Imposition of Ashes & Low Mass, followed by St. Joseph Devotions

Pro Populo

6:00pm Imposition of Ashes & High Mass
Consolation of the family of Josephine Phillips

Thursday, February 18 Thursday after Ash Wednesday

8:00am Low Mass Mary & David Newman
by Mary Newman

Friday, February 19 Friday after Ash Wednesday

DAY OF OBLIGATORY ABSTINENCE

8:00am Low Mass & St. Joseph Devotions
In Thanksgiving, by Kate Dion

5:00pm Holy Hour of Adoration & Confessions

6:00pm Stations of the Cross & blessing of relic of the True Cross

Saturday, February 20 Saturday after Ash Wednesday

8:00am Low Mass & Perpetual Help Devotions
† Anna Kubala (33rd yr. anniv.)
by Bianca & Joanna Czaderna

Sunday, February 21 First Sunday of Lent

8:30am Low Mass Bruno Thomas Lacaria, Florence & Humbert Mucci, Eleanora Lacaria & Michael Thomas Lacaria

10:30am High Mass † Stefan Gamaj (22nd yr. anniv.)
by Bianca & Joanna Czaderna

St. Patrick Parish & Oratory Donations

Week of February 7: **\$5,431.50**

Please mail or drop off your regular offertory envelopes to Saint Patrick rectory or donate securely online at www.osvhub.com/stpatrick-parish-and-oratory

We truly depend on your help and assistance for the upkeep of our church & operations.

May God reward your generosity!

Please write your donation to "Saint Patrick Parish"

Wisdom from Saint Thomas Aquinas

Patron Saint of the

Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest

"Fasting cleanses the soul, raises the mind, subjects one's flesh to the spirit, renders the heart contrite and humble, scatters the clouds of concupiscence, quenches the fire of lust, kindles the true light of chastity."

Upcoming Events

Feb. 14 2nd Sun. St. Brigid Women's Guild devotions after each Sunday Mass; 1st Comm. Class after 10:30am Mass; Holy Hour following 10:30am Mass

Feb. 15 & 16 Holy Hour following 8am Mass

Feb. 16 **CANCELLED** ~~St. Patrick Men's Association Meeting at 6pm, Rosary & Catechetical Lesson~~

Feb. 17 Ash Wednesday, 8am Imposition of Ashes & Low Mass and 6pm Imposition of Ashes & High Mass, Obligatory Day of Fasting & Abstinence

Feb. 19 8am Low Mass & St. Joseph Litany (19th of the month), 5pm Holy Hour & 6pm Stations of the Cross

Feb. 21 Lesson in Liturgy after 10:30am Mass

Feb. 21 Baby Bottle Campaign for Carolyn's Place Pregnancy Care Center, please pick up your bottle and fill it with spare change for their benefit!

Feb. 21 Sursum Corda young adult group joint Virtual Spiritual Conference for St. Patrick Parish & St. Anthony of Padua Oratory at 4:30pm

Feb. 23 Children's Catechism Class at 5:30pm

Feb. 26 5pm Holy Hour & 6pm Stations of the Cross

Feb. 28 1st Comm. Class after 10:30am Mass

Mar. 5 5pm Adoration, 6pm Stations, & 6:40pm Mass