



Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest
A Society of Apostolic Life of Pontifical Right — Living the Truth in Charity

Saint Patrick Oratory

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Nativity of Our Lord 25th December AD 2022

Mass Times

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

Superiors of the Institute of Christ the King

Very Rev. Msgr. R. Michael Schmitz, STD, JCD
Vicar General in the Institute of Christ the King
Rev. Canon Matthew Talarico
Provincial Superior of the Institute's U.S. Province

Clergy and Staff of Saint Patrick Oratory

Rev. Canon Joel Estrada	Pastor & Rector
Abbé Kevin Kerscher	Pastoral Assistant
David Hughes	Organist & Choirmaster
Tomasz Matusiewicz	Office Administrator

Confessions

Thirty minutes before each Holy Mass daily & during each weekly Holy Hour of Adoration

Devotions

17th - 25th of each month: Novena to the Infant King
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 First 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)

Wisdom from Saint Francis de Sales

Patron of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest

“ May your soul, like a mystical bee, never abandon the dear little King and may everything within it be for Him. ”

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Sunday, 25th December 2022

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
12am Midnight High Mass - *Pro Populo*
8:30am Low Mass of Dawn - Private Intentions
10:30am High Mass of the Day & Benediction -
Private Intentions
No Vespers this evening

Monday, 26th December 2022

ST. STEPHEN
8am Low Mass - † Jean Gondek,
by Maria & John Stefanczyk

Tuesday, 27th December 2022

ST. JOHN
8am Low Mass - Jeanette Norris,
by Edward Robertson

Wednesday, 28th December 2022

HOLY INNOCENTS
8am Low Mass - Tristan S. Michaels,
by Robert A. Setele

Thursday, 29th December 2022

ST. THOMAS BECKET
8am Low Mass - † Joanne Smith,
by Christopher Lalaria

Friday, 30th December 2022

6TH DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS
8am Low Mass - Daniel & Alessandra Marak
(15th wedding anniv.), by Marak family
5pm Holy Hour of Adoration

Saturday, 31st December 2022

ST. SYLVESTER I
8am Low Mass - Carmen Mercedes Sobalvarro,
by Alessandra Marak

Sunday, 1st January AD 2023

**CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD & OCTAVE DAY
OF THE NATIVITY**
8:30am Low Mass - Samuel & Lori Galvan,
by Lauren Galvan
10:30am High Mass & Benediction -
Stanisława & Stephan Gamaj,
by Joanna Czaderna
6pm Vespers (no benediction)
*Organ at the Oratory transposed to next Sunday,
January 8th AD 2023*

St. Patrick Church Donations

Week of December 18: \$7,489.35

Please donate securely online at
www.osvhub.com/stpatrick-parish-and-oratory
May God reward your generosity!

Tuesday, 27th December

St. John Traditional Wine Blessing after 8am Low
Mass

Sunday, 1st January AD 2023

Sunday Masses (singing of Veni Creator Spiritus,
plenary indulgence available today) scheduled as
usual, 6pm Vespers. Organ at the Oratory transposed
to January 8th

Thursday, 5th January AD 2023

Vigil of the Epiphany 6pm Solemn Blessing of
Epiphany Water, please bring your water (wide-
mouth opening containers of at least 16oz or greater),
salt, chalk, gold, incense, & myrrh ahead of time by
placing them on blessing table to have them blessed
and/or exorcized into very powerful sacramentals.

1st Friday, 6th January AD 2023

Feast of the Epiphany & Proclamation of Moveable
Feasts, 8am Mass, 5pm Adoration, 6pm High Mass

1st Saturday, 7th January AD 2023

1st Saturday, 8am High Mass, Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Benediction, followed by
Breakfast & Spiritual Conference

Sunday, 8th January AD 2023

"Rudiments of the Faith" Sunday: in accordance
with statute 259 of the 1st Synod of the Hartford
Archdiocese, the **Rudiments of the Faith sermon** was
read on a Sunday in January at all Masses in place of
the usual sermon in all parishes, *in illo tempore*.
1st Communion Catechism after the Sunday High
Mass.

5:30pm **Organ at the Oratory** followed by 6pm
Vespers & Benediction

Wednesday, 18th January AD 2023

St. Brigid Women's Guild Rosary & Theology Night
at 6pm

Sunday, 29th January AD 2023

Feast of Saint Francis de Sales (patron of the Institute
of Christ the King Sovereign Priest) plenary
indulgence available
20 minute "Lesson in Liturgy" given by the Rector,
after the Sunday High Mass, followed by Coffee
Social

Thursday, 2nd February AD 2023

Candlemas: official end of Christmas Season, 8am
Mass & 6pm Blessing of Candles & Procession
followed by High Mass

Friday, 3rd February AD 2023

Saint Blaise blessing of Throats

Dear Faithful, Merry Christmas!

We have all prepared for this very day, the day of Our Lord's Nativity. May the Infant King bless us all.

We are grateful to the volunteers of the Oratory who throughout the year regularly offer their time and labor to maintain Saint Patrick's, and especially to those who have made our church so beautiful for the Christmas season. For our dedicated volunteers, please find a Christmas card at the entrance of the Church as our sign of gratitude. If you would like to become part of our ever-growing volunteer teams, please kindly see me after the Mass.

There are 12 days from the time of Christmas until Epiphany, hence the origin of the famous catechetical Christmas carol of *The Twelve Days of Christmas*.

Beginning with the reign of Queen Elizabeth I of England in 1558, the Roman Catholic Church and any practice of the faith was strictly forbidden. The Mass was outlawed. Priests were expelled from the realm, and threatened with the charge of high treason with the punishment of being hanged, drawn, and quartered for returning and offering Mass. Any Catholic harboring a priest in the home or allowing him to offer Mass was subject to the same penalty. Catholic citizens were not allowed to vote, to hold property, to be witnesses in court, or to have weapons. Anyone who did not attend Protestant services was fined and imprisoned for repeated offenses. All Catholic schools were closed and instruction in the faith was forbidden. Anyone appointed to a civil office had to take an oath denouncing the Pope and the belief in transubstantiation, thereby in effect preventing any Catholic from holding such positions. These laws remained in effect until April 1829 when King George IV reluctantly signed the Emancipation Bill, granting political and religious freedom to Catholics. However, to this day the King or Queen of the United Kingdom cannot be a Roman Catholic. These same laws were enforced in Virginia until the time of the Revolutionary War. Also, the intensity of enforcement of these laws depended upon the particular reign: for example, during the time of the Commonwealth under Oliver Cromwell (1642-60), the Puritan Parliament even outlawed the celebration of Christmas.

Therefore, the song *The Twelve Days of Christmas* was written in England using seemingly secular images or symbols to help catechize children in the faith. The "true love" mentioned in each stanza does not refer to an earthly suitor, but to Almighty God. The "me" to whom the gifts are presented refers to any baptized Catholic. The purpose of the repetition is not only for the sake of pedagogy, but also emphasizes God's continual renewal of His gifts to mankind.

The partridge in a pear tree is Christ. In nature, a mother partridge will feign injury to lure predators away from her defenseless nestlings. In the same way, our Lord protects us, vulnerable human beings, from Satan. The

pear tree symbolizes the salvation of mankind, just as the apple tree symbolizes Adam and Eve's Fall from Grace.

Two turtle doves represent the Old and New Testaments. Also, Jewish couples of modest income offered two turtle doves instead of the customary lamb as a sacrifice to God when they presented their newborn child in the Temple. Interestingly, our Blessed Mother Mary and St. Joseph offered a sacrifice of two turtle doves for the presentation of our Lord (cf. Luke 2:22-24).

Known for their beauty and rarity, **the three French hens** signify both the gifts of the Magi (gold, frankincense, and myrrh), and the three theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity.

The four calling birds are associated with both the four evangelists and their gospels: Saints Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John; and the four major prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel.

Five golden rings has a two-fold significance. A ring, or a circle, has no beginning or end but is continuous. Thereby, the ring reminds us of both God's eternity: His permanent, faithful, and continuous love for us and the circle of faith: God's love for us, our love for Him, and our love for our neighbors. The number five also signifies the first five books of the Old Testament: the Pentateuch or Torah (the books of law for the Jewish people).

The six geese a-laying represent the six days of creative work recounted in Genesis.

However, in Judaism, seven was a number of perfection. **The seven swans a-swimming** continues the Genesis theme, reminding us that God's plan included not just the six days of creating but also the **seventh** day of rest; **we in turn must not forget to make SUNDAY a holy day by worshipping God at Mass**, spending time with our loved ones, and praying and recreating. Moreover, the seven swans a-swimming refers to the seven gifts of the Holy Ghost, the seven corporal works of mercy, the seven spiritual works of mercy, and the seven deadly sins.

The eight maids a-milking signifies the eight beatitudes and, at that time in our Church, the eight times during the year prescribed for the faithful to receive Holy Communion.

The nine ladies dancing are the nine fruits of the Holy Ghost and the nine choirs of angels.

The Ten Commandments are represented by the **ten lords a-leaping**.

Eleven pipers piping are the eleven faithful apostles at the time of the resurrection and ascension. (Remember that Judas, one of the Twelve, **the one who left early the First Mass, the Last Supper, before it was finished**, betrayed our Lord and committed suicide.)

Finally, the number twelve for the Jewish people represented completion and fullness. Therefore, **the twelve drummers drumming** are the twelve minor prophets, the twelve precepts of the Apostles Creed, the twelve apostles (particularly the original 11 plus St. Matthias who replaced Judas), and the twelve tribes of Israel.

The Christmas Flowers, Plants, & Garlands are in memory and/or in honor of the following (and are remembered at the Memento of each Mass from Christmas Day through February 2nd, AD 2023, the end of the Christmas Season):

DONALD CHARETTE
DANIEL CHARETTE
ANIELA KACZYNSKA
ALBERT + WERONIKA SADOWSLO
STANISŁAW CZAPLECKI
JOSEPH + DELINE PELLETIER
PIERRE CHARETTE
MARIE ALBERT
WILLIAM + GIZELA GAWRONSKI
CHMIELINSKI + CZAPLIEKI FAMILIES
JOSEPH + JOSEPHINE GREBOSKY
JOSEPHINE GRIVOSKY
JOHN GRIBOSKY
BETTY STOTZ
ANNA STARON
MICHAL STARON
MARIA OMILANOWSKI
MICHAL OMILANOWSKI
WLADEK OMILANOWSKI
LINDA SIMMS
LOIS HOFFER
ELIZABETH + JOHN HOFFER
HENRYK + THERESA STEFANCZYK
MARGARET + HARRY BUTKO
STANLEY + GENEVIEVE KAMINSKI
DAWN MARIE LORENC
TOM McCULLOUGH
BARBARA HASE
ROBERT J. ALECHNOWICZ
MR. & MRS. FREDERICK NELSON
MARGARET PELUSO
ANGI + DOM SANTAISIERO
EMILY + DOM RESTIVO
RICHARD + DONALD RESTIVO
MAX GUIDA
EDWARD COSTELLO
JEAN COSTELLO
DANIEL COSTELLO
THE SMITH FAMILY

We apologize for any typographical errors, omissions, and mistakes. Please inform us so that we may correct them.

NORMA U. NARGAITIS
ROBERT J. MARGAITIS
DENNIS ANZIANO
SAMUEL SIRICA
DALY + CALIO FAMILY
THE DEANGELIS FAMILY
ROBERT MURPHY
DAVID BULLEN
DECEASED LAMOORE'S FAMILY
DECEASED MURPHY'S FAMILY
DECEASED BULLEN'S FAMILY
SACRED HEART OF JESUS
GROSS + ORINKO FAMILIES
THE DIFILORE AND VINCI FAMILIES
BROOKS JOYNER + MICHAEL DAVIS
COLLIN KOZAK + GAVAN CYR
MISS KIYOKO NANNO & HER FATHER GORO
NANNO, MR. KIYOSHI TSUDA, MR. MOTOMORI
NAKANISHI, MR. KŌICHI ORIYAMA
RUTH & JOSEPH DOYLE
JOSEPHINE + FRANK FERLAZO
MARIA + FRANK RONCA
DONNA M. CARO, CARLISA A. CARO
ALL THE SOULS IN PURGATORY ESP. WILFRED +
MARJORIE WATKINS AND J. FRANCIS + T.
SMITH, FOR THE FAMILY + FOR BRENDAN
SMITH AND A VERY SPECIAL INTENTION
FREDERICK + MARTHA MCCARTHY
CHARLES + MAY BEESON
CHET + LOIS MIERZEJEWSKI
PAUL, ED + HELEN BURNS
FRANK + DORIS LANCRAFT
JACK, HEATH, + ASHER CORCORAN
SIMON + FAYE CORCORAN
PEREGRINE UPSON
ELEKTRA LUCIA CORCORAN
DANTE J. URSINI, SR.
IRENE + LAURENT VOGHEL
ANGÈLE NUZZO
HOPE HUGHES
ROSE ANN AND CASIMIR SZCZERBA