



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING

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WELCOME TO CHRIST THE KING

We welcome visitors, family and friends to our Mass today.
We are glad you are joining us today.

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-YEAR-B-2024

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER SAJI-IT IS PLANTING TIME We all rely on many people to produce the food that we need to sustain our lives. Each of them does their own part so that when we show up at a supermarket, there is food for us to eat there many people involved in that process and each of them depends on, the others to do their parts so that the food is produced in a healthy way and delivered in a timely way so that it is nutritious for us to consume. If one of the pieces of the network of food production suddenly disappears then there is difficulty in obtaining food. I know that you didn't begin to read this column for an agricultural lesson. Most of you probably know way more about agriculture and food growth than I do, but there is a direct connection with the scripture this weekend. Jesus is speaking in parables, which means that he is using images for us to begin to imagine what the kingdom of God is like. Since Jesus lived in a culture where most people understood the process of producing food, he uses that image often for his lessons and teaching. There's great emphasis put on the importance of both the person who plants the seed and the confidence that those who plant the seed and the fact that the seed will produce some thing that is useful. Imagine that each of us sees our faith as the seed that needs to be planted. Someone did that for us, otherwise we would not be able to be a person of faith. Someone taught us about Jesus. Someone taught us to pray, and certainly someone gave us an example of what it means to be a holy and good person. Along the way, they trusted that the seed they were planting in us, although small and seemingly insignificant, would bear the fruit of good in each of us. Someone did that for us, and now it is our turn to do that for others.

Since we are faced with many seemingly insurmountable problems in our time and day, it is easy to begin to believe that our existence is insignificant, and our faith can have a little or no effect on others. That would be a lie and would paralyse us in our ability to live with hope in the world. What will it take for you to begin to believe that your existence is important and essential for the kingdom of God to continue to be built up and to flourish? What will they take for you to begin to believe that your example, the choices you make, and the way that you live your life, have an effect on other people? Without somehow acknowledging those two things, it is almost impossible for each of us to be part of the building up the kingdom of God. To acknowledge your significance in the world take a look back at your life so far. You know that there are various people in your life who have from time to time told you what a great example you have set or how kind you are or how generous you are. They've noticed the way you live your life in kindness and in compassion. They share in the love that you spread throughout your life. That may not seem significant to you, but it is significant to them. Recall those moments of significance in the past and simply believe that those are continuing to happen now if you make the choices, that allow yourself to be a good example today. Instead of looking at life, as a series or surprises are chance happening, look at life as an integrated web of existence. You are part of that web, not living an individual isolated life, but connected with all the rest of God's creation. God has created you in a specific and unique way so that you can plant your seed and that you might bear fruit in the world today. Count on the fact that your efforts at living a good life, joined with the efforts of all other human beings, will truly make a difference in the way that God is present in our world today. You are contributing to the building up of the kingdom of God. Have a great week ahead. BE BLESSED AND BE A BLESSING.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

RESPONSORIAL PSLAM It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia

COMMUNION ANTIPHON There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: How do I walk by faith, showing my trust in God and things I cannot see? Can I recall a recent occasion in which I chose to put my trust in God?

COLLECTION FOR BISHOP DECLAN 15/16 JUNE Bishop Declan served our diocese for 23 years and, as you know, has had to retire sooner than we hoped due to ill-health. As a parish, those who would like to contribute to a retirement gift for him are being given the opportunity to do so via a special collection this weekend. If you are away next weekend, you can place your donation into an envelope marked 'Bishop Declan' and drop into the collection over forthcoming weeks or into the presbytery. If you would prefer to contribute via internet banking, please use reference BISHOP Declan and pay into account or write a cheque payable to Christ The King indicating Bishop's retirement gift. Please continue to pray for Bishop Declan that he will have a comfortable and happy retirement. We will take up a **second collection this weekend** for Bishop Declan's retirement gift. Many thanks.

WELCOME TO CHRIST THE KING! We would like to extend a warm welcome to all our parishioners and visitors attending public Mass. Whether you are just passing through or looking for a spiritual home, we pray you find Christ the King inviting and spiritually uplifting. If you are attending Mass on a regular basis, we encourage you to register with the parish. Please call our parish office and start the conversation! To our visitors, we hope you enjoy your stay here in Amesbury. Our church is always open to you, your family, and friends. pax et bonum (peace and all good)

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS AND GENEROSITY A big thank you for all your generous donations, which are greatly appreciated. If anyone would like to transfer to standing order or bank transfer, this would help to simplify our banking procedure. The Parish bank details are: Name: Christ the King Church, Amesbury, Bank: NatWest Account number 66286638 and Sort code-52-10-03. If you wish to remember the Parish in your Will, further information is available from the Parish Treasurer or office

REST IN PEACE-May those who have died enter into the mercy of God and the joy of the Kingdom.

EVERYDAY PRAYERS ARE OFFERED FOR -The elderly and infirm, the chronically ill and their caregivers. For those who attend to the dying and grieving; for medical professionals and first responders; for the homeless and those lost in this world; for those who harbor hatred and especially for those who have no one to pray for them. We also pray for all of those who suffer alone and for all who have died and their families too.

VISITS TO THE SICK If you cannot come to church because of illness, please be sure that we are notified so that we might minister to you either at home, hospital, or nursing or care homes. Because of confidentiality issues, we cannot come to you unless requested to do so by you or your family.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO GLASTONBURY - SUNDAY 14TH JULY -The Annual Pilgrimage to Glastonbury will take place on Sunday, 14th July 2024. This year's pilgrimage will be centred around the theme of 'Mary, Woman of Prayer'. From 12 noon until 3:00 pm, the Shrine Church will transform into a chapel of Exposition and Silent Adoration, offering a peaceful and contemplative environment just opposite the Abbey grounds. During this time, visiting priests will provide the sacrament of Reconciliation in the Shrine Church. In addition, from 12 noon until 3:00 pm, Private Healing Prayer will be offered in a single tented chapel located just inside the Abbey gates, opposite the Shrine Church. At 2:15 pm, the Rosary procession will commence in the Abbey grounds, followed by the Pilgrimage Mass at 3:30 pm, also held in the Abbey grounds. The cost of the whole day out is just £20 per person.

RECONCILIATION Confessions are held on Saturdays from 5:00 - 5:40 p.m. and other times by request only. You are always free to make an appointment with the priest to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

SPUC SALISBURY BRANCH are holding a Market Stall in Salisbury Market Square on Saturday 22 June. Please come along and/or provide donations. We are looking for Books, DVDs, CDs, items in good condition, that you no longer want. Also homemade cakes & produce on the day i.e. Jams/Marmalades, Plants, Rhubarb. Please contact Alison Verrian on 01722 741681.

GOD IN DAILY LIFE QUESTION How do I bring God into the work of my daily life? **Answer:** Whatever your daily work, you have an opportunity to encounter God and to follow His commandments in love. In the New Testament, we see that most of the Apostles didn't have a previous religious position. They were fishermen, tax collectors, and political activists. St. Paul was a tentmaker. Among the saints, we have doctors, lawyers, farmers, and stay-at-home moms. No matter your daily tasks, God can be

present there! One way concerns behaviour. Start with an examination of conscience. Look at areas where you tend to struggle to imitate Christ at work. Do you gossip? Does brimming frustration become impatience at home? Pick one sin you struggle with, then choose a virtue to strengthen that area. If you tend to speak poorly of your coworkers, resolve to stop and to say one kind thing a day instead. Another way relates to perspective, particularly your perspective of others. Jesus' incarnation reminds us of the value of every human being. Jesus is God, and each of us is created in God's image. When you encounter another person, you have an opportunity to see God in a new place and a new way — in that person in front of you. Genuinely listen to them and be present to their concerns. Loving your neighbour is loving God! Our relationship with God and the love He inspires in our hearts shouldn't remain only at church on Sunday. We can — and should — let our faith animate our lives!

CHURCH AND PARISH HALL CLEANING-THANK YOU! Cleaning crews perform a labour-intensive and often thankless job. Their efforts often go unnoticed because the cleaning crews usually clean the facilities after hours when no one is around. You make our Church and the environment spotlessly clean and immaculate with your tireless and persistent efforts. We express our genuine appreciation and gratitude to cleaning crew for the hardwork they accomplish on our behalf. The cleanliness and efficiency of the building is a joy for all of us. Your positivity and dedication are uplifting. Thank you and God bless you!

ASK A CATHOLIC PRIEST—My daughter passed away at 3 months 3 weeks old 32 years ago today from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. She was baptised and I'm wondering what happens to baptised babies that pass. Obviously they go to Heaven but in what form? Some have said angels, others, other forms. **Answer:** Baptised children who die before the age of reason cannot have committed any sins. Therefore we know that they go to Heaven. We are not given to know what exactly Heaven will be like for them. We have some hints from private revelation, but we should understand that these things are not infallible nor obligatory to accept, but we do not have to pretend that what has been given in private revelation means absolutely nothing. Bl. Anne Catherine Emmerich, if I recall correctly, said that they wait for their mothers to go through the process of growing up. I know that in Heaven, those children love their mothers and pray for them. I believe they stay with the other children their age. They are loved and embraced by Our Blessed Mother. They join in praying at the Holy Mass especially at the parish where they were from and where their mothers go to Mass.

MASS SCHEDULE STARTING FROM 15TH JUNE 2024

SATURDAY 15TH JUNE MASS VIGIL MASS AT 6.00PM BILL AND MARIAN MORTIMER (HEALTH AND WELL-BEING)

SUNDAY 16TH JUNE MASS AT 11.00AM IN THANKS GIVING TO GOD (DONOR JO CHAMBERS)

MONDAY 17TH JUNE ADORATION AT 9.00AM AND MASS AT 10.00AM YOUNG PEOPLE AND HELPERS AT LOURDES (DONOR FRIENDS OF CHRIST THE KING)

TUESDAY 18TH JUNE ADORATION AT 9.00AM MASS AT 10.00AM PARISHIONERS (PILGRIMS) TRAVELLING TO MEDJUGORJE

WEDNESDAY 19TH JUNE NO ADORATION OR MASS

THURSDAY 20TH JUNE ADORATION AT 9.00AM MASS AT 10.00AM PAULINE REED LETHBRIDGE, RIP (DONOR KATH RUSHBY)

FRIDAY 21ST JUNE ADORATION AT 9.00AM MASS AT 10.00AM HOLY SOULS

SATURDAY 22ND JUNE VIGIL MASS AT 6.00PM ANN COCKRELL, RIP

SUNDAY 23RD JUNE MASS AT 11.00AM FATHER RAYMOND HEYNES, RIP (DONOR SLAV AND MARZENA DEBOSZ)

NAVIGATING LIFE WITH COURAGE AND COM-PASSION This weekend our nation pays tribute to all dads as each of us maintain a personal perception of the traits, values and characteristics that make a person a good father. Fathers share their wisdom, kindness, compassion, respect, time and love with their families; and, are sources of comfort, understanding and strength to those around them. Fathers strive to make tremendous sacrifices to give children and grandchildren everything they lacked while growing up. Fathers are people of faith who seek to inject God's two great commandments (love of God/Neighbour) into family life. It is essential to affirm fathers and grandfathers with appreciation as some dads find it hard to understand the amount of good they provide to others. Since every dad is so different, it is not proper to draw comparisons of fathers, but live with the awareness that each dad possesses particular gifts that bonds a family. Most in a family strive to make a father pleased of their personal achievements; I recall my father making known to me how proud he was of me upon the first time I was installed as a parish priest of a parish. I admire dads who accept their children for whatever lifestyle or career a son/daughter chooses to live. Since it is common for young people to imitate professions of their fathers, it is essential for dads to share stories about their youth, employment, military, or significant people in their lives as stories convey so much about a person's history that is often not known.

One endearing quality of a father is to encourage family members to treat others as they wish to be treated. Fathers are challenged to be open-minded, especially to teens who may be labouring through a faith crisis, sexuality issues, or relationship concerns that foster discomfort in adolescent years. Children take great notice of their fathers; especially dads who participate in particular ministries or as volunteers within a community or church. An important gift a dad renders to a child is belief in self. My father rendered much support and encouragement in my decision to be a priest. There is a powerful image of a father figure in Luke's Parable of the Prodigal Son as a father exhibits great compassion for two sons as he welcomes back a son who abandoned the family for "loose living" in that he is sensitive to his child's situation and embraces him through actions that render a second chance through an outpouring of emotion and celebration. The parable also details a delicate response to the older son who has been loyal to his father, yet believes he is unappreciated. This weekend the prayers of Christ The King Church are with all fathers and father figures. Joseph is the patron saint of husbands and fathers and workingmen. A worthy model, certainly. In a society where so many young men suffer from the absence of a strong, guiding male figure to support them through their childhood and teen years, we appreciate ever more the special vocation that belongs to fathers. May God bless all fathers and father figures aware that these people are part of a team called a family who seeks their love, presence, inspiration, and example. Happy Father's Day!

HAPPY FATHERS DAY-Today we celebrate Father's Day as a holiday in which we thank all fathers, living and deceased, for the love, care, and example that they provide for their children. Fathers, God has entrusted you with this responsibility to your children. Your modelling of what it means to be a good Catholic father is found in your participation at Sunday Mass, in leading prayer in your family at home, in directing your children so that they grow in virtue, and in seeing that your speech builds up others. May St. Joseph be with all of our men who are fathers, both physically and spiritually, and guide them to be holy, happy, and healthy men of God! Happy Fathers Day!

ON THE WAY- SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT- oil Another symbol of the Holy Spirit is oil or, more accurately, anointing with oil. More than previous symbols we've considered, this isn't immediately obvious to 21st century Westerners. We can pretty quickly grasp the significance of wind, fire, and water. But oil in our culture...well, we have cooking oil, vehicle oil, crude oil, etc. None of them really gets at the biblical significance of oil. In the ancient world, oil was an important commodity for trade and daily living. It was used in cooking and cleansing, as medication and fuel. An abundance of oil indicated prosperity and, therefore, a blessing. Thus, the Psalmist likens a blessing to "fine oil on the head, running down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, upon the collar of his robe" (Ps 133:2). We wouldn't want oil running down upon us that way. But in the biblical mind, it is a sign of abundance, prosperity, and, thus, blessing. So, throughout scripture an anointing with oil signifies election and consecration. After his encounter with God, Jacob set up a pillar and poured oil on top of it to consecrate that place as "the house of God" (Gen 28:18). Similarly, Moses consecrated the Tabernacle with oil to establish it as the dwelling place of God (much as bishops do today in the dedication of a church). Various persons were likewise anointed to signify their election and blessing. In ancient Israel, three groups received an anointing: priests, kings, and prophets. Such an anointing set them apart and blessed them for their respective missions or offices. Prophets, to proclaim the truth; priests, to offer sacrifice; and kings to govern the People of God. Of course, the Greek word for anointed person is christ. Each of these anointed ones in ancient Israel pointed to the Christ – the Messiah – who was to come.

In his inaugural address in Nazareth, Jesus says, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor" (Lk 4:18). Saint Peter also testifies, "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power" (Acts 10:38). Jesus is the Christ, the anointed one, whose anointing comes not from oil but from the Spirit himself. Thus, the three anointed offices of ancient Israel are summarised and fulfilled in him. He is the fulfilment of all prophets because he not only bears witness to the truth but is himself the Truth. He is the Eternal High Priest who not only offers the victim but is himself the victim. And he is King of the Universe who governs all things and directs them to his Father's glory. We Christians – little anointed ones – share in this mission of Jesus the Christ. The anointing of the Spirit is now conveyed in the Church sacramentally by our holy oils: the Oil of Salvation is used in Baptism; Chrism is used in Baptism, Confirmation, and Ordination; and the Oil of the Sick in the Anointing of the Sick. In each Sacrament, the physical anointing both signifies and communicates the Spirit. By such anointings, we participate in Christ's mission – to bear witness to the truth, to sanctify the world, and to direct temporal activities to God's glory. It's significant that our Lord's passion begins in the Garden of Gethsemane, a word that means "oil press." His suffering and death are indeed like a pressing that produces not oil but the Spirit himself, by whose anointing we are made christ.

LORD, IT IS GOOD TO GIVE THANKS TO YOU. PSALM 92 For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil. [2 Corinthians 5:10] We are all accountable for all of the gifts God has given us -- our time, our talent and our treasure; everything we have and everything we are. Each of us is accountable not only for our own life but for the lives of others as well. One day God will ask each of us what did we do with the gifts we were given. How will you respond?

PARISH BBQ on Sunday 30th June at Christ The King from 12.30pm. This will be an event for the whole parish and we hope that parishioners will come along and join in what promises to be a wonderful social occasion. If you would like to contribute in any way to the success of this event, do let us know and watch this space for more details to follow. Mark the date in your diary now!

SAINT OF THE WEEK SAINT ALOYSIUS GONZAGA Patron of Catholic Youth March 9,1568 – June 21, 1591 As the son of a princely family and growing up in the midst of the Renaissance era, Aloysius was exposed to much "fraud, dagger, poison, and lust." The more he saw of court life, the more disillusioned he became and sought relief in learning about the lives of saints, the psalms, and praying the Office. By the age of 11, he was teaching catechism to poor children and fasting 3 days a week. Being drawn to the Jesuits after reading about a book about their missions in India, he joined the Society of Jesus. After becoming sick with a plague, he died at the age of 23, a week after the Feast of Corpus Christi. "In the twilight of our life, we shall be judged according to love." (Saint Aloysius Gonzaga)

PLEASE PRAY FOR CHILDREN PREPARING FOR SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: Confirmation on Tuesday June 18th at 7.00pm at St. Gregory's Salisbury. The parish community is invited to pray for our faith formation students who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in June. Candidates have prepared to receive the Sacrament with the support of their parents, family, catechists, and the entire community. Thanks to all for nurturing our children on their journey.

ALTAR FLOWERS Altar Flowers are a symbol of grace, prayer, and virtue. They are a reminder to us of God's beautiful creation. Fresh altar flowers are a great way to honour a loved one for a special occasion such as a Birthday, Wedding Anniversary, or to remember a loved one on the anniversary of their passing. Your honourarium will be published in the bulletin the weekend the altar flowers are to be given. Please note that flowers cannot be given during the seasons of Advent and Lent. Please contact Ann Larke or Father Saji in the Parish Office or send an email.

THE POPE'S JUNE PRAYER INTENTION For migrants fleeing their homes—We pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION As we enter back into Ordinary Time, our readings today remind us that heaven is our true home and that we cannot make it there without God's assistance. In our First Reading, the prophet Ezekiel foretells the coming of the Kingdom of God. We can see that Jesus is the cedar that will become refuge for all people. He will humble the proud, lift up the lowly and produce good fruit in the weakened. It is God who does the wondrous works. We often go through life wanting to be in control. We try to solve all our problems, as we think, "I can do it myself." We cling to our own ideas by putting certain events, future plans or even day-to-day moments into a perfect little box, "This is the way I want it." We can even push back in moments of suffering by trying to find every possible way to get out of it. We are "in control." Imagine what life would be like if we surrendered a little more. It is easier said than done — but, oh, how freeing it would be. What if we opened our clenched hands to God and said, "Thy will be done"? We would become free from attachment and more blessed than we could ever imagine. Only God can do all that He promised in our First Reading. We need Him. All we need to do is surrender. To help us on this journey of total surrender, try starting each day with a prayer of surrender, "Lord, I give You this day and all that You have in store for me, my family and friends." With the guidance of the Lord, surely we will make it home to heaven.

THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS The Catholic Church dedicates the month of June to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This tradition dates back to the 17th century when St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a French nun, had visions of Jesus Christ revealing His Sacred Heart to her. This devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus became popular and spread throughout the Catholic Church. In 1956, Pope Pius XII published the encyclical HAURIETIS AQUAS, On Devotion to the Sacred Heart. He writes: The Heart of the Incarnate Word is deservedly and rightly considered the chief sign and symbol of that three-fold love with which the divine Redeemer unceasingly loves His eternal Father and all mankind. It is a symbol of that divine love which He shares with the Father and the Holy Spirit but which He, the Word made flesh, alone manifests through a weak and perishable body, since "in Him dwells the fullness of the Godhead bodily." It is, besides, the symbol of that burning love which, infused into His soul, enriches the human will of Christ and enlightens and governs its acts by the most perfect knowledge derived both from the beatific vision and that which is directly infused. The Sacred Heart of Jesus represents the love and compassion that Jesus has for humanity. The heart is a symbol of love and devotion, representing the very essence of Jesus Christ. The feast of the Sacred Heart is celebrated on the Friday after the octave of Corpus Christi, which falls on the third Sunday after Pentecost.

During the month of June, Catholics are encouraged to deepen their devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus through prayer, reflection, and acts of charity. One popular devotional practice is the recitation of the Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This litany is a prayer of intercession that asks for the mercy, love, and protection of Jesus. In addition to prayer, Catholics may also participate in the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart. This practice involves placing an image of the Sacred Heart in a prominent place in the home, such as the living room or bedroom. The Enthronement is a way of inviting Jesus into the home and acknowledging His role as the head of the family. The month of June is also a time for Catholics to reflect on the teachings of Jesus and how they can apply them to their daily lives. Jesus taught us to love one another and to show compassion to those in need. Catholics are encouraged to perform acts of charity during the month of June, such as volunteering works or donating to a charity that helps the poor and marginalised. In conclusion, the Catholic tradition of celebrating June as the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a way of deepening our devotion to Jesus Christ and reflecting on His teachings. Through prayer, reflection, and acts of charity, we can grow closer to Jesus and experience His love and compassion for humanity.

SUNDAY HOMILY FROM BISHOP ROBERT BARRON this Sunday, the Church gives us such a fundamentally important reading from the third chapter of the book of Genesis. We discover again the nature and basic dynamics of sin.. To watch and listen click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage.

LIVE THE LITURGY - Inspiration for the Week-Faith can start small, Jesus tells us — as small as the tiniest seed on earth. But it's up to us to surround that seed with good, nutritious soil, to nourish it with sunlight and water, and to tend to it lovingly so that it will grow.

MOTIVATE YOURSELF TO RISE AFTER A HARD FALL In order to rise after a fall requires inner strength, self-belief and strong trust in the process of life. Once we develop these qualities, we face every situation with courage and become fearless. The tough time comes in everyone's life. Things might turn unfavourable, your efforts may not yield wanted results, people may walk out, or relationships may end. Although we all try to overcome hardships, sometimes situations make us weak. To get through these weak moments, you need to build courage within yourself. Remind yourself that situations always change, trust that life will never disappoint and believe that the divine power is always there to protect you and help you get through. No matter how hard you fall, a single step of courage can get you back on your feet.