



# Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest

*Veritatem Facientes in Caritate*

[www.institute-christ-king.org](http://www.institute-christ-king.org)



## Church of Saints Cyril & Methodius

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### Clergy & Staff

#### **Institute Superiors**

Msgr. R. Michael Schmitz, S.T.D., J.C.D.  
*Vicar General of the Institute & Delegate  
for the United States*

Reverend Canon Matthew Talarico  
*Provincial Superior*

#### **Church Staff**

Reverend Canon Francis X. Altieri IV  
*Pastor & Rector*  
[canon.altieri@institute-christ-king.org](mailto:canon.altieri@institute-christ-king.org)

Reverend Canon Michael Stein  
*Temporary Replacement*  
[stscyrilandmethodius@institute-christ-king.org](mailto:stscyrilandmethodius@institute-christ-king.org)

Mr. Heitor Caballero  
*Director of Sacred Music & Organist*

### Mass Times

**Sunday:** 8:30 a.m. Low Mass  
10:15 a.m. High Mass  
**Monday-Saturday:** 7:45 a.m. Low Mass  
**Holy Days:** *please consult the bulletin*

### Confessions

*30 minutes before Mass every day (Sundays  
before both Masses) & First Fridays from  
5:15 to 5:45 p.m. (during Adoration)*

### Devotions

**First Friday:** Additional Mass at 6 p.m.,  
preceded by Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament beginning at 5 p.m.

**First Saturday:** After Mass, Adoration  
with Holy Rosary, 15-minute meditation &  
Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

# Weekly Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

8:30 a.m. - - ✠ Edward & ✠ Mary Carney

*requested by Paul McMahon*

10:15 a.m. - Pro Populo

6:00 p.m. - Vespers & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>

## Saint Benedict

*Patron Saint of the Institute of Christ the King*

7:45 a.m. - For the conversion of schismatics

*requested by Tyler & Klaudia Griffith*

Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>

## Lenten Feria

7:45 a.m. - ✠ Marianne Bell

*requested by Edward Reyen*

Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>

## Lenten Feria

7:45 a.m. - Nancy Pline

*requested by JoEllen & Larry Pline*

Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>

## Lenten Feria

7:45 a.m. - Joseph Balash, Jr.

*requested by Anna Balash*

6:00 p.m. - Holy Hour

Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>

## Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:45 a.m. - Msgr. Joseph Pekar

*requested by Gregory Mikulka*

6:00 p.m. - Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>

## Lenten Feria

7:45 a.m. - JoEllen & Larry Pline

*requested by Julie Kim*

Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

*called "Lætare"*

8:30 a.m. - Pro Populo

10:15 a.m. - ✠ Patrick Stevens

*requested by Shannon & Katrina Cirilli*

6:00 p.m. - Vespers & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament



**TODAY, Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**

First Communion Class after 10:15 High Mass

**N.B.** It **is not** on the last Sunday of the month because of the Lætare Reception/Potluck

**Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>**

FEAST OF SAINT BENEDICT

Secondary Patron Saint of the Institute of Christ the King. *Plenary indulgence available under the normal conditions.*

**Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**

ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Low Mass at 7:45 a.m.

**Lætare Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**

Reception and Potluck in the Church basement after the 10:15 High Mass.

### Rector's Letter: From Canon Altiere

Dear Flock,

"There's no place like home" is a sentiment we all know, and it is one which strikes me with particular force at this time. After six weeks in the hospital and almost a month of physical therapy, I was able to return to our beloved parish just in time for the feast of Saint Joseph. This is a fitting grace from divine providence, because your fervent prayers to the holy patriarch, as well as to his beloved spouse whom we venerate especially under the title of Our Lady of Lourdes, won from God the favor of a recovery which the doctors say defies explanation. Many of you prayed a novena to Our Lady of Lourdes, and it was on her feast day that I finally woke up after several "close calls" while under sedation. Saint Benedict, one of our Institute's patrons, also showered benefits from heaven because, having unfortunately suffered kidney failure while in an artificial coma, after receiving the traditional blessing for the kidneys through the intercession of Saint Benedict (the Church has thought of everything!), I recovered more quickly than the doctors had ever seen. I am deeply grateful to Canon Stein and Abbés McKown and Moreau for their excellent work here during my absence: it is a relief to me to know you were in such good hands. The visits I received from Canon Talarico, Canon Stein and Canon Estrada as well as from my dear parents and sisters while I was a patient helped me to persevere, as did all your prayers. Please know that I offered up all the (little) hardships of my sickness for you all and for the Church and the Institute during these times of tribulation. I am thankful also for the dedicated doctors and nurses who cared for me, and ask you to pray for them through the intercession of Saints Cosmas and Damian and Saint Camillus. Thankfully I am able to walk again, but I am still easily winded and so I will be resuming my usual responsibilities gradually, hoping to mostly "back to normal" by Easter. May God bless and keep you all!

## FROM THE PROLOGUE OF THE RULE OF ST. BENEDICT

**L**ISTEN carefully, my son, to the master's instructions, and attend to them with the ear of your heart. This is the *advice from a father who loves you*; welcome it, and faithfully put it into practice. The labor of obedience will bring you back to him from whom you had drifted through the sloth of disobedience. This *message of mine is for you*, then, if you are ready to give up your own will, once and for all, and armed with the *strong and noble weapons of obedience* to do battle for the *true King, Christ the Lord*.

First of all, remember that every good work you undertake, you must *pray to him most earnestly to bring it to perfection*, Because He has already included us as his sons, and therefore we should never grieve him by our evil actions. With his *good gifts which he has given to us so that we may serve him so faithfully*, we must obey him at all times that he may never become the angry father who disowns his sons, Nor the Lord, enraged by our sins, who punishes us forever as worthless servants for refusing to follow Him to glory.

Let us rise up then, at long last, for the Scriptures awakened us when they say: *"It is high time for us to arise from sleep."* And let us open our eyes to the divine light, and listen with attentive ears to the cautionary voice of God that every day tells us: *"If you hear His voice today, do not harden your hearts, Who has ears to listen, listen to what the Holy Spirit says to the Church."* And what does it say? *"Come and listen to me, sons: I will teach you the fear of*

*the Lord. Run while you have the light of life, that the darkness of death may not overtake you."*

And because, among the crowd of men to whom this cry is addressed, *the Lord is searching for his workers*, the Lord again says: *"Who here is the man who yearns for life and desires to see good days?"* If you hearing this, you respond *"I do,"* God then directs these words to you: *"If you desire true and eternal life, keep your tongue free from vicious talk and your lips from all deceit; distance*

*yourself from evil and do good; search for peace and follow it."* And when you have done this, my eyes will be upon you, and my ears will be ready for your prayers, and even before you ask me, I will say to you: *"Here I am."*

What is sweeter, dear brothers, than this voice of the Lord calling to us? Here in his fatherly goodness the Lord shows us the way of life.

When, oh brothers, Brothers, we have asked the Lord who will dwell in his home, we have heard the instructions for dwelling in it, but only if we fulfill the obligations of those who desire to dwell there. We must, then, prepare our hearts and bodies for the battle of holy obedience to his instructions. And what it not possible in us by our nature, and that nature cannot lend us, let us ask the Lord to supply by the help of His grace. If we wish to avoid the torments of hell and reach eternal life, *While there is still time*, while we are in this body and have the possibility to accomplish all these things by the light of life, **We must today run** and do now what will benefit us forever.

That is why the Lord says in the Gospel: *"Whoever hears these words of mine and puts them in practice, is like a wise man who built his house upon rock: The floods came, the winds blew, and beat against the house, but it did not fall because it was founded on rock."* With this conclusion, the **Lord waits for us daily to translate into action** His holy teachings. Therefore our life has been lengthened, so that we may amend our faults. As the Apostle says: *"Do you not know that the patience of God is leading you to repent?"* And indeed the merciful Lord tells us: *"I do not wish the death of a sinner, but that he turn back to me and live."*

Therefore we must establish a school for the Lord's service. In drawing it up, we hope to set down nothing harsh, nothing burdensome. But if something a little difficult, suggested by a reasonable balance, may be introduced in order to amend faults and to safeguard charity, Do not be daunted immediately by fear and run away from the road that leads to salvation. It is bound to be narrow at the onset. But as we advance in the monastic virtue and in faith, the heart expands, and we will run the path of God's commandments in the inexpressible sweetness of love. So never departing from the teachings of God, and faithfully observing his doctrine in the monastery with perseverance until death, we shall share in the sufferings of Christ, so that we may deserve also to share in his kingdom. Amen.

~ Excerpts from the **Prologue**  
*THE RULE OF SAINT BENEDICT*



## MEAL TRAIN UPDATE

Dear Faithful,

Thank you so very much for all of your delicious meals that you have provided thus far. We would like to continue the meal train for the Canons and the Abbés (a total of 4), it is a tremendous help to them during this time. Please sign up using the following link: <https://mealtrain.com/yv0r1y>.

Thank you to Mrs. Christina Watkins for coordinating the mail train sign up. Any questions or concerns can be addressed to her at [introibo2015@yahoo.com](mailto:introibo2015@yahoo.com).

We are most appreciative of your continued generosity and support!

### LADIES' GUILD, MARCH 26<sup>th</sup>

Dear Members of the Guild,

You have been most patient in waiting for the trimestrial schedule of events to resume.

Every trimester, in theory, we should have a full group gathering that would include a spiritual conference, a list of needed projects, and a recreational activity/outing.

I would like to propose **Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>** as such a day. A more detailed schedule is forthcoming, but it will include a spiritual conference, project discussions, and a shared lunch.

Grateful for your dedication, Canon Stein

### LÆTARE SUNDAY POTLUCK

Join us after the High Mass on Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> for our bi-monthly Potluck! In the spirit of Lætare Sunday, in which we *rejoice in the Lord*, let us rejoice in the fraternal conviviality with our friends and family here at Sts. Cyril and Methodius. Join the rector in trying your hand at baking a traditional Simnel Cake!

**NEXT COFFEE SOCIAL:** April 3<sup>rd</sup>

#### WEEKLY PUBLIC DEVOTIONS

- Every Thursday, 6 p.m. Holy Hour
- Every Friday, 6 p.m. Stations
- Every Sunday, 6 p.m. Vespers and Benediction

## SPIRITUAL FOOD FOR A HOLY SEASON

This Holy Season of Lent, we offer you the opportunity to grow more deeply in the spiritual life with spiritual reading, *The Consoling Thoughts of St. Francis de Sales*. Whether you wish to commence a more profound life of grace or progress on the path of the Lord, these books are a perfect means to fulfill your Lenten resolution to advance in holiness!

They are offered at the special price of \$35 for the complete 4-volume set, or \$10 individually, and can be found in the front Vestibule of the Church. *Checks payable to Sts. Cyril and Methodius Oratory*

## Second Collections Policy

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

As you know, we are the great guardians of Tradition (with a capital "T") and of traditions (with a lower case "t") & customs. When a custom, however, loses its reason for existence or becomes outdated then we must move on. Having a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection at every single Sunday Mass has become such a matter. Its original purpose of coming to the aid of paying certain bills is outdated by both the health of the parish and by the marked envelopes that you can simply put in the normal collection. Also, when we have a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection at every Sunday Mass, it defeats the purpose of having exceptional collections when the need arises, such as those marked by the Diocese or the Institute of Christ the King. Lastly, and most importantly, **there are other things we should be doing after receiving Holy Communion.**

Thus, with the unanimous approval of the Trustees, there will be only exceptional 2<sup>nd</sup> collections.

Signed, Pastor & the Trustees of the Slovak Roman Catholic Church of Sts. Cyril & Methodius in Bridgeport

In Summary: There is no longer a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection taken up after Communion unless explicitly announced.

*Moving forward, you can simply put 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection envelopes in the regular collection should you still want to use them.*

March 20<sup>th</sup> 2022

Third Sunday of Lent