



Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest

Veritatem Facientes in Caritate

www.institute-christ-king.org



Church of Saints Cyril & Methodius

79 Church Street - Bridgeport, CT 06608

Tel: (203) 333-7003

stscyrilandmethodius@institute-christ-king.org

www.institute-christ-king.org/bridgeport-home

www.facebook.com/StsCyrilandMethodiusOratory

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

Reverend Canon Michael Stein
Temporary Replacement
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

March 27th 2022

Fourth Sunday of Lent, called *Lætare*

Weekly Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, March 27th

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

Monday, March 28th

Lenten Feria

7:45 a.m. - Intentions of Edward Reyen
requested by Edward Reyen

Tuesday, March 29th

Lenten Feria

7:45 a.m. - ✠ William & Theresa Carpenter
requested by T.R. & Michelle Rowe & family

Wednesday, March 30th

Lenten Feria

7:45 a.m. - ✠ Dr. Harry Rajamannan
requested by Frank & Desiree Altieri

Thursday, March 31st

Lenten Feria

7:45 a.m. - Franklin H. & Irene M. & Paulette Ellison
requested by Irene Ellison

6:00 p.m. - Holy Hour

First Friday, April 1st

Lenten Feria

7:45 a.m. - Helen Reback
requested by June Vendetti

5:00 p.m. - Holy Hour

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

Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

6:45 p.m. - J. Kim
requested by Julie Kim

First Saturday, April 2nd

Votive Mass of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

7:45 a.m. - Encarnacion Tudon
requested by Gary & Diana Burt

Sunday, March 27th

PASSION SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. - Marion Payne
requested by George & Nancy Whitmore

10:15 a.m. - Pro Populo
6:00 p.m. - Vespers & Benediction
of the Blessed Sacrament

Upcoming Events

Lætare Sunday, March 27th

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

First Friday, April 1st

See schedule on the back page.

First Saturday, April 2nd

See schedule on front page.

**** HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE ****

Please see the separate flyer—keep it on your
refrigerator or in your purse or briefcase!

Rector's Letter: From Canon Altieri

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!

PREPARING FOR HOLY WEEK: What is Tenebræ?

The liturgy of the Sacred Triduum begins with the Tenebræ of Holy Thursday. *Triduum* literally means “three days,” and so this refers to the final three days of Holy Week: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. If the Church year is like a Temple, then the Triduum is the inner sanctum, the holy of holies. Our spiritual pilgrimage towards the mysteries of our redemption has intensified from Septuagesima, through Lent and Passiontide and now Holy Week and finally the Triduum. The Divine Office (the Church’s daily cycle of prayer) has certain peculiarities during these days. The *Gloria Patri*, which has already been omitted from antiphons like the Asperges and the Introit since Passion Sunday, is now omitted even from the very psalms themselves. The seasonal Marian antiphon is sung for the last time on Spy Wednesday, and during the Triduum the penitential *Miserere* (Psalm 50, King David’s psalm of repentance) is recited kneeling at the end of each office. The candles on the altar are of sombre unbleached wax and they are not lit, at least for the “Little Hours.”*

Matins (the nocturnal prayer of the Church) and Lauds (the morning prayer) are sung together as usual and are anticipated to the evening before on these last three days of Holy Week. Pope Benedict XIV, in his commentary on the liturgical year, gives a symbolic reason for the singing of morning prayer at the fall of night during these days: “Lauds follow immediately on Matins, which in this occasion terminate with the close of day, in order to signify the setting of the Sun of Justice and the darkness of the Jewish people who knew not our Lord and condemned Him to the gibbet of the cross.” The name *Tenebræ* given to this service means “darkness,” and as the service progresses, the sun slowly descends. The Matins, comprising nine psalms in all, is divided into three sections called nocturns: each one consists of three psalms, followed by a versicle and then three readings, each of which is followed by a more elaborate musical piece called a responsory. In the first nocturn are read the Lamentations of the Prophet Jeremias, in which he mourns the fall of the Temple and the deportation of the Chosen People into Babylon. These Lamentations are chanted in a hauntingly beautiful tone. The Lamentations are written as an acrostic, and each verse begins with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet, preserved even in the Latin text. Lauds consists of five psalms and then the *Benedictus*, the canticle of Zachary.



There is a triangular candle-stand, called the hearse, bearing 15 candles. At the end of each of the nine psalms of Matins and five psalms of Lauds, the candles are progressively extinguished. The Tenebræ hearse stands in the sanctuary at the spot from which the subdeacon chants the epistle at solemn Mass: since the subdeacon represents the Old Testament, the candles extinguished at this spot can represent the eclipse of the Old Law at the time of Christ’s Passion. The altar candles and church lamps are extinguished during the *Benedictus*, leaving the church in darkness (the extinction of the candles, according to the liturgical commentators, represents the flight of the Apostles and the fear of the holy women, or else the 14 “just men” of the Old Testament who endured martyrdom before Christ). Just before the conclusion of the service, the clergy bang on the benches with their books, representing the earthquake at the death of Our Lord. The remaining lit candle, representing Our Lord, is briefly hidden behind the altar and then brought out again, representing the Resurrection.

* The Little Hours refer to the relatively short day-time offices of Prime, Terce, Sext and None, to which we made add Compline at the end of the day. The “major hours” of the Divine Office are Matins, Lauds and Vespers. During the Triduum, the altar candles are only lit for Matins and Lauds (Tenebræ), and they remain lit for Vespers when this office is sung immediately after the services of Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

March 27th 2022

Fourth Sunday of Lent, called *Lætare*

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*

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/yvOr1y>.

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.

We are most appreciative of your continued generosity and support!

SPECIAL FIRST FRIDAY SCHEDULE

Dear Faithful,

Please note the following schedule for this **First Friday, April 1st**. Come and deepen your Lenten devotion as we enter the holiest time of the year by spending but one hour with His Sacred Heart! *Venite adoremus!*

7:45 a.m. Holy Mass

5:00 p.m. Adoration (Confessions will be heard between 5:15 p.m. and 5:45 p.m.), followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

6:45 p.m. Holy Mass

Saints Cyril and Methodius Parish

We Stand With Christ Campaign Redemption Update

Total Pledged:	\$36,990.00
Total Collected (as of 3/21/22):	\$23,405.00 (63%)

To make a payment on your pledge, please visit GiveCentral.org/WSWC or call 203-648-9050.

PASSIONTIDE VEILING:

Volunteers wanted

After Holy Mass on Saturday, April 2nd, we will start veiling the statues in the church. We would appreciate the help of 4-5 volunteers to help in this preparation of the Church for the Sacred Liturgy. Willingness and ability to go up a ladder is a definite plus!

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 2nd 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 2nd 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 2nd collections.

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

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

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

March 27th 2022

Fourth Sunday of Lent, called *Lætare*