



Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest

Veritatem Facientes in Caritate

www.institute-christ-king.org



Church of Saints Cyril & Methodius

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Clergy & Staff

Institute of Christ the King

Reverend Canon Matthew Talarico
Provincial Superior

Church Staff

Reverend Canon Francis X. Altieri IV
Pastor & Rector

Abbé Luke Ball
Clerical Oblate

Dr. Samuel Schmitt
Director of Sacred Music & Organist
samuel.schmitt@carlschmitt.org

Mrs. Laurie Furey
Office Manager
stscyrilandmethodius@institute-christ-king.org

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
Monday to Friday (except Wednesday)

Mass Times

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

Confessions

30 minutes before Mass every day

Regular Devotions

Every Thursday: Holy Hour at 6:00 p.m.
First Friday: Additional Mass at 6:00 p.m., followed by Devotions & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
First Saturday: After Mass, Adoration with Holy Rosary, 15-minute meditation & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

December 8th 2024

Immaculate Conception (Advent II)

Masses this Week

Sunday, December 8th

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY

{*Second Sunday of Advent*}

8:30 a.m. - Pro Populo

10:15 a.m. - Jude, Gerard, Joe, Simon,

Janelle, Michael & Dominic

requested by Jude Manoni

Monday, December 9th

Mass of the Immaculate Conception

7:45 a.m. - Pro Populo

Tuesday, December 10th

Mass of the Immaculate Conception

7:45 a.m. - ✠ Michael Grogan

requested by Mario & Maureen Ciardiello

Wednesday, December 11th

Saint Damasus

7:45 a.m. - ✠ Edward & MaryAnn Pivarnik

requested by Gregory Mikulka

Thursday, December 12th

Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:45 a.m. - Sara Kinani

requested by Louis Alanz

Friday, December 13th

Saint Lucy

7:45 a.m. - Denise Manoni-Smith

requested by Matthew & Rachel Manoni

Saturday, December 14th

Mass of the Immaculate Conception

8:30 a.m. - ✠ Guadalupe T. Castillo

requested by Gary & Diana Burt

Sunday, December 15th

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 a.m. - Pro Populo

10:15 a.m. - ✠ Thomas J. Monks

requested by Grace Monks



Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 8th

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY

Act of Consecration to Our Lady after High Mass

Solemn Choral Vespers & Benediction at 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 12th

Holy Hour & Benediction at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 15th

Vespers & Benediction at 6:00 p.m.

Monday, December 16th

Setting up the Crèche in church

Volunteers needed this week to decorate church

December 17th to 23rd

“Wisdomtide”: Week of the O Antiphons

The Christmas Novena begins on the 17th

December 18th, 20th and 21st

ADVENT EMBER DAYS

Traditionally days of fast & abstinence

Sunday, December 22nd

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Solemn “O Antiphon” Vespers & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 6:00 p.m., followed by reception with seasonal treats in the church hall

Tuesday, December 24th

CHRISTMAS EVE

Office of Prime after the morning Mass

December 26th to 28th

Daily Mass at 8:30 a.m. (confessions at 8:00 a.m.)

Tuesday, December 31st

NEW YEAR’S EVE

Holy Hour & Te Deum at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 12th

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Blessing of children after both Masses

Annual young adults Epiphanytide brunch hosted by Canon Altieri

Adult Theology Class

will resume after the new year

The “Patron Saints” of Advent: Lessons from the Liturgy

THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

As we would expect, Our Lady plays an important role in the spirit and liturgy of Advent. During Advent (and Christmastide), the Divine Office concludes every day with the Marian antiphon *Alma Redemptoris Mater*. The Ember Days (third week) of Advent bring us the Gospels of the Annunciation and Visitation, and so this week has a distinct Marian tone to it. In many places, especially on the Ember Wednesday it is customary to have a candle-lit Mass early in the morning in honour of Our Lady. This is the so-called *Rorate Mass*, from the first word of the Introit, and expectant mothers in particular make a point of attending it. Of course it is also not by coincidence that the great feast of the Immaculate Conception always falls during Advent. It was by this singular privilege, designed to prepare a worthy dwelling place for the Incarnate Word, that God put into motion his plan for the salvation of the human race. On the Sundays of Advent, it is most fitting to pray the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. In all, about 25 Advent liturgical texts (antiphons, responsories, etc.) speak of Mary.

ISAIAS THE PROPHET

Isaias is one of four Old Testament figures called the Major Prophets. Indeed, he is sometimes nicknamed the “Fifth Evangelist” (Gospel writer), because his predictions of Our Lord’s life—especially his Passion—are so clear that they give the impression of having been recorded by an eye witness. All through Advent, the readings at the Divine Office of Matins are taken from Isaias. His prophecies concerning the miraculous Virgin Birth of the Messiah make him a fitting prophet for this season, especially: “Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son” (7:14), and “Before she was in labour, she brought forth” (66:7). Isaias lived in the eighth century B.C., and he is commemorated in the Roman Martyrology on July 6th. The versicle *Rorate cali*, “Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down the Just One,” which is sung every day in Advent at Vespers, is taken from Isaias. He was martyred by being sawed in twain under King Manasses.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

Our Lord’s kinsman Saint John the Baptist, the son of Zachary and Elizabeth, is the last and greatest of all the prophets. Three of the four Sunday Gospels (second through fourth Sundays) of Advent focus on the character and ministry of Saint John. His cry, *Parate viam Domini*, “Prepare ye the way of the Lord,” is sung as a versicle every morning of Advent at the office of Lauds. The figure of Saint John reminds us that Advent is not in fact merely a preparation for Christmas, the commemoration of the historical birth of Our Saviour, but a preparation for the Second Coming of the Lord, for which we must prepare by

doing penance. Along with Our Lord himself and the Virgin Mary, Saint John is the only person whose birth is celebrated with a liturgical feast (June 24th). With the gradual increase of daylight after Christmas and the gradual shortening of daylight after the Nativity of Saint John, nature herself seems symbolically to confirm this word of the great Forerunner: “He must increase, but I must decrease” (John 3:30). A secondary feast in honour of his beheading is kept on August 29th.



We welcome you today to Saints Cyril and Methodius Oratory!

If this is your first time here, we look forward to meeting you. We hope you will be able to join us for our next coffee hour! If you are interested in registering as a parishioner, forms are available at both entrances.

Holy Mass and all the sacraments at Saints Cyril & Methodius Oratory are celebrated in the traditional Latin Rite. This form of worship, which developed many centuries ago, is a priceless treasure of our Catholic faith. On Sundays and feasts, there are handouts containing English translations of the Propers (the prayers and readings proper to the day). If you are unfamiliar with the traditional Latin Mass, please do not hesitate to approach the clergy of the Oratory with any questions you may have. The pastoral care of the Oratory has been entrusted by the Bishop of Bridgeport to the clergy of the Institute of Christ the King, a Catholic priestly society founded in 1990 and currently ministering in dioceses across the United States, Europe and Africa.

Holy communion may be received by practicing Catholics in the state of grace. In the traditional Roman Rite, holy communion is received kneeling at the communion rail (unless you are impaired from doing so) and directly on the tongue. The mouth should be open with the tongue slightly extended. You do not reply when the priest places the host in your mouth. The sacrament of confession is available every day 30 minutes before the start of Mass (ending approximately 7 minutes before Mass begins).

The church narthex (vestibule) functions as a cry room during Mass. As a courtesy to others, please feel free to make use of it when you have a crying child by exiting quietly down one of the side aisles. Everyone is kindly reminded that all conversations should be held outside.

Out of respect for God's house, please bear in mind the importance of modest and decent attire. Ladies who wish to do so may borrow a veil to wear at Mass (available in baskets by the entrances).

If you are not a Catholic, you are warmly invited to learn more about our faith. The Catholic Church was founded 2000 years ago by Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to carry on His work for the salvation of souls. If you are interested in becoming Catholic or simply want to learn more about the Catholic faith, please do not hesitate to contact us. The Oratory offers individual instruction. We look forward to hearing from you.

ADVENT CLOTHING DRIVE

This Advent, the Oratory will be collecting items for the center run by the Daughters of Charity of the Precious Blood here in Bridgeport. The items being collected are: cold-weather clothing and accessories for children and adults (all sizes). Please drop off your items in the receptacle at the back entrance to church. Thank you for your charity!

Institute Christmas Cards

\$20 per pack

Please make out checks to:

INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING

Christmas Oplatki

\$3 each

Christmas Spiritual Bouquet for the Bishop

If you wish to participate in a spiritual bouquet for His Excellency Bishop Caggiano, please fill out a sheet at one of the church entrances or e-mail the office, indicating the number and nature of the devotions you wish to offer for our bishop. Please make sure to hand it in by Wednesday, December 18th!



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