



# INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

*Living the Truth in Charity*

September 4, 2021

Dear faithful,

Holy Mother Church invites us as members of the Communion of Saints to look beyond ourselves in order to focus on the common good of souls everywhere. In this profound spirit of faith, we are to pray daily and to make sacrifices generously for our brothers and sisters in Christ here on earth and in purgatory so that we may together obtain the grace and fruition of that spiritual common good, which is union with God in the eternal beatitude of heaven.

Within the Roman Catholic Church, the Institute of Christ the King's apostolates form a spiritual family of souls which continues to grow worldwide. Missionary in its charism, the Institute aims to answer the call of the bishops to bring the traditional Latin Mass and Sacraments, as well as formation and direction according to the spirit of St. Francis de Sales, to as many people as possible far and wide. In such difficult times for the Church and the world, it is only by a generous response to this calling that the truth and charity of Christ may continue to spread its reign to more souls.

With this spiritual aim in mind, the following assignments have been made with prayerful consideration at the conclusion of the Institute's annual General Chapter by the superiors of the Institute with the approval of the local Ordinaries of the dioceses in which we serve.

**Canon Michael Stein**, who has been Rector of St. Joseph's Shrine in Detroit, Michigan, will be assigned in mid-October to a new Institute apostolate in the United States together with **Canon Erwan Josseume**, who has been serving in the Archdiocese of Montpellier, France.

**Canon Jean-Baptiste Commins**, who has been until now Vice-Rector of the Shrine of Christ the King in Chicago, is appointed Rector of St. Joseph's Shrine in Detroit, Michigan.

**Canon Luke Zignego**, who has until now served as Rector of St. Mary's Oratory in Rockford, Illinois, is appointed Vice-Rector of the Shrine of Christ the King in Chicago and Project Manager for the ongoing construction work at the Institute's Provincial Shrine of Christ the King.

**Canon John O'Connor**, who has until now served as Vicar at Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish in Pittsburgh, is appointed Rector of St. Mary's Oratory in Rockford, Illinois.

**Canon Ross Bourgeois**, who has until now served in the Archdiocese of Munich, Germany, is appointed Vicar of Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and coordinator of video/radio projects in the American province.

**Canon Matthew Weaver**, who has until now been serving as the U.S. Provincial Secretary and auxiliary priest at St. Stanislaus Oratory in Milwaukee, is appointed assistant priest at St George's house in New Brighton (Diocese of Shrewsbury, UK), Chaplain of the Carmelite sisters of Birkenhead and Chaplain for the Society of the Sacred Heart in Great Britain.

**Canon David Le**, who was ordained to the priesthood this past summer, is appointed the new U.S. Provincial Secretary and auxiliary priest at St. Stanislaus Oratory in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

**Canon Andrew Todd**, who has until now served as Rector of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Oratory in Bridgeport, Connecticut, is appointed Rector of Old St. Patrick's Oratory in Kansas City, Missouri.

**Canon Francis Altieri**, who has until now served as Rector of Old St. Patrick's Oratory in Kansas City, Missouri, is appointed Rector of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Oratory in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

**Canon Bryan Silvey**, who was ordained to the priesthood this past summer, is appointed Vice-Rector of St. Gianna Oratory in Tucson, Arizona.

While such changes in our growing Institute are frequently a sacrifice for the lay faithful (and also for the priests), let us trust that these sacrifices will be rewarded and made fruitful by Divine Providence, who is certain to *turn all things for the good of those who love God* (Rm 8:28), as our Prior General, Monsignor Gilles Wach often reminds us. This profound and generous spirit of faith helps us to understand that, while our brethren in other places will now benefit from the spiritual paternity of the individual canons whom we have grown to love and appreciate, we will also profit from the fatherly presence of new canons whose same formation in the Institute insures a healthy continuity and enrichment of the sacramental and pastoral life in every apostolate. Thanks to your outstanding support for vocations over the years, the total number of priests in the Institute's American province will now increase from 25 to 27 canons.

With sincere gratitude to all of you, dear faithful, for your gracious understanding and for your support of our Institute's clergy and mission, I ask for your continued prayers as we seek to serve the common good of souls throughout our worldwide spiritual family for the glory of Christ our King and for the eternal salvation which is the object of our transitory pilgrimage here on earth.

Yours very cordially in Christ the King,



Rev. Canon Matthew Talarico  
U.S. Provincial Superior