

**In Philadelphia** I'm struck by how many women I now see on the street wearing the hijab or even the burqa. Some of my friends are annoyed by that kind of "in your face" Islam. But I understand it. The hijab and the burqa say two important things in a morally confused culture: "I'm not sexually available;" & "I belong to a community different and separate from you and your obsessions."

I have a long list of concerns with the content of Islam. But I admire the integrity of those Muslim women. And we need to help Catholics recover their own sense of distinction from the surrounding secular meltdown...we need to reclaim it (Christian heritage), starting now.

**Catholics today**—and I'm one of them—feel a lot of unease about declining numbers and sacramental statistics. Obviously, we need to do everything we can to bring tepid Catholics back to active life in the Church. But we should never be afraid of a smaller, lighter Church if her members are also more faithful, more zealous, more missionary and more committed to holiness. Making sure that happens is the job of those of us who are bishops.

Losing people who are members of the Church in name only is an imaginary loss. It may in fact be more honest for those who leave and healthier for those who stay. We should be focused on commitment, not numbers or institutional throw-weight. We have nothing to be afraid of as long as we act with faith and courage.

We need to speak plainly and honestly. Modern bureaucratic life, even in the Church, is the enemy of candor and truth. We live in an age that thrives on the subversion of language. And here's one example. "Accompaniment," when Pope Francis uses the word, is a great and obvious good. Francis rightly teaches us the need to meet people where they are, to walk with them patiently, and to befriend them on the road of life. But the same word is widely misused by others. *Where the road of life leads* does make a difference -especially if it involves accompanying someone over a cliff.

Here's another example: A theologian in my own diocese recently listed "inclusivity" as one of the core messages of Vatican II. Yet to my knowledge, that word "inclusivity" didn't exist in the 1960s and appears nowhere in the council documents.

If by "inclusive" we mean patiently and sensitively inviting all people to a relationship with Jesus Christ, then yes, we do very much need to be inclusive. But if "inclusive" means including people who do not believe what the Catholic faith teaches and will not reform their lives according to what the Church holds to be true, then inclusion is a form of lying. And it's not just lying but an act of betrayal and violence against the rights of those who *do* believe and *do* seek to live according to God's Word. Inclusion requires conversion and a change of life; or at least the sincere desire to change.

Saying this isn't a form of legalism or a lack of charity. It's simple honesty. And there can be no real charity without honesty. We need to be very careful not to hypnotize ourselves with our words and dreams. The "new evangelization" is fundamentally not so different from the "old evangelization." It begins with personal witness and action, and with sincere friendships among committed Catholics—not with bureaucratic programs or elegant sounding plans. These latter things can be important. But they're never the heart of the matter.

When I was ordained a bishop, a wise old friend told me that every bishop must be part radical and part museum curator—a radical in preaching and living the Gospel, but a protector of the Christian memory, faith, heritage and story that weave us into one believing people over the centuries.

I try to remember that every day. Americans have never liked history. The reason is simple. The past comes with obligations on the present, and the most cherished illusion of American life is that we can remake ourselves at will. But we Christians are different. We're first and foremost a communion of persons on mission through time—and our meaning as individuals comes from the part we play in that larger communion and story.

If we want to reclaim who we are as a Church,... we need begin, in ourselves & in our local parishes, by unplugging our hearts from the assumptions of the culture that still seems familiar but is no longer really "ours."



## CHRIST THE KING Catholic Church

An apostolate of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter  
preaching the Gospel & sanctifying souls  
according to the liturgical books of 1962.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024 A.D.

Pastor: Fr. Chris Hathaway, FssP

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**Church Office Hours:** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm, Monday - Friday

**Christ the King Catholic Church.**

Office: 941-924-2777

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Sarasota, FL 34231

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#### The Daily Mass Schedule is:

Monday at 12 noon.

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:00 am and 9:00 am.

Friday at 9:00 am and 6:30 pm. (On Friday, a 5:30 pm Holy Hour & confession time, precedes the 6:30 pm Mass.)

Saturday at 9:00 am.

**Sacramental Emergency:** 941-400-5415

#### The Sunday Mass Schedule is:

7:00 am low; 8:30 am low; & 10:30 am sung & a seasonal 12:30 pm low Mass.

Items on the "Blessing Table" in the hall are blessed after the last Sunday Mass.

**Confessions are heard in the confessional box ½ hour before Mass.**

"Lost & Found" is in the vestibule; if not there, check with the office.

#### In Ocala:

Sunday Mass at 4:30 pm

Monday Mass at 7 am.

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Mass at 10:30 am.

Scan to give



## Liturgical Calendar for the Upcoming Week

DATE	FEAST	CLASS/COLOR
	COMMEMORATION	
Sun 12-15	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	1/V
Mon 12-16	St Eusebius, <i>Bishop &amp; Martyr</i>	1/R Feria of Advent
Tues 12-17	Greater Feria of Advent	2/V
Wed 12-18	Ember Wednesday of Advent	2/V
Thu 12-19	Greater Feria of Advent	2/V
Fri 12-20	Ember Friday of Advent	2/V
Sat 12-21	St Thomas, <i>Apostle</i>	2/R Ember Saturday of Advent
Sun 12-22	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	1/V

### Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week in Sarasota

Sun 12-15	(7 am) Lucille R O'Leary	rb C Carr
	(8:30 am) Christopher Lawton	rb family
	(10:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i>	
	(12:30 pm) Barbara Blake	rb R Dunn
Mon 12-16	(12 noon) Therese Di Pham family	rb N Truong
Tues 12-17	(7 am) Betty Trigg+	rb D&T Lima
	(9 am) Relief of the Poor Souls in Purgatory	rb MF Kitko
Wed 12-18	(7 am) Thanksgiving for the conversion of a loved one	rb Anonymous
	(9 am) Rev. Cornelius Blaney+	rb C Carr
Thu 12-19	(7 am) Claire Verdini	rb K Zilli
	(9 am) A friend	rb Anonymous
Fri 12-20	(9 am) George & Frances Hemeryck++	rb S Hemeryck
	(6:30 pm) FssP Confraternity intentions	rb L&L Truong
Sat 12-21	(9 am) Juan Santiago+	rb T Tocher
Sun 12-22	(7 am) Fr Christopher Hathaway, FssP	rb M D Meadows
	(8:30 am) Josephine Patterson	rb D Thorssell
	(10:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i>	
	(12:30 pm) Carol Bamer+	rb Altar Servers

**Today's 10:30 Mass:** Entr: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus, #801; Asperges, #567; Mass XVII, #762 & Credo I, #768; Exit: On Jordan's Bank, #800. Also, **Fr. Perozich** offers the 7 am Mass & hears Confessions at 8 am.

**This week, Monday,** begin Novena for the Nativity of the Lord, Vespers (4:30 pm); **Tuesday,** Novena, Holy Face devotions (10:15 am); **Wednesday,** Novena, CtK Day at PP (9-5 pm); **Thursday,** Novena, staff meeting (3 pm), Vespers (4:30 pm); **Friday,** Novena, Vespers (4:30 pm), Holy Hour (5:30 pm), Mass (6:30 pm); **Saturday,** Novena, Youth Group (10 am), Vespers (4:30 pm).

**Volunteer families,** the office has a 2025 calendar for you. To claim, see Susan.

**Your offertory envelopes** have arrived and are in the vestibule.

**St Joseph Guild, thank you** for hosting the wonderful O.L. of Guadalupe event!

**Last Sunday's Collection:** cash \$4,538.86; on-line \$1,689.00; CFA \$11,314.10.

**Do This in Memory of Me:** cash \$2,320.00; online \$1,275.00.

**Total souls: 457;** 7 am-67; 8:30 am-155; 10:30 am-145; 12:30 pm-90; **Ocala-273.**

**Please pray for:** Piotr Gier, Mendez family (12/15); baby Gardner, Amanda Smith (12/8); Richard Wallace (12/01), McNamara family, Leonard West, Markus Dixon (11/24); & Gloria Flynn (11/17).

**The voice of one crying in the wilderness.** The back page is taken from a speech given by Archbishop Charles J. Chaput OFM Cap., at the 2016 Bishop's Symposium at the University of Notre Dame on October 19, 2016, titled, "Remembering Who We Are And The Story We Belong To." The full speech is 7 pages and worth reading; it may be accessed online with a simple search using the information above.

**Safe Environment Training & fingerprinting** is required by the Diocese of Venice for all employees & volunteers who work with children and/or vulnerable adults. For more info, see [www.dioceseofvenice.org/safeenvironment](http://www.dioceseofvenice.org/safeenvironment). Report any abuse against minors to the Florida Department of Children and Families at 800-962-2873. To report abuse by Diocesan personnel or volunteers also notify the Diocesan Victims Asst. Coordinator, Susan Benton, at 941-416-6114. Contact the office for more information.

### **2024 Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule:**

#### ***In Sarasota, (frh)***

Carols: Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 11:00 pm; choir at 11:30 pm.

Midnight sung Mass: Wednesday, Dec. 25 at 12:00 am.

Dawn low Mass: Wednesday, Dec. 25 at 8:30 am.

Day low Mass: Wednesday, Dec. 25 at 10:30 am.

Octave Day: Wednesday, Jan. 1, 8:30 am, 10:30 am, & 6:30 pm.

#### ***In Ocala, (frv)***

Midnight Mass at 12:00 am

Dawn Mass at 1:00 pm & Day Mass at 1:30 pm; (Holy Communion distributed at the 1:30 pm Day Mass only)

Octave Day: no Mass

### **Dear Faithful of Christ the King,**

12/15/24

Thank you for your continued prayers & donations for the success of our building project, "**Do This in Memory of Me.**"

MEP (Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing) contractor finalizations continue.

Meanwhile, a video presentation is underway which will explain & promote the project. Thank you for your patience & God bless you.

Fr Hathaway