

He sent them cross, his vineyard

(adapted from St Alphonsus Liguori's sermon for Septuagesima Sunday)

The vines of the Lord are our souls, given us to be cultivated by good works, so that, one day, we may be admitted into eternal glory. Alas, many Christians live as to allow weeds (riches, cares, pleasures) to suffocate their vines. **Do they not believe in heaven & hell?** They believe, but do not reflect on them. Let us consider that saving our souls is our most important affair & if it is lost once, it is lost for ever.

Most people absorb themselves in worldly affairs. Compare the great pains they take to win a lawsuit, to obtain a desired employment, or to watch the KS Cheffs lose the Superbowl with the efforts they exert to save their souls. Again, many blush if accused of neglecting a dog in the rain; few are ashamed to neglect works of salvation.

God greatly values souls; he became incarnate & bore a cross so these not perish. Satan greatly values souls; he seeks continually to destroy them. Once, a prince asked pope Benedict XII for a favor. As he could not, in conscience, grant the request, he refused, saying, "Perhaps, if I had two souls, I could lose one to suit your fancy; but as I only have one, I dare not consent to lose it." We must do likewise.

Brethren, recall the words: "What does it profit a man, if he gain the whole world & suffer the loss of his soul?" (Mt 16:26) Again, one thing is necessary. (Lk 10:42) Riches are not necessary, nor honors or dignities; but it is necessary to save our souls. Unless heaven is gained, hell is obtained; there is no middle place. God did not create us for earth; he does not preserve us to amass money or to be perpetually amused. No, but he created & preserves us that we may acquire heaven.

Ask great men of this earth, princes & emperors who, during life abounded in riches, honors & pleasures but are now in hell, what remains of their former riches? They tearfully answer, "Nothing, nothing." And ask them what remains of past honors, pleasures & triumphs. They answer, howling, "Nothing, nothing."

We can die but once: if the soul be lost the first time, it is lost for ever. This truth St. Teresa often intimated to her nuns, saying: "One soul; one eternity." As if she said: "We have but one soul: if this be lost, all is lost."

The greatest torment of the damned is the gnawing thought: "my ruin belongs to me." "Destruction is thy own, O Israel; thy help is only from me." (Os 13:9) If someone loses a trifle by their own fault, his peace is disturbed at knowing the fault is his alone. What pain it will be that my loss of heaven is due only to me!

To end, let us, henceforth, be attentive to saving our souls. There is no question of losing earthly goods which we must one day relinquish, but there is the question of losing Paradise. With "fear & trembling" (Ph 2:12), let us labor to avoid dangerous occasions, resist temptations & frequent the sacraments. Without labor, we cannot obtain heaven which "the violent bear away." May Jesus & his blessed mother help us to save our souls. This is our most important affair. If we succeed, we shall be eternally happy; if we fail, we must be forever miserable.



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.

Septuagesima Sunday

February 16, 2025 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
1900 Meadowood Street
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.

1st Saturday Mass at 10:30 am.

Scan to give



Liturgical Calendar for the Upcoming Week

DATE	FEAST	CLASS/COLOR
Sun 02-16	Septuagesima Sunday	2/V
Mon 02-17	Feria	4/V
Tues 02-18	St Simeon, <i>Bishop & Martyr</i>	4/R
Wed 02-19	Votive Mass of St Joseph	3/W
Thu 02-20	Feria	4/V
Fri 02-21	Feria	4/V
Sat 02-22	Chair of St Peter	1/W
Sun 02-23	Sexagesima Sunday	2/V

Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week in Sarasota

Sun 02-16	(7 am) Aiden McDonald+ (8:30 am) Ted Cover+ (10:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (12:30 pm) Leo Labrecque	rb S Gordon rb M Priest rb Therese N
Mon 02-17	(12 noon) Sr M Gertrude, OCM	rb M&K Weber
Tues 02-18	(7 am) Mariah Funderburk & Carson Funderburk (9 am) Kathy Kirsch	rb J&M Funderburk rb anonymous
Wed 02-19	(7 am) Ronald Plagens (9 am) Craig & Jeanne Vaughn	rb T&M Van Gelderen rb J Vaughn
Thu 02-20	(7 pm) Donald Brooks+ (9 am) Samuel & Valerir Caggiula+	rb J E Fitzgerald rb M/M L LaBrecque
Fri 02-21	(9 am) Theresa Nethery+ (6:30 pm) R Matthew Burns+ (9 am) Larry, Dee Dee, & Rachel Sommers	rb A Beggy rb Burns family rb B&T Shehwen
Sat 02-22	(7 am) Faustina Carbone	rb M&L Carbone
Sun 02-23	(8:30 am) Karen Wilkenson (10:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (12:30 pm) In honor of Jesus' agony in the garden of Gethsemane	rb Steindorf family rb Maugeri family

Today's 10:30 am Mass: Entr: To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King, #856; Asperges, #567; Mass XI & Credo III, #776; Exit: Faith of Our Fathers, #928.

This week, Monday, Begin Novena to St Joseph for *Do This in Memory of Me* capital campaign, Vespers (4:30 pm), Adult Catechism (6-7 pm); **Tuesday,** Novena, Holy Face devotions (10:15 am), Archconfraternity of the Holy Face (6:30-7 pm); **Wednesday,** Novena, CtK Day at PP (9 am-5 pm); **Thursday,** Novena, staff meeting (3 pm), Vespers (4:30 pm), St Joseph Guild (6:30- 8:30 pm); **Friday,** Novena, Vespers (4:30 pm), Holy Hour (5:30 pm), Mass (6:30 pm); **Saturday,** Novena, potluck & Rosary (10 am), Vespers (4:30 pm).

Today, Septuagesima Sunday, the canticle of the Lord "Alleluia" ceases to be said.

Last Sunday's Collection: cash \$4,355.05; on-line \$1,829.00.

Do This in Memory of Me: cash \$2,344.00; online \$3,406.23.

Total souls: 504; 7 am-67; 8:30 am-160; 10:30 am-165; 12:30 pm-112; **Ocala**-283.

Please pray for: Ron Pekarski Jr., (2/16); Nick Byrne (2/9); Markus Dixon, McNamara family, Rosemarie Carter (2/2); Lora Williamson (1/26); Cynthia Flamminio, Garrison Rainwater, & Rick Miller (1/19).

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. 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.

Urgent! Ushers, money counters, & Parish Finance Council members who have not yet been fingerprinted and/or taken the online SET, please do so. Susan at the office can help you. Again, the diocese is particular about where you go to have your prints taken. And, again, CtK will reimburse you. Thank you for volunteering & for your patience!

Dear Faithful of Christ the King,

2/16/25

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

The survey sticks in the yard are meant to give you an idea on the size & location of the proposed church. The front of the church faces Meadowood St. Also, there are new Campaign Prayer to St Joseph cards which feature, on the back, aerial & front views of the church. Soon, there will be larger drawings of these in the vestibule along with a fund-raising thermometer featuring St Joseph & his sprouting staff.

Meanwhile, 180 neighbors (those living within 750 feet of our property), have received letters on our project, inviting them to a workshop on February 27, 2025.

Thank you for keeping this process in your prayers. We know the devil hates the Catholic Church and really hates the TLM. Then there is the required EPA study! If you see a gopher tortoise lumbering around, please take him home.

Finally, those who have orally communicated to me their pledge, but have not yet documented this with the office, please do so. (You may do this online through our website or speak with Missy directly.) These pledges on file are needed for our future planning as well as for the accuracy of our thermometer.

God bless you & thank you, St Joseph, for hearing us!

frh