

They among thorns are they who have heard, and, going their way, are choked

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

In today's parable, the seed is the divine word & the thorns are men's attachments to earthly riches & pleasures which hinder good fruit for both the future & present life.

Ah! The misery of sinners whose sins warrant eternal death and unhappiness now. Let us consider the unhappy life of sinners & the happy life of those who love God.

The devil deceives sinners; he makes them imagine, by indulging their sensual appetites, they shall be happy & enjoy peace. But there is no peace for those who offend God, "There is no peace to the wicked, says the Lord." (Is 48:22) Again, "Destruction & unhappiness is theirs; and peace they have not known." (Ps 13:3)

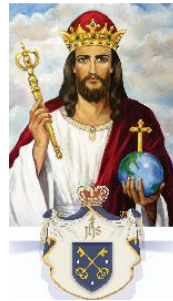
Brute animals, created for this world, enjoy peace in sensual delights. Give a dog a bone, and he is perfectly content. So, an ox with hay, and he wants nothing more. But man, who has been created for God, to love him & be united to him, can be made happy only by God, and not by the world, though it shower him with all its goods. What goods? Pleasures of sense, riches, & honors, "All that is in the world is the concupiscence of the flesh (sensual delights), the concupiscence of the eyes (riches) and the pride of life (earthly honors)." (1 Jn 2:16)

Again, the worldly sinner suffers remorse of conscience, the cruel worm that gnaws incessantly and never dies, "Their worm shall not die." (Is 66:24) If such attend a festival, comedy, or banquet, his conscience continually reproaches him, saying, "Unhappy man! you have lost God; if you were now to die, what should become of you?" This torture, even in the present life, is so great that, to free themselves from it, some persons have put an end to their lives as did Judas.

Ah! How different the godly sinner wherein "Justice & peace have kissed." (Ps 84:11) Peace resides in every soul in which justice dwells. Hence David said, "Delight in the Lord, and he will give thee the requests of thy heart." (Ps 36:4) Again, worldlings delight in earthly things, but as these can never make them truly happy so they are never content. Should they "Delight in the Lord," meaning give up creatures, seek delight in God, God will satisfy all cravings of their hearts.

This happened to St. Augustine, who once sought happiness in creatures, but never had peace. When he renounced them, however, and gave to God the affections of his heart, he exclaimed, "All things are hard, O Lord, and thou alone our repose."

To end, we must persuade ourselves that God alone truly satisfies. Worldlings do not wish to be convinced of this for fear of becoming bitter & discontented. With the Royal Prophet, I tell them, "Taste & see that the Lord is sweet." (Ps. 33:9) Why, sinners, will you despise & regard as miserable that life which you have not yet tried? "Taste & see." Try it: hear Mass every day; practice mental prayer; visit the most holy sacrament; go to communion at least once a week; fly from evil conversations; walk always with God; and you shall see that, by such a life, you will enjoy that sweetness & peace which the world, with all its delights, has not hitherto been able to give you.



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.

Sexagesima Sunday

February 23, 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

christthekingsarasota.org

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 02-23	Sexagesima Sunday	2/V
Mon 02-24	St Matthias, <i>Apostle</i>	2/R
Tues 02-25	Feria	4/V
Wed 02-26	Votive Mass of St Joseph	4/W
Thu 02-27	St Gabriel of O.L. of Sorrows, <i>Confessor</i>	3/W
Fri 02-28	Feria	4/V
Sat 03-01	Immaculate Heart of Mary	3/W
Sun 03-02	Quinquagesima Sunday	2/V

Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week in Sarasota

Sun 02-23	(7 am) Faustina Carbone (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 M&L Carbone rb Steindorf family rb Maugeri family
Mon 02-24	(12 noon) Cerie Wade	rb Beggy family
Tues 02-25	(7 am) Paul Gabor+ (9 am) Leonard West+	rb Dr J Bovienzo rb M/M L LaBrecque
Wed 02-26	(7 am) Stanislaw Bednarz+ (9 am) Joseph Quoc Thu Pham (6:30) <i>Do This in Memory of Me</i> capital campaign	rb W Bednarz rb N Truong
Thu 02-27	(7 am) FssP Confraternity intentions (9 am) Stacey & Mark Byrne	rb B&T Shehwen rb C&B Cunningham
Fri 02-28	(9 am) Susan Hemeryck (6:30 pm) Witold Guzewicz+	rb T&M Van Gelderen rb Gier family
Sat 03-01	(7 am) <i>Do This in Memory of Me</i> capital campaign (9 am) Gerry Deitche	rb M Pruitt
Sun 03-02	(7 am) Margaret & Carl Weber++ (8:30 am) Laurie Hegler (10:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (12:30 pm) Thomas J.D. Grube	rb M&K Weber rb J Simmons rb Grube family

Today's 10:30 am Mass: Entr: Soul of My Savior, #938; Asperges, #567; Mass VIII, #727 & Credo III, #776; Exit: Jesus My Lord, My God, My All, #899.

Last Sunday's Collection: cash \$5,426.50; on-line \$1,979.00.

Do This in Memory of Me: cash \$4,816.00; online \$5,389.00.

Total souls: 554: 7 am-63; 8:30 am-162; 10:30 am-215; 12:30 pm-114; *Ocala*-308.

Your 2024 Blessed Palms may be placed in the vestibule (in the marked tub). These will be used for Ash Wednesday 2025.

Today, begins St Theresa Devotions Guild's Holy Face Novena; on March 4th, after devotions there is a Consecration with a reception immediately afterwards. See prayers at:

<https://theholysface.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/holy-face-9day-novena.pdf>

This week, Monday, Novena to St Joseph for our ***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), book club (6:30-8 pm); **Wednesday,** Votive Mass of St Joseph for our capital campaign (6:30 pm); **Thursday,** staff meeting (3 pm), Vespers (4:30 pm), Youth catechism (5-6 pm); **Friday,** Vespers (4:30 pm), Holy Hour (5:30 pm), Mass (6:30 pm); 1st **Saturday,** Mass & devotions (9 am), Vespers (4:30 pm).

Please pray for: Carol LaBrecque (2/23); 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).

Thank you ushers, money counters, & Parish Finance Council members who have been fingerprinted & taken the online SET. 25 years off purgatory to you! For the others, 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!

The 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign (March 5th - April 13th) kicks-off at CPCI (1419 7th St.) on March 3rd from 4:30 - 5:45pm with Shawn Carney (CEO of 40 Days for Life) speaking. Christ the King is committed to praying outside of Planned Parenthood from 7am - 7pm on March 19th. Please sign up in the vestibule for an hour of prayer to end abortion. You can also sign up online for any hour during the 40-day campaign at 40daysforlife.com/en/local-campaigns/sarasota.

Many people ask, "What is the customary stipend in gratitude for the Sacraments? Stipends are not required to receive any Sacrament. If one would like to give a gift, here are some customary offerings: Mass - \$10; Requiem Mass - \$80-100; Marriage - \$80-100; Baptism - \$25-50. Outside the normal Mass schedule, servers at these functions, - \$15-25. Other Sacraments, no stipend applies. **Nota bene,** except for Mass stipends, unless otherwise specified, all stipends go to the parish. Due to high demand, no more than two Mass intentions per month, please.

Dear Faithful of Christ the King,

2/23/25

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

The town hall meets this Thursday. Pray all goes well.

Thank you for documenting your pledges through the office or online. These are needed for our future planning & for the accuracy of our coming thermometer.

We are still waiting for new hard numbers from our EMPs.

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