



CHRIST THE KING

Pastor, Rev. Matthew Schiffelbein † Associate Pastor, Rev. Carter Zielinski
5973 SW 25th Street • Topeka, KS 66614-1934 • PHONE: 785-273-0710 • www.cktopeka.org

PUBLIC MASS SCHEDULE

NOTE: Please sign up for weekend
Mass due to limited seating
options. More information online:
www.cktopeka.org

Monday - Saturday
8:00am

Sunday
7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am

Saturday
4:30pm

FACEBOOK LIVE

Monday - Saturday
7:35am Rosary
8:00am Mass

Sunday
9:30am

RECONCILIATION

Confessions Inside the Church

Wednesday
6:00pm – no one is in line

Saturday
3:00pm – 4:00pm
before Mass

FORMED.ORG

for Catholic Faith learning
resources. Register for free as
a member of
"Christ the King Topeka"

CTKTOPEKA.ORG

for the most up-to-date
information regarding our parish.

FOREVER
I WILL SING YOUR
goodness.
PSALM 89



SUNDAY DECEMBER 20, 2020

FOUR ESSENTIAL HABITS FOR INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP:

† PRAYER † LEARNING † GENEROSITY † SHARING THE FAITH

CTK CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 24TH **DECEMBER 25TH**
 4:00pm* 8:00pm 9:00am
 6:00pm* 10:00pm

Facebook Live at 9am Mass only, view online at [facebook.com/ctktopeka](https://www.facebook.com/ctktopeka)

*A second simultaneous Mass will be provided in the gym at these Masses if additional seating is needed.

For all who are able to attend Christmas Mass, please sign up the week prior on our website at www.ctktopeka.org. Masks and social distancing required at all times.

If you are unable to attend Mass this year, know that you are in our hearts and we are thinking of you.



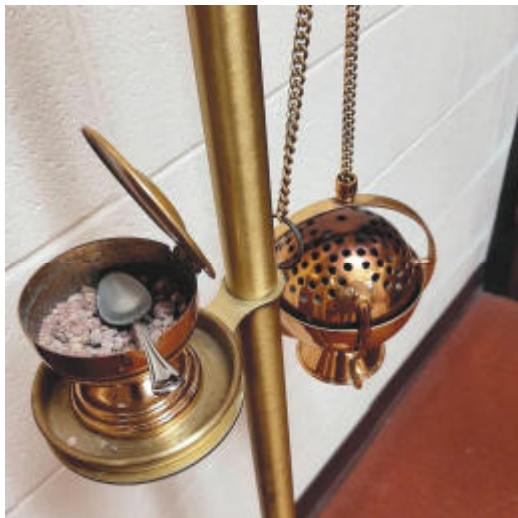
“Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!” – Luke 1:28

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal Steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God’s call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ’s light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

Receipts for December 1, 2020 to December 8, 2020
 Collection Report for fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

	Weekly Total	FY To Date
Envelope (white)	\$40,160.44	\$898,891.42
Plate (non-envelope)	\$483.00	\$11,184.16
Total Collections	\$40,643.44	\$910,075.58
Budgeted Collections	\$32,750.00	\$960,500.00
Income Over/(Under) Budget	\$7,893.44	(\$50,424.42)

Important Note: Incense will be used only at our 8pm and 10pm Christmas Masses



Prayer REQUESTS

There is power in prayer

Christ the King Prayer Ministry is comprised of over 100 of your fellow parishioners, who are ready to respond to the prayerful needs of the parish. Let us pray for your loved one, friend, relative or anyone in need of prayers! We are here for you.

If you have someone needing prayers, contact Annie Lackey by phone at 554-7875 or by email lackeyannie12@gmail.com. If you have questions, you may also contact the church office at 273-0710.

A weekly recap of the prayer needs of the parish is compiled and emailed out to the Prayer Warriors each Thursday evening.

*“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.”
 1 Thessalonians 5:11*



Christmas: It's Okay to be Imperfect

2020 has certainly been an extraordinary year. It has been abundantly clear how little we can actually control in our lives and how imperfect life in a fallen world can be. This, of course, has always been the case. It is just so obvious this year.

We have a tendency to idealize Christmas and want our celebrations to live up to this ideal of "perfection." This creates a lot of stress in our lives. With the limitations COVID-19 has brought with it, Christmas will likely be even more imperfect than usual. I have good news: It's okay to be imperfect.

The very first Christmas was far from perfect. It started with a pregnancy that most people probably didn't believe was brought about by the Holy Spirit. It continued with a 90-mile journey to Bethlehem while Mary was very pregnant. The Baby Jesus was laid in a feeding trough because there was nothing else available to the Holy Family. There was a flight during the night to Egypt to save the child's life. And the list of imperfections could go on and on.

Yet, right here in the midst of this mess God was working out His plan of salvation. He was not afraid to enter into the imperfection. So, let's embrace the imperfection and discover Jesus with us right in the middle of it all.

Until next time, God bless you,
Fr. Matthew



December 21 8:00 am	Late Advent Weekday † Jack Parry
December 22 8:00 am	Late Advent Weekday † Whittle Family
December 23 8:00 am	Late Advent Weekday † Rudy Boranyak
December 24 4:00 pm (Church) 4:00 pm (Gym) 6:00 pm (Church) 6:00 pm (Gym) 8:00 pm 10:00 pm	Late Advent Weekday † Joyce Poppelreiter † CTK Parishioners † Michael Keffer † Brynlee Hastings † Larry John Callahan Jr. † Barbara Krainbill
December 25 9:00 am	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) † Wanda Ann Forese
December 26 4:30 pm	Vigil—the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph † Jim Gerstner
December 27 7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph † Louis Kongs † John Sr. & Mildred Lachowsky † Gerald Laue

Parish Office Contacts: 785-273-0710

Please call the office (before traveling to the church) to ensure that staff will be available to meet your needs.

- Fr. Matthew Schiffelbein, Pastor.....frmatthew@ctktopeka.org
- Fr. Carter Zielinski, Associate Pastor.....frzielinski@ctktopeka.org
- Reverend Deacon John Langer.....jlanger@archkck.org
- Parish Office.....parishoffice@ctktopeka.org
- Connie Fischer, Director of Finance & Operations.....
.....cfischer@ctktopeka.org
- Chris Henderson, Parish Life Director.....chenderson@ctktopeka.org
- Tom Flynn, Building Manager.....tflynn@ctktopeka.org
- Michael Podrebarac, Director of Liturgy, Arts & Environment.....
.....mpodrebarac@ctktopeka.org
- Deb Frost, Religious Education.....dfrost@ctktopeka.org
- Kristen Kogl, Communications/Marketing Specialist.kkogl@ctktopeka.org
- FIRE Youth Group.....fire@ctktopeka.org
- Maxine Wiechert, Adoration Coordinator.....785-478-3849

School: 785-272-2220

Relynn Reynoso, Principal.....reynosor@ctktopeka.edu.k12.net

Early Education Center: 785-272-2999

Ashley Maxwell, Director.....ctkeec@gmail.com

Parish Council:

Tony Wolf, Chair.....tljwolf@gmail.com

Finance Council:

Cameron Werth Chair.....camwerth@yahoo.com

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 20, 2020

Blessing of a Christmas Tree

Christmas is almost here! Have you blessed your Christmas tree yet?

According to custom, the Christmas tree is set up just before Christmas and may remain in place until the Solemnity of Epiphany. The lights of the tree are illuminated after the prayer of blessing.

In the home the Christmas tree may be blessed by a parent or another family member, in connection with the evening meal on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time on Christmas Day.

When all have gathered, a suitable song may be sung.

The leader makes the sign of the cross, and all reply "Amen."

The leader may greet those present in the following words:

Let us glorify Christ our light, who brings salvation and peace into our midst, now and forever.

R/. Amen.

In the following or similar words, the leader prepares those present for the blessing:

My brothers and sisters, amidst signs and wonders Christ Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea: his birth brings joy to our hearts and enlightenment to our minds. With this tree, decorated and adorned, may we welcome Christ among us; may its lights guide us to the perfect light.

"Mary said,
"Behold, I am
the handmaid of
the Lord. May
it be done to
me according to
your word."

—LK 1-38



One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Titus 3:4 (lines 4-7) or Ezekiel 17:22 (lines 22-24 4; I will plant a tender shoot on the mountain heights of Israel.)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

The intercessions are then said. The leader says:

Let us ask God to send his blessing upon us and upon this

sign of our faith in the Lord.

R/. Lord, give light to our hearts.

That this tree of lights may remind us of the tree of glory on

which Christ accomplished our salvation, let us pray to the

Lord. R/.



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

That the joy of Christmas may always be in our homes, let

us pray to the Lord. *R/.*

That the peace of Christ may dwell in our hearts and in the

world, let us pray to the Lord. *R/.*

After the intercessions the leader invites all present to say the Lord's Prayer.

The leader says the prayer with hands joined:

Lord our God,

we praise you for the light of creation:

the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night.

We praise you for the light of Israel:

the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures.

We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son:

he is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace,

who fills us with the wonder of your love.

Lord God,

let your blessing come upon us

as we illumine this tree.

May the light and cheer it gives

be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.

May all who delight in this tree

come to the knowledge and joy of salvation.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen.

The lights of the tree are then illuminated.

The leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying:

May the God of glory fill our hearts with peace and joy, now

and forever.

R/. Amen.

The blessing concludes with a verse from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel":

O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;

disperse the gloomy clouds of night

and death's dark shadow put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

shall come to thee, O Israel.

—From *Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers*

Mary, Undoer of Knots

Novena Prayer

I invite you to join me in praying this novena from December 24-January 1, asking Mary to undo the knots that keep each of us, our families, and our parish from being all Jesus desires us to be
—Fr. Matthew

Virgin Mary, Mother of fair love, Mother who never refuses to come to the aid of a child in need, Mother whose hands never cease to serve your beloved children because they are moved by the divine love and immense mercy that exists in your heart, cast your compassionate eyes upon us and see the snarl of knots that exists in our lives. You know very well how desperate we are, our pain, and how we are bound by these knots. Mary, Mother to whom God entrusted the undoing of the knots in the lives of his children, we entrust into your hands the ribbons of our lives. No one, not even the Evil One himself, can take them away from your precious care. In your hands there is no knot that cannot be undone. Powerful Mother, by your grace and intercessory power with Your Son and Our Liberator, Jesus, take into your hands today the knots which keep us and our parish from being all that Jesus desires us to be.

We beg you to undo them for the glory of God, once for all. You are our hope. O Our Lady, you are the only consolation God gives us, the fortification of our feeble strength, the enrichment of our destitution, and, with Christ, the freedom from our chains. Hear our plea. Keep us, guide us, protect us, o safe refuge!

Mary, Undoer of Knots, pray for us. Amen.



Volunteer as an Usher/Greeter

If you would like to volunteer as an usher at Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Masses to help seat guests and collect offerings, please call the church office at 785-273-0710.

If you have never been a greeter/usher before, that's okay! We would love to have some new volunteers to help this year and will provide instructions when you show up 30 minutes before the Christmas Mass that you plan to help volunteer.



Christmas Flower Donations

Thank you to all parishioners for donating money for Christmas Flowers using the Christmas flower envelope in your packet. You can include "In Memory Of..." names of loved ones to be remembered with these flower offerings.

There will be a special Mass for the intentions of the names included of loved ones included with flowers at 11:30am on January 10, 2021, at Christ the King Catholic Church.



Christ the King School Virtual Nativity Play

Watch a virtual nativity play performed by Mrs. Winkler's class by visiting our Facebook page.

You can view the video here:
www.facebook.com/1648867615387614/videos/420368252329168



Embracing Citizenship

At Christ the King School, we embrace our citizenship of being one big family in Christ, and are grateful for the fellowship we get to share as we grow and learn together as His disciples.

We take time to cultivate our relationship with Jesus, and work together to create an environment where everyone can reach their fullest potential in their academic and spiritual lives as part of our school.

Christ the King School is proud to be a school that meets or exceeds the Kansas standard of excellence in reading, math, and writing each year.



Christ the King Early Education Center

Building Gingerbread Houses

Our 2 year old classes had fun building gingerbread houses as a yummy Christmas activity and treat. Their creations turned out wonderful!

Christ the King Early Education Center wishes all parishioners and families a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year.



NEW! Drinking Fountains with Water Bottle Fillers

Thanks to a generous school family, Christ the King Catholic School was able to replace all of its drinking fountains with brand new ones that include safe and environmentally-friendly water bottle fillers for our staff and students.

Due to Covid-19 concerns, the students are not allowed to drink from the fountains, so the bottle fillers were greatly needed. Some of the previous fountains were very old which required the plumbing to be reworked to fit the alignment of the new equipment and ADA standards.



Inspirational framed posters will soon be installed at each location, thanks to a generous parishioner.

Caring for the Community

Our 8th grade religious education class selected Advent Service Activities to be completed as a class.

This year they selected three activities:

- making blankets for Project Linus, an organization that provides hand made blankets to children in need
- the blanket scraps were also used to make dog toys to be donated to Helping Hands Humane Society
- the class drafted a special Christmas message of support and prayers that will be sent (in Christmas cards) to more than 600 first responders



Pave the Future



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Keep in touch with us via email and text!

Mass times,
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Text the word **ctktopeka** to **84576** or visit <https://christtheking44.flocknote.com/> to sign up for FlockNote.

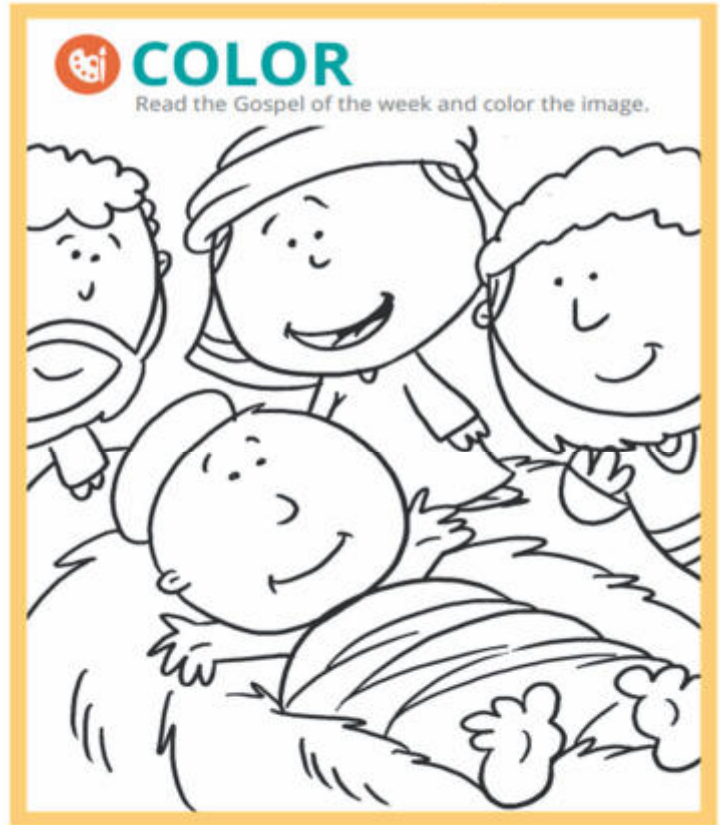
A weekly email with news & upcoming events is sent every Wednesday at noon.

Texts are also sent each Wednesday at noon with mass signup link if opt-in.

ACTIVITY CORNER

PUZZLE

Circle the picture that is facing the wrong way. Then color in all the pictures.



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.

Christmas Morning • Luke 2:15-20

CATHOLIC HUMOR

CHRISTMAS



Learn More About the Catholic Faith

RITE OF CATHOLIC INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Join us at anytime. Classes are held each Sunday in the John XXIII room from 10:00 am-11:15 am.

For more info, email Angela Herman at: hermana@hayden catholic.net.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AGES K-8

Choose between coming to class Wednesday nights at 6:30pm, or you can be a part of our guided Home School Program, Alive in Christ.

Contact Religious Education Director, Deb Frost, at dfrost@ctktopeka.org or 785-273-0710 x116.

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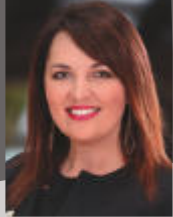
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