

**Lord, it is good for us to be here**

(adapted from St Alphonsus Liguori's sermon for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent)

(Numbering & pronouns correspond to the original.)

**Today**, the Lord is transfigured before his disciples to excite them to labor for the divine honor. Ravished with joy & delight, Peter exclaims, "Lord, it is good for us to be here." Lord, let us remain for the sight of thy beauty consoles us more than all the delights of the earth.

**Brethren**, let us labor these remaining days of our lives to gain heaven. Heaven is so great a good, that, to purchase it for us, Jesus Christ sacrificed himself on the cross. The greatest pain of the damned is knowing they lost heaven by their own fault. So great the delights & joys of Paradise they can only be truly known by those blessed souls that enjoy them. But let us, with the aid of the holy Scripture, explain the little that can be said of them here below.

1. No man on earth can comprehend the infinite blessings prepared for those who love God: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man, to know what things God has prepared for them that love him." (1 Cor 2:9) In this life, we know only pleasures which come through the senses. Perhaps we imagine the beauty of heaven as a wide plain covered with the verdure of spring, interspersed with trees in full bloom; melodious sounding birds; a garden full of tasty fruits & fragrant flowers, having fountains in continual play. "Oh! what a Paradise! But how greater its true beauty! Speaking of Paradise, St. Bernard says: "O man, if you wish to understand the blessings of heaven, know that in that happy country there is nothing which can be disagreeable, and everything that you can desire." On earth there are things agreeable to the senses, but many more which only torment us. Light & darkness, cold & heat; sickness, persecutions, inconveniences of poverty & Florida traffic; interior troubles, fears, temptations of the devil, doubts of conscience, and the uncertainty of eternal salvation.

2. But, after entering into Paradise, the blest shall have no more sorrows: "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes" and death shall be no more, nor mourning, nor crying, nor sorrow, shall be any more, for the former things are passed away. And he that sat on the throne, said: "Behold, I make all things new." (Apoc 21:4) In Paradise, death & fear nor any inconvenience exist.

4. The chief delight in heaven is seeing & loving God face to face: "I am thy reward exceeding great." (Gn 15:1) St. Augustine says, should God to show his face to the damned, "Hell would be instantly changed into a Paradise of delights." He adds, should a departed soul have the choice of seeing God & suffering the pains of hell, or of being freed from these pains & deprived of seeing of God, "she would prefer to see God, and to endure these torments."

9. Justly, then, as St. Augustine says, to gain the eternal glory of Paradise, "we should cheerfully embrace eternal labor." Again, David wrote, "For nothing shalt thou save them." (Ps 105:8) The saints did but little to acquire Heaven. So many kings, who left thrones for cloisters; so many holy anchorites who confined themselves in caves; so many martyrs, who cheerfully went to torments of the rack & red-hot plates, have all but done little. "The sufferings of this life are not worthy to be compared to the glory to come." (Rm 8:1) To gain heaven, how cheap the cost!

10. Let us, then, brethren, courageously resolve to bear patiently all our sufferings forthcoming in our lives. Let us rejoice in them; for all these pains, sorrows, and persecutions shall, if we are saved, be to us a source of never-ending joys & delights: "Your sorrows shall be turned into joy." (John 16:2) When the cross weighs upon us, let us raise our eyes to heaven, and console ourselves with the hope of Paradise. At the end of her life, St. Mary of Egypt was asked, by the Abbot St. Zozimus, how she had been able to live for forty-seven years in the desert where he found her dying. She answered, "With the hope of Paradise." If we be animated with the same hope, we shall not feel the tribulations of this life. Have courage! Let us love God and labor for heaven. There the saints expect us, Mary expects us, Jesus Christ expects us; he holds in his hand a crown to make each of us a king in that eternal kingdom.



**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.

**Second Sunday of Lent**

**March 8, 2020**

Pastor: Fr. Stephane Dupre, FSSP

Assistant: Fr. Chris Hathaway, FSSP

Fr.Hathaway@Christthekingsarasota.org

Secretary: Susan Hemeryck

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

**Christ the King Catholic Church**

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**Mass and Confession Schedule @ Sarasota**

**Sunday** ~ 8:30 am (Confessions begin at 7:45 am)  
~ 10:30 am (Confessions begin at 9:45 am)

**Monday** ~ 12 noon

**Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday** ~ 7:00 am & 9:00 am

**Friday** ~ 9:00 am & 6:30 pm followed by Holy Hour

**Saturday** ~ 9:00 am

(Confessions ~ 30 minutes before weekday Mass & after, if needed.)

**Mass and Confession Schedule @ Queen of Peace Catholic Church**

6455 SW State Road 200

Ocala, FL 34476

**Sunday** ~ 4:30 pm (Confessions begin at 3:30 pm)

**Monday** ~ 7:00 am (Confessions begin at 6:30 am)

**First Saturday** ~10:30 am (Confessions begin at 10:00 am)

**Today's Mass: Sunday 3/8 (2nd Sunday of Lent)**

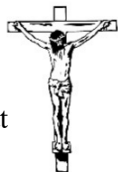
Missa XVII (SEC 762) / Credo I (SEC 768)

Entr: *Parce Domine* SEC 953

Hymn: *Ave Regina Caelorum* SEC 951

## Liturgical Calendar for the Upcoming Week

DATE	FEAST	CLASS/COLOR	COMMEMORATION
Sun 03-08	Second Sunday of Lent	2/V	
Mon 03-09	Feria of Lent	3/V	St Frances of Rome
Tues 03-10	Feria of Lent	3/V	Forty Holy Martyrs
Wed 03-11	Feria of Lent	3/V	
Thu 03-12	Feria of Lent	3/V	St Gregory the Great
Fri 03-13	Feria of Lent	3/V	
Sat 03-14	Feria of Lent	3/V	
Sun 03-15	Third Sunday of Lent	2/V	



### Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week in Sarasota

Sun 03-08	(8:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (10:30 am) Fr Michael Irwin, FssP+	rb J & F Kitko
Mon 03-09	(12 noon) Hank & Helen Brower++	rb T & A Wade
Tues 03-10	(7 am) Poor Souls (9 am) James Soteris+	rb L de Saizieu rb M & K Weber
Wed 03-11	(7 am) Rita Wallace+ (9 am) Fr Fausto	rb Lawton family rb M Jaquith
Thu 03-12	(7 am) John & Audrey McGuckin (9 am) Holy Souls in Purgatory	rb A Reners rb anon
Fri 03-13	(9 am) Ingeborg M Shenko (6:30 pm) Maria & Elizabeth Nazarian	rb S Shenko rb A Nazarian
Sat 03-14	(9 am) Joseph & Mary Manganello++	rb Shehwen family
Sun 03-15	(8:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (10:30 am) John Wisniewski+	rb B & B Wis

**Today is Pancake Sunday.** Donations to support All Faiths Food Bank. Thank you for your donations.

**This week,** Tuesday, Adult Catechism at 6:00 pm, class 11 of 16; Wednesday, Choir Rehearsal at 7 pm; Thursday, Youth Catechism from 4:30-5:30 pm, both classes; Friday, 6:30 pm evening Mass followed by Stations of the Cross.

**Collection Team this week:** Team Steindorf.

**From the Ordo:** “On Sundays and ferial days during the entire season of Lent, the altar is not ornamented with flowers, and the organ is silent except to sustain the choir. On the Fourth Sunday of Lent (*Laetare Sunday*), violet vestments may be worn but rose vestments are preferred. Organ and flowers are permitted.”

**Corrections to the March Calendar:** St Therese Guild meets only on Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> and KoC meets on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> not the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

“**End of Life Decisions a Catholic Perspective**” – talk on March 16 at St Charles Borromeo Parish Center, 2500 Easy Street, Port Charlotte, 9:30 to 11 am by Deacon Alfred Mauriello II, MD. Register at 941-374-1068. See outside posting for more.

**In your charity,** please pray for Maureen & Bob McNamara (3/8), Bill & Barbara Wis (3/8), Sarah Sturm (2/23), Claire Verdini (2/21), Pat Wermuth (2/9). (Prayer requests posted for a month; renewable.)

**Parishioner assistance needed** for our annual March 19<sup>th</sup> St. Joseph's Altar Devotion. Contact: Joan Mikluscak at 941-218-7943 (cell) or [joanpatmik@gmail.com](mailto:joanpatmik@gmail.com)

**Parce Domine,** parce populo tuo, ne in aeternum irascaris nobis. (Spare O Lord, spare thy people, do not be angry with us forever.) Frs daily Mass Lenten hymn.

Some books from the library at Christ the King are long overdue their return date. If you possess such a book, please return it or, if you are still reading it, sign it out again. Thank you.

#### Christ the King at Sarasota contact

Music Director ~ Leo Labrecque at 941-266-0254; [labrec1@verizon.net](mailto:labrec1@verizon.net)  
LiveMass ~ Dee Dee Sommers at 941-870-4800; [livemass\\_support@icloud.com](mailto:livemass_support@icloud.com)  
KoC, St. Pius V Council ~ **3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays**; call Dave at 941-405-9625.  
Catechism ~ Melissa Funderburk at 316-258-4319; [melfunderburk@gmail.com](mailto:melfunderburk@gmail.com)  
Youth Group ~ Delphine Gabriel; [delphine8005@gmail.com](mailto:delphine8005@gmail.com)  
St. Therese Devotions Guild ~ **2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays**; call Denise at 941-799-0444

#### Christ the King at Ocala contact

General information ~ Joe Tropeano at 352-274-8606; [joetrop@aol.com](mailto:joetrop@aol.com)  
Mass intentions ~ Robin Tropeano at 352-274-8606

#### **A thought to bring with you to Adoration:**

*The thing that confuses us so much is that we are constantly thinking about ourselves: What am I going to do for the world? What am I going to do for my neighbor? You've got the wrong question.*

*The question is: What is God going to do through you? That's the question. How much are you going to let Him do? When you begin to ask the right questions you will get the right answers. You are nothing; and until you come to that realization, you will stumble and crawl through all of life. There is absolute freedom in the thought that you are nothing. Only then are you free to be used by God for His ends, the ends for which you have been created. ~ Mother Angelica*

#### **Mass attendance & collection for last Sunday**

Sarasota: 8:30 am ~ 148 souls & 10:30 am ~ 151 souls; offertory \$ 4014.00  
Ocala attendance ~331 souls.