

God, be merciful to me a sinner

(adapted from St Alphonsus Liguori's sermon for 10th Sunday after Pentecost)

Two men enter the temple. The Pharisee prays, *I thank thee, O Lord, that I am not as the rest of men, sinners*; the Publican prays, "O God, be merciful to me, a sinner." The Publican went home justified but the Pharisee left guilty. Beloved brethren, to be saved, we must be humble & pray right. Today, I address the efficacy of prayer & the necessity of prayer.

On the efficacy of prayer

1. To see the power of prayer, we need only consider the great promises of God to them who pray: "Call upon me, and I will deliver thee." (Ps 91:15); "Cry to me, and I will hear thee." (Jer 33:3); "You shall ask whatever you will, and it shall be done unto you." (John 15:7) There are a thousand similar passages in the Old and New Testaments. As God is goodness itself, so he greatly desires to share his goodness with us. St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi used to say, that when a soul prays to God for any grace, he feels obligated to her, and thanks her; because, by prayer, the soul opens to him a way of satisfying his desire to impart his graces. Again, Jesus Christ himself urges us: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you." (Mt 7:7). St. Augustine says by such promises, God binds himself to man as a debtor: "By his promises he has made himself a debtor." Again, if the Lord did not wish to bestow his graces upon us, he would not have exhorted us to pray so much.

On the necessity of prayer

4. God is on man's side: "God wills all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth." (1 Tim 2:4); he wills hell for no one: "The Lord deals patiently for your sake, not willing that any soul should perish, but that all should return to penance." (1 Pt 3:9) Again, as God wishes us to observe his commands, so he is eager to help us that we may fulfil them. Again, to provide every man with the means necessary for his salvation, provided on his part he puts no obstacle to it, belongs to Divine Providence. But, while God imparts graces of conversion without man asking, all other graces, and particularly that of perseverance, are granted only to them that ask: "It is evident that God gives some graces, such as the beginning of faith, without prayer and that he has prepared other graces, such as perseverance to the end only for those who pray." (St Augustine)

5. St. Basil, St. John Chrysostom, St. Augustine, St. Clement of Alexandria, and others, teach that adults need to pray to be saved. This doctrine may be inferred from Scripture: "We ought always to pray." (Lk 18:1); "Ask, and you shall receive." (Jn 16:24); "Pray without ceasing." (1 Thess 5:17) There is an added gravity to pray when a man is in the state of sin, in great danger of falling into sin, and in danger of death. Otherwise, the theologians teach that, at other times, he who neglects prayer for a month, or at most for two months, commits a mortal sin; because, without prayer, we cannot receive the helps necessary to observe the law of God. St. Chrysostom teaches that as water is necessary to prevent trees from withering, so prayer is necessary to save us from perdition.

8. If we wish to live well & save our soul, we must learn to pray well: **First**, by removing sin e.g., If a person hates another, God does not hear his prayer: "When you multiply prayer, I will not hear; for your hands are full of blood." (Is 1:15); and St. Chrysostom says, that he who prays while he cherishes a sinful affection, does not pray, but mocks God. **Second**, by praying with attention. Some multiply Our Fathers while thinking of other things; these speak, but do not pray: "With their lips they glorify me, but their hearts are far from me." (Is 29:13) **Third**, by removing hindrances: "Let nothing hinder thee from praying always." (Eccl. 28:22) He who is doing a thousand affairs unprofitable to the soul, puts a cloud before his prayers: "Thou has set a cloud before thee, so that thy prayer cannot pass." (Lamen 3:44) **Last**, let us invoke God's mother: "Let us ask grace through Mary; for she is a mother, and her prayer cannot be fruitless." (St Bernard); "Many things are asked of God and are not obtained: what is asked of Mary is obtained, not because she is more powerful, but because God decreed to honor her so, that men may know that she can obtain all things from God." (St Anselm)



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.

10th Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2020

Pastor: Fr. Chris Hathaway, FSSP
fr.hathaway@christthekingsarasota.org

Assistant: Fr. Chris Mahowald, FSSP
cmahowaldfssp@gmail.com

Secretary: Susan Hemeryck
office@christthekingsarasota.org

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

Christ the King Catholic Church.

1900 Meadowood Street
Sarasota, FL 34231

Office: 941-924-2777

www.christthekingsarasota.org

Sacramental Emergency: 941-400-5415

CTK remains open for LIMITED Mass attendance:

Please call the office to arrange your Sunday Mass attendance;
registered parishioners will have preference over others. No
appointments are needed for daily Mass.

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;
Saturday at 9:00 am.

The Sunday Mass Schedule is (in Sarasota): 7:00 am; 8:30 am; 10:30 am;
and 12 noon. [Call the office!] **In Ocala,** Mass is 4:30 pm. (No need to
call.)

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

Please only use the bathrooms in the vestibule.


Finally, please leave the church & grounds after your thanksgiving;
socializing after Mass is not permitted.

The Sunday obligation is dispensed until Tuesday, September 1, 2020.

Liturgical Calendar for the Upcoming Week

DATE	FEAST	CLASS/COLOR	COMMEMORATION
Sun 08-09	10 th Sunday after Pentecost	2/G	
Mon 08-10	St Lawrence	2/R	
Tues 08-11	Feria	4/G	Ss Tiburtius & Susanna
Wed 08-12	St Clare	3/W	
Thu 08-13	St Hippolytus & Cassian	4/G	
Fri 08-14	Vigil of the Assumption	2/V	
Sat 08-15	Assumption of the BVM	1/W	
Sun 08-16	11 th Sunday after Pentecost	2/G	

Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week in Sarasota

Sun 08-09	(7 am) priest's intention (8:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (10:30 am) Agathe de la Rousserie		rb L de Saizieu
Mon 08-10	(12 noon) Deceased family members		rb K & K Moore
Tues 08-11	(7 am) Holy Souls in Purgatory (9 am) Thomas Rudnick+		rb C DiGiacinto & G Hanick rb M/M L Truong rb D Priest
Wed 08-12	(7 am) Blessed Virgin Mary (9 am) Claire Verdini		rb a friend rb K Zilli
Thu 08-13	(7 am) Percival Brockmeyer (9 am) Van Litchard+		rb K & K Moore rb K Kirsch & B Blake
Fri 08-14	(9 am) Christophe & Agathe de Saizieu (6:30 pm) Ted Cover+		rb L de Saizieu rb Cook family
Sat 08-15	(8:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (10:30 am) Fr Perrone & parishioners of Assumption Grotto		rb family & friends
Sun 08-16	(7 am) priest's intention (8:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (10:30 am) Children in Foster Care (12 noon) Mariah Funderburk		rb K & K Moore rb Funderburk family

Today, after the 12 noon Mass, items on “the blessing table” in the hall will be blessed; the Bookstore is open after the 8:30 am & 10:30 am Masses.

Thank you to the men's group who did the inventory for & repair of our hurricane supplies at Christ the King. Being prepared is always a good thing!

Heads-up: Father would like to meet with the Finance Council Wednesday, August 19th at 7:00 pm at the church to review the 2020-2021 budget. He will send out a group email to the four members.

Your pastor has produced the booklet: “First Friday & First Saturday Devotions before the Blessed Sacrament” to be used on these occasions. He will post this to the website and he asks, should you wish to use them, that you download and print them from home (you will need 4 sheets of 11X14 paper per booklet); if you have not this ability, one may be obtained through the office. Please print your name on it and keep it with you.

Please pray for Fr Vincent Sheehy, Pastor Emeritas at Our Lady of Lourdes in Venice, (8/7), James Ahearn (7/26), Karen Boylan (7/26), Jessica Branham 7/26), Audrey McGuckin (7/14). (Prayer requests are posted for one month; renewable upon another request.)

Free through the office: Latin-English Sunday Missal for the 1962 liturgy.

Last Sunday's collection: \$ 4265.15; and **Mass attendance:** 7 am, 49; 8:30 am, 66; 10:30 am, 55; 12 noon, 57

This Saturday, August 15th, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, if you wish to attend Mass at Christ the King Church, please call the office to make sure there will be a place for you. Two Masses will be offered: one at 8:30 am & a second one at 10:30 am; should these Masses fill-up with reservations, then a third Mass will be offered at 7:00 am. Also, the ushers are asked to assist with crowd control at any Mass they attend. Thank you. **Also, on this day, Fr Hathaway will offer a 10:30 am Mass at Ocala.**

2020 Candidate Questionnaire Project: What's a Catholic voter to do? Catholic faithful are urged to choose their political leaders according to principle, not party affiliation or mere self-interest. To help parishioners become informed on where candidates stand on key issues, the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops has polled candidates running for the U.S. Congress and the Florida Legislature. To see how candidates appearing on the August 18 Primary Election / November 3 General Election ballot responded to the questionnaire, visit www.flaccb.org/cqp

Are there any parishioners at Christ the King who desire & are of age to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? Our Naples mission will host confirmations on January 9, 2021. If so, please email Fr. Hathaway.

Safe Environment Training - As part of the Safe Environment Program, the Diocese of Venice requires all employees and volunteers who work with children and/or vulnerable adults be fingerprinted and trained in Safe Environment. For further information, visit 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 Assistance Coordinator, Susan Benton, at 941-416-6114. Please visit the Diocese of Venice website for scheduled training dates.