

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart

(adapted from St Alphonus Liguori's sermon for the 17th Sunday after Pentecost)

"One thing is necessary." (Lk 10:42) It is not necessary to be rich or famous, but to love God which is "the greatest & first commandment." (Mt 22:38) How few do; most people love their relatives, friends & pets, before God. Today, we consider this commandment and its fulfillment.

How dear this command of loving God with our whole heart ought to be to us

1. What is more noble, more magnificent, more powerful, more rich, more beautiful, more bountiful, more merciful, more grateful, more amiable, or more loving, that God could have given us than himself? Who is more noble than God? Some boast of their family's nobility of five hundred or a thousand years; but the nobility of God is eternal. Who is more powerful? God does whatever he wills. By an act of his will he created this world, and by another he can destroy it when he pleases. Who is more wealthy? He possesses all riches of heaven and earth. Who is more beautiful? Before his beauty, all is dross. Who is more bountiful? St. Augustine says, "God's desire to do us good is more than ours to receive." Who is more merciful? If the most impious sinner on earth humbles himself before God, and repents of his sins, God instantly pardons & embraces him. Who is more grateful? He rewards the smallest act we perform for his sake. Who is more amiable? God is so amiable that, by a mere glimpse of him, the saints feel a joy which makes them perfectly happy for all eternity. Indeed, the greatest torment of the damned is knowing God is so amiable and yet, they cannot love him.

What we ought to do in order to love God with our whole heart

7. First, we must guard against all sin, mortal & venial: "If any one love me, he will keep my word." (Jn 14:23) Love aims to avoid even small displeasures of the beloved. How can one love God with his whole heart, who fears not to commit deliberate venial sin?
8. Second, we must greatly desire to love him: "The Lord is good to the soul that seeks him." (Lam 3:25) He fills all who desire thusly: "He has filled the hungry with good things." (Lk 1:53)
9. Third, we must resolve courageously to arrive at the perfect love of God. Some desire to be saints but without resolve and thus fail: "Whatever thy hand is able to do, do it earnestly." (Eccl 9:10) What you can do today do not put off till tomorrow; do it as soon as possible.
10. Also, we must detach from creatures. The first question ancient monks asked of postulants was: "Do you bring an empty heart, that the Holy Ghost may be able to fill it?"
12. Moreover, to love God with our whole heart, we must love him without reserve, so as to choose to lose a thousand lives, rather than forfeit his friendship: "Neither death, nor life, nor things present or to come, nor any creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God." (Rm 8:38,39) We must have a love of benevolence, desiring to see him loved by all. We must have a love of sorrow for every offence offered him. We must have a love of conformity to his will: "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done." In fine: "When a soul gives herself entirely to God, she no longer cares for her sufferings; nor finds repose in any creature, but is always in search of her beloved; her one concern is to find him." (St John Chrysostom)
13. **To end**, into this labor we must bring meditation, communion, and prayer. First, without meditation, we think little on God and love him less: "In my meditation, a fire shall flame." (Ps 38:4) Meditation, esp. on the Passion of Jesus Christ, is a furnace of love: "Jesus Christ suffered and died for me, what have I done for Jesus, what am I doing for Jesus, what will I do for my Jesus!" Holy Communion is another furnace: "The holy Eucharist is a fire which inflames us, that, like lions breathing fire, we go from the holy table, being made terrible to the devil." (St John Chrysostom) Above all, prayer of petition is necessary: "Ask and you shall receive." Several times daily we must ask God for his grace to love him with our whole heart. God wishes us to badger him so: "Let us, then, continually ask of Jesus Christ his holy love; and let us ask his divine mother Mary, who is the treasurer of all his graces, to obtain it for us." (St Gregory) She will tell him, "he has no wine."



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.

17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2020

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Christ the King Catholic Church.

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Please call the office to arrange your Sunday Mass attendance.

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:

7:00 am; 8:30 am; 10:30 am; and 12 noon. [Call the office!]

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

Please only use the bathrooms in the vestibule.

Finally, please keep a safe distance.

In the Diocese of Venice, the Sunday obligation is dispensed until Sunday, November 1, 2020.

In Ocala:

Sunday Mass at 4:30 pm. (No need to call.)

Monday Mass at 7 am.

Liturgical Calendar for the Upcoming Week

DATE	FEAST	CLASS/COLOR	COMMEMORATION
Sun 09-27	17 th Sunday after Pentecost	2/G	
Mon 09-28	St Wenceslaus	3/R	
Tues 09-29	Ded. St Michael, Archangel	1/W	
Wed 09-30	St Jerome	3/W	
Thu 10-01	Feria	4/G	St Remigius
Fri 10-02	Sacred Heart of Jesus	3/W	Guardian Angels
Sat 10-03	Immaculate Heart of Mary	3/W	St Therese of the Child Jesus
Sun 10-04	Ext. Sol. of O.L. of the Rosary	2/W	18 th Sunday after Pentecost

Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week in Sarasota

Sun 09-27	(7 am) Mhill Suka (8:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (10:30 am) Gregory Joseph Johnson+	rb P & A Suka
Mon 09-28	(12 noon) Mary Cathleen McDonald+	rb R & M Johnson
Tues 09-29	(7 am) All Law Enforcement Officials (9 am) Scott Michael Johnson+	rb B & T Shehwen family rb CTK parishioners rb R & M Johnson
Wed 09-30	(7 am) James Kirsch+ (9 am) Jack Kawakami+	rb K Kirsch & B Blake rb M & K Weber
Thu 10-01	(7 am) Maria de Los Angeles (9 am) FssP Confraternity	rb S & A P Higgins rb N Truong
Fri 10-02	(9 am) Cathy Cullen (6:30 pm) Fr Dupre	rb Sr Margaret rb Marie Meza
Sat 10-03	(7 am) priest's intention (9 am) Fr Stephane Dupre	rb Shehwen family
Sun 10-04	(7 am) Bill & Barbara Wis (8:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (10:30 am) Lizzy Steindorf	rb S Hemeryck rb C & C Walker



Today, after the 10:30 am 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.

This week: Monday, Rosary after the 12 noon Mass; Thursday, Youth Catechism from 5-6 pm (Ryan Beggy will cover for Fr Hathaway); 1st Friday, normal Mass & Devotions; 1st Saturday, 7 am Mass & 9 am Mass followed by devotions (after the 9 am Mass there is altar server practice with Fr Mahowald; please consider going to the 7 am Mass to ease congestion at the 9 am Mass. **(No 1st Saturday Mass in Ocala.)** **There will be no noon Mass in Sarasota next Sunday, October 4, 2020.**

Fr. Hathaway remains on vacation; he returns Oct. 9.

Last Sunday's collection: \$3,634.76; and **Mass attendance:** 7 am, 51; 8:30 am, 84; 10:30 am, 70; 12 noon, 44; for a total of 249 souls.

Please, STAY HOME if you appear sick (sneezing, wheezing, sniffing etc.), even though you feel fine; space yourself one seat away from non-family members; wear the face mask in transit to & from your pew.

Forty-Hour Devotion at Christ the King: Filled with holy zeal & a contrite heart, please register for our forty-hour exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at Christ the King to repair for sacrileges against the Real Presence. This begins on Sunday, Oct. 25, after the 12 noon Mass, and ends on Tuesday, Oct. 27, before the 7 am Mass (this may include an outside procession around the church at 6:00 am). At least two people must be signed up each hour (in case one can not attend, our Lord will not be left alone.) Moreover, at least one man should be present from 7 pm to 7 am to protect women and vulnerable adorers. If you wish to participate in this event, please see the sign-up sheet in the vestibule.

Please pray for the family of Ryan Hammond (9/24), Robin Ahearn (9/20), Dennis Joy (9/13), Fr Stephen Arabadjis, SSPX (9/13), Fr Vincent Sheehy (9/6), Jody Koehler (8/30), James Ahearn (8/30), Karen Boylan (Petrosky) (8/30), and Jessica Patraw Branham (8/30). (Prayer requests are posted for one month; renewable.)

Gardening Committee: Christ the King is starting up a gardening committee headed by Mike Priest and Stanley Shenko. If you would like to be involved, please contact Mike at mikepriest@yahoo.com

I was a stranger and you welcomed me: Christ the King is organizing a hospitality committee to help new parishioners with our parish life & liturgy as well as coordinate receptions at funerals & weddings and other special functions. Please contact Stacy Steindorf, 941-928-9636, if you are interested to help this ministry.

Is there any young adult parishioner (18 to 35 years old) who is interested in heading up a young adults' group at Christ the King? If so, please contact the office.

Christ the King at Sarasota contact

Catechism ~ Jennifer Husmann; 813-340-7764; Jennifer.husmann@gmail.com.
 Youth Group ~ Melissa Burns; 717-253-7378; mis1676@yahoo.com
 St. Therese Devotions Guild ~ Denise Priest; 941-799-0444.
 Music Director ~ Leo Labrecque; 941-266-0254; labrec1@verizon.net.
 Hospitality Committee ~ Stacy Steindorf; 941-928-9639; sgs3232@aol.com
 Gardening Committee ~ Mike Priest; mikepriest@yahoo.com
 Pro-life Ministry ~ Missy Funderburk; 316-258-4319
 LiveMass ~ Dee Dee Sommers; 941-870-4800; livemass_support@icloud.com.

Christ the King at Ocala contact

General information ~ Joe Tropeano; 352-274-8606; joetrop@aol.com.
 Mass intentions ~ Robin Tropeano; 352-274-8606.