

A young lad of a TLM parish once asked, "Why would God, an infinite Being, allow a man, a finite being, to offend Him knowing that man could never repair the offense?" This is an answer to that question. But first let us briefly review the history of man's fall from grace & a few (of many) divine promises of man's restoration in grace.

Recall God's test given Adam, "Of every tree of paradise thou shall eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shall not eat for in what day so ever thou shall eat of it, thou shall die the death." (Gn 2:16) Alas, Adam did eat & now the consequences of his disobedience infect all mankind. But, in this tragic episode, God plants a seed of hope. In His decree of perpetual warfare between the man & his true enemy, the devil, God promises mankind the final victory: "I will put enmities between thee and the woman, between thy seed & her seed: she shall crush thy head, and thou shall lie in wait for her heel." (Gn 3:15)

2000 years Before Christ (BC), God tested another man, Abraham; he passed, "Because thou has done this thing, and has not spared thy only-begotten son for my sake, I will bless thee, and I will multiply thy seed as the stars of heaven, as the sand that is by the seashore. Thy seed shall possess the gates of their enemies, and *in thy seed* shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because thou has obeyed my voice." (Gn 22:16) This promise went to Abraham's grandson, Jacob, the father of the twelve tribes of Israel: "I am the Lord God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac, the land wherein thou sleep, I will give to thee and to thy seed. And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth... and in thee, *and in thy seed*, all the nations of the earth shall be blessed." (Gn 22:18). Of the 12 tribes, Jacob prophesied one to rule until the promised seed should sprout: "the scepter shall not be taken away from Judah... *till he come that is to be sent*... the expectation of the nations." (Gn 49:10)

1500 years B.C., Moses, in obedience to God & helped by Him, freed the Hebrews from Egypt & led them in the desert; at the end of his life, noting his failure to bring this *stiff-necked people* into the Promised Land, he prophesied One coming whom they would obey, who would lead them to the true land of Promise: "The Lord shall raise up to thee a prophet of thy name and of thy brethren like unto me, *him thou shall hear*." (Dt 18:15)

1000 years B.C., King David ruled the twelve tribes now a kingdom; but as he had shed much blood, he is prohibited from building God's temple; but God promised this to his seed, *a most quiet man & peaceable*, who would build an eternal temple: "He shall build a house to my name... and *I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever*." (2 Kg 7:12, 13)

700 years B.C., the prophet Isaiah spoke clearly about the promised One: "Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son and *shall call his name Emmanuel* (God with us)." (Is 7:14); "God himself will come and save you." (Is 35:4)

400 years B.C., the prophet Malachi breathed the last prophecy, "Lo, I send my angel, he shall prepare the way... *the Lord, whom you seek... shall come to his temple*." (Ma 3:1)

Finally, 2000 years ago, an angel, sent from God, tells a virgin girl, "Behold thou shall conceive in thy womb & shall bring forth a son, & thou *shall call his name Jesus*." (Lk 1:31) The same angel tells the virgin's troubled betrothed, "Joseph, son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son and thou shall call his name Jesus. For he shall save his people from their sins." (Mt 1:20)

So, again, "Why would God test a finite being knowing that a finite creature could never repair an offense against an infinite Being?" One answer: God, knowing all outcomes, knew this was the best way to reveal His love for man; by Himself becoming man, to repair Adam's fault, is a wonderful testament of visible love! Indeed, so stupendous is this Gift that God needed millennia to prepare the world to receive It. Ah, and here we only concern ourselves with the crib; how much more the proof of divine love when we consider the Cross!



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.

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023, A.D.

Pastor: Fr. Chris Hathaway, FssP
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Assistant: Fr. Vince Huber, FssP
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Secretary: Susan Hemeryck
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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.

Sarasota "Lost & Found" now located in the vestibule; or check with the office if not found

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	COMMEMORATION
Sun 12-10	2 nd Sunday of Advent	1/V	
Mon 12-11	St Damasus I	3/W	Feria
Tues 12-12	O.L. of Guadalupe	3/W	Feria
Wed 12-13	St Lucy	3/R	Feria
Thu 12-14	Feria of Advent	3/V	
Fri 12-15	Feria of Advent	1/V	
Sat 12-16	St Eusebius	3/R	Feria
Sun 12-17	3 rd Sunday of Advent	1/V	

Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week in Sarasota

Sun 12-10	(7 am) FssP & preservation of TLM (8:30 am) Husmann family (10:30) <i>Pro-populo</i> (12:30 pm) Oliver Furlong	rb J Tholotowsky rb O Furlong
Mon 12-11	(12 pm) Poor souls in Purgatory++	rb M/M L Truong
Tues 12-12	(7 am) Maureen Hallagan+ (9 am) In honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary	rb B Hallagan rb a friend
Wed 12-13	(7 am) Lindita's family & intentions (9 am) Sister Hang Truong	rb Lindita rb N Truong
Thu 12-14	(7 am) Conversion of a loved one (9 am) Elizabeth Steindorf	rb anonymous rb Stacy Steindorf
Fri 12-15	(9 am) Lino Carvallo Sr+ (6:30 pm) Sheila Mills	rb family rb M Pruitt
Sat 12-16	(6 am) M/M Armand Labrecque++ (9 am) Poor Souls in Purgatory++	rb M/M L Labrecque rb L de Saizieu
Sun 12-17	(7 am) Scott Funderburk+ (8:30 am) Mary C Kitko+ (10:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (12:30 pm) Bill & Jaime Shehwen	rb R&B Owens rb MF Kitko rb Mom & Dad

Today's 10:30 Mass: Entr: Savior of the Nations, Come, #798; Asperges, #567; Mass XVII, #762 & Credo I, #768; Exit: Hark, A Herald Voice is Calling, #795.

This week, [Fr Hathaway is away until 12/20], Tuesday, Holy Face devotions (10:15 am), O.L. Guadalupe dinner at KoC Hall (6 pm); Thursday, Youth Cat. (5-6 pm); Friday, Holy Hour 5:30 pm, Mass (6:30 pm); Saturday, Rorate Mass (6 am), Youth Group (10 am).

Last Sunday's Collection: cash \$4,887.27; on-line \$5,215.00; CFA \$3,887.00.
Total souls: 456: 7 am-49; 8:30 am-124; 10:30 am-164; 12:30 pm-119 (Ocala, 303)

Please pray for: Meza family, Kelly Katz, Eileen McClain (11/26); Dan Wedo, Ashton Hobbs, Wis family, & Fr Adams (11/19).

2024 FSSP Calendars are here! CtK volunteers, please stop by the office to pick up your *FREE* calendar. All others pay only \$12, while supplies last.

We are preparing to send out your 2023 Tax Statements. If your address has changed, please let the office know of your new address.

2023 CFA status at CtK as of December 2, 2023: \$123,000.00 assessed by the diocese; \$103,721.28 pledged (84.33% of goal); from 47.14% of 227 households; \$96,087.48 paid. (from dioceseofvenice.org) **Thank you for your support!**

The Rorate Caeli Mass, a traditional Advent votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is offered just before dawn. This Mass, lit only by candlelight, prepares us to honor the Light of the world, soon to be born, and praises God for the gift of Our Lady. As the Mass proceeds, the church becomes brighter, illumined by the sun as our Faith is illumined by Christ. It will be held on Sat., Dec. 16th at 6 am.

The Diocese of Venice has informed CtK that individuals are not permitted to sell goods on church property due to tax & licensing implications.

Tickets for the 8th annual Our Lady of Guadalupe dinner are available outside after Mass. The dinner will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 4880 Fruitville Rd on Tuesday, December 12th at 6 pm; ticket price is \$75. Sponsored by St Pius V Council, the event will benefit the FssP seminary in Denton, NE (O.L. of Guadalupe Seminary). A special guest speaker will be there!

DECLINE TO SIGN An insidious initiative is underway in Florida that seeks to erase pro-life protections by inserting language into the Florida State Constitution banning regulation of abortion. Abortion activists are working to gather petition signatures to have a pro-abortion constitutional amendment placed on the statewide ballot in the November 2024 election. To do so, they need nearly 900,000 signatures and are working right now in communities across Florida to collect them. Floridian Catholics should not sign the petition. Please continue praying for the protection of the unborn and to spread the word to your spheres of influence.

2023 Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule:

In Sarasota, (frh)

Carols: Sunday, Dec. 24 at 11:00 pm; choir at 11:30 pm.

Midnight sung Mass: Monday, Dec. 25 at 12:00 am.

Dawn low Mass: Monday, Dec. 25 at 8:30 am.

Day low Mass: Monday, Dec. 25 at 10:30 am.

Octave Day: Monday, Jan. 1, 8:30 am, 10:30 am, & 12:30 pm.

In Ocala, (frv)

Midnight Mass at 12:00 am

* Dawn Mass at 1:00 pm & Day Mass at 1:30 pm

* (Communions distributed at the 1:30 pm Day Mass)