

# Weekly

Year 25, No. 24

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

# Bulletin

SUNDAY, 6TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

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## CHRIST THE KING CHURCH THEME FOR THE YEAR

**LET US REJOICE, FOR NOW IS THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF THE LORD - cf Is 61.2**

### OFFICE HOURS

Weekdays

8:00am-5:00pm

Saturdays

8:00am-12:00pm


Sundays

8:00am-2:00pm

### SUSPENSION OF USED CLOTHING RECEIPTS

The Parish has suspended receipt of used clothing as part of efforts to fight the spread of the Corona Virus. We will duly inform you appropriately when we commence again.

God bless you.



*“If today you hear HIS VOICE  
Harden not you HEART,,*

## 23RD SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME, YEAR A

### COMMENTARY ON READINGS

**First Reading:** The Prophet tells us that persons placed in responsible positions, ought to point out the errors of wrong doers, in order that they may reform and mend their ways. (Ezekiel 33:7-9)

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM (PS 95)

**"If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts."**

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;  
let us acclaim the rock of our salvation.  
Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving;  
let us joyfully sing psalms to him. **Res.**

Come, let us bow down in worship;  
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.  
For He is our God,  
and we are the people He shepherds, the flock He guides.  
**Res**

Oh, that today you would hear His voice:  
"Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as in the day of Massah in the desert,  
where your fathers tempted me;  
they tested me though they had seen my works." **Res**

**Second Reading:** St. Paul teaches that, love of neighbour is the underlying principle behind God's commandment and that if we truly love our neighbour, we will not wish to harm him in anyway. (Romans 13:8-10)

**Gospel:** Brotherly correction should be the concern of both individuals and the Church Community. We are obliged to correct those we love and be willing, ourselves, to accept their correction as well. (Matthew 18:15-20)

### WEEKDAY READINGS & MEMORIALS 23RD WEEK IN ORDINARY, YEAR A

<b>Monday</b>	<b>St. Cloud</b> 1 Cor 1:1-8/Ps 5/Lk 6:6-11
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13/ Mt 1:1-16. 18-23
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>St. Peter Claver</b> 1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45/Lk 6:20-26
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St. Nicholas of Tolentino</b> 1 Cor 8:1b-7. 11-13/Ps 139/ Lk 6:27-38
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Ss. Protus &amp; Hyacinth</b> 1 Cor 9:16-19. 22b-27/Ps 84/ Lk 6:39-42
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Holy Name of Mary/BVM</b> 1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116/Lk 6:43-49

#### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

**24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A**  
Sir 27:30-28:7/ Ps 103/ Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

## REFLECTION

Today's Gospel reading is taken from a chapter of Matthew's Gospel, which is sometimes called the "discourse on the Church" or the "church order" discourse. In this part of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus speaks more directly about matters of Church discipline and order. In today's reading we find one of only three instances in which Jesus uses the word church in Matthew's Gospel. In Matthew's record of Jesus' teaching, we can hear echoes of the kinds of issues faced by the early Christian community.

In the first part of the "discourse on the Church" (Matthew 18:1-14), Matthew addresses the Christian community's concerns about rank. Jesus responds to the disciples' question about who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Jesus indicates that those who wish to enter the kingdom of heaven must be like children, and he cautions those leaders who might lead these "little ones" astray. He also responds with the parable of the lost sheep, indicating how God will seek out and bring back those "little ones" who have strayed.

In today's Gospel reading, Matthew 18:15-20, Jesus addresses a common occurrence in the Christian community: a dispute between two members of the Church. Jesus outlines a procedure for settling such matters fairly. The victim should privately address the offender and attempt to resolve the dispute without outside involvement. If that fails, then the victim should bring two or three witnesses and confront the offender again. If the dispute is still unresolved, the matter should be brought to the attention of the entire community. If the offender refuses to adhere to the reparations prescribed by the community, then Jesus suggests that the offender may be expelled from the Church.

Jesus does not discourage disagreement within the community of the Church; he acknowledges the reality of conflict and error and offers his disciples a means for addressing such matters. It is in the conclusion to this teaching that the message of hope is found: Jesus is present with the community and will guide the community in its relations. If decisions are taken in prayer, then the community can be assured of God's assistance.

### FAMILY CONNECTION

Conflict and disagreements are a natural part of family life. Yet, within our family, we have an important opportunity to learn how to resolve disagreements fairly by treating people with love and respect.

As you gather as a family this week, discuss the procedures for resolving disputes in your family. What kinds of things produce disagreements in your family? Do children frequently request the assistance of the adults when a disagreement arises? How do the adults respond? In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches his disciples the way in which they are to handle conflict within the Christian community of the Church. Read together this Gospel, Matthew 18:15-20. Invite family members to summarize the steps that Jesus proposes for resolving conflict. How might today's Gospel inform your family's handling of disagreements? If you have time, your family might choose to role play how Jesus' teaching about conflict resolution might be applied to a disagreement that sometimes occurs in your household.

In today's Gospel, Jesus also promises that he will help those who pray to him with their needs. Pray together that each member of your family will learn to handle conflict in a Christian manner. Pray together the Peace Prayer of Saint Francis.

# SAINT OF THE WEEK

## ST. PETER CLAVER

September 9th



A native of Spain, young Jesuit Peter Claver left his homeland forever in 1610 to be a missionary in the colonies of the New World. He sailed into Cartagena, a rich port city washed by the Caribbean. He was ordained there in 1615.

By this time the slave trade had been established in the Americas for nearly 100 years, and Cartagena was a chief center for it. Ten thousand slaves poured into the port each year after crossing the Atlantic from West Africa under conditions so foul and inhuman that an estimated one-third of the passengers died in transit. Although the practice of slave-trading was condemned by Pope Paul III and later labeled “supreme villainy” by Pope Pius IX, it continued to flourish.

Peter Claver’s predecessor, Jesuit Father Alfonso de Sandoval, had devoted himself to the service of the slaves for 40 years before Claver arrived to continue his work, declaring himself “the slave of the Negroes forever.”

As soon as a slave ship entered the port, Peter Claver moved into its infested hold to minister to the ill-treated and exhausted passengers. After the slaves were herded out of the ship like chained animals and shut up in nearby yards to be gazed at by the crowds, Claver plunged in among them with medicines, food, bread, brandy, lemons, and tobacco. With the help of interpreters he gave basic instructions and assured his brothers and sisters of their human dignity and God’s love. During the 40 years of his ministry, Claver instructed and baptized an estimated 300,000 slaves.

Fr. Claver’s apostolate extended beyond his care for slaves. He became a moral force, indeed, the apostle of Cartagena. He preached in the city square, gave missions to sailors and traders as well as country missions, during which he avoided, when possible, the hospitality of the planters and owners and lodged in the slave quarters instead.

After four years of sickness, which forced the saint to remain inactive and largely neglected, Claver died on September 8, 1654. The city magistrates, who had previously frowned at his solicitude for the black outcasts, ordered that he should be buried at public expense and with great pomp.

Peter Claver was canonized in 1888, and Pope Leo XIII declared him the worldwide patron of missionary work among black slaves.

### Reflection

The Holy Spirit’s might and power are manifested in the striking decisions and bold actions of Peter Claver. A decision to leave one’s homeland never to return reveals a gigantic act of will difficult for us to imagine. Peter’s determination to serve forever the most abused, rejected, and lowly of all people is stunningly heroic. When we measure our lives against such a man’s, we become aware of our own barely used potential and of our need to open ourselves more to the jolting power of Jesus’ Spirit.

### PUBLICATION OF MARRIAGE BANN

1. Sydney Scott Sam & Nana Aba Wilson (2)
2. Kwame Owusu-Ansah & Marilyn A. Edem Amenuvor (2)
3. Benjamin Kwesi Ephson & Marie - Louise Aikins (2)
4. Franklin Oboe Akwaah & Beatrice Fosuah Adomako (1)
5. Emmanuel Osei & Cynthia Doreen Awusi-Nti (1)



Every  
blood donor is a  
Lifesaver

## BLOOD DONATION 2020

As you are all aware, CTK has been helping and saving lives of countless people through our annual Blood Donation. Some of these recipients are amongst us, in our homes and workplaces.

This year due to limitations on large gathers, the blood banks are in dire need of supplies.

## SUPPORT TO PARISHIONERS - ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY -

Dear Parishioners,

"The generous person will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed".  
Prov. 11:25.

Many have been refreshed over the years through your generous contributions to the Christ the King Parish and we pray you will be refreshed yourselves according to the Word of God.

We understand the difficulties many are facing due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and as we did during the lockdown, the Parish continues to help as best as she can.

We have some food items to be distributed to persons who are currently in need and we hope by being each other's keeper, we will come out of this more united knowing our Heavenly Father will work all things together for our good.

Kindly contact the Society of St. Vincent de Paul on 0594815591 and you will be given the necessary assistance. "You have given privately, come and receive privately". Matt 6:3  
God bless you.

Let's join the National Catholic Blood Donation Campaign to help save lives near and far.

The exercise comes off on 24th and 31st of October respectively, at CTK Compound.

**DONATE BLOOD AND SAVE A LIFE!**

## 2020 THANKSGIVING DAY

Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; for His Love endures forever. (Psalm 136:1).

My brothers and sisters in Christ, Peace be with you! This year's Annual Harvest will not be organised as done previously due to Covid-19 and its impact on our daily lives. That notwithstanding, we can all testify that the Lord indeed has been gracious unto us and protected each one of us. We still have a reason to be thankful to Him. In view of this, Sunday **8th November, 2020** has been set out as a **"Thanksgiving Day"** for us to show our appreciation to God.

There will be **"Kofi and Ama"** on that day at all Masses to crown it all. Individuals and groups are encouraged to send their contributions either to the parish office or through the parish mobile money numbers (MTN-0245276017, VODAFONE – 0207566410) and bank account (Standard Chartered A/N- 0100113350000 Branch: Liberia Road).

There will also be MEN/VRS WOMEN/second collection to support the "Thanksgiving Day" starting from **Sunday 9th August, 2020 to Sunday 31st December, 2020**. All contributions received will be receipted and this will go towards the upkeep and running of the Parish.

We know times are hard but those who put their trust in the Lord will never be disappointed. May Christ the King, who reigns forever bless, protect and keep us always. Amen.