

Weekly

Year 25, No. 27

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

Bulletin

SUNDAY, 27TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

Christ The King Catholic Church | P.O.Box CT 2110 Cantonments-Accra, Ghana

Tel. 233-302-775645 www.christthekingaccra.net Email: info@christthekingaccra.net

CTK School +233-302785200

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.

THE SEND-OFF MASS

REV. FR. EMMANUEL
DARFOUR APPAH

SUNDAY, 27TH SEPTEMBER, 2020 | 8:30AM

Thank You

From the Parish Community
of Christ the King Church



OCTOBER - ROSARY MONTH

There will be Rosary prayers every weekday (Mon - Fri.) at 11:30 am to be followed by Angelus and Midday Mass in the main church. This will also be streamed live on our facebook channel @ www.facebook.com/christthekingparishaccra

MONTHLY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND GROTTO DEVOTIONS

Thursday, 1st October, 2020 - Holy Mass and Adoration at 6:00pm

Friday, 2nd October, 2020 - Holy Mass and Adoration at 6:00pm

Saturday, 3rd October, 2020 - Rosary Prayers and Mass at 4:00 pm

CONFESSIONS

Confession will now be held every Saturday from 5:00pm - 6:00pm in the Confession room in the Adoration chapel.

COMMENTARY ON READINGS

First Reading: A person who does evil and suffers evil consequences, has himself to blame for the choices he makes but if he turns away from sin and accepts God's grace, then, he will be saved.. (Ezekiel 18:25-28)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (PS 145)

“Remember your mercies, O Lord”

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;
teach me your paths,
guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my saviour. **Res**

Remember that your compassion, O LORD,
and your love are from of old.
The sins of my youth and my frailties remember not;
in your kindness remember me,
because of your goodness, O LORD. **Res**

Good and upright is the LORD;
thus He shows sinners the way.
He guides the humble to justice,
and teaches the humble His way.. **Res**

Second Reading: We must follow Christ's example of humility and selfless love that urges everyone to consider the other person to be better than himself so that no one thinks of his own interests first but the interest of the other person instead. (Philippians 2:1-11)

Gospel: In the parable, two sons make their free choice, independently, to disobey their father. However, the elder son relents and does his father bidding. The Lord teaches us that, it is never too late to turn to God and to do His will. (Matthew 21:28-32)

**WEEKDAY READINGS & MEMORIALS
26TH WEEK IN ORDINARY, YEAR A**

Monday	Ss. Wenceslaus Lawrence Ruiz, & co. Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17/Lk 9:46-50
Tuesday	St. Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels Dn 7:9-10. 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a /Ps 138/Jn 1:47-51
Wednesday	St. Jerome Jb 9:1-12. 14-16/Ps 88/Lk 9:57-62
Thursday	St. Therese of Liseux Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27/Lk 10:1-12
Friday	Guardian Angels Jb 38:1. 12-21;40:3-5/Ps 139/Mt 18:1-5. 10
Saturday	St. Jb 42:1-3. 5-6. 12-17/Ps 119/Lk 10:17-24

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A
Is 5:1-7/ Ps 80/ Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43

REFLECTION

The context for today's Gospel is the mounting tension between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders. Jesus has entered Jerusalem and overturned the money changers' tables in the Temple. Jesus has caught the attention of the religious authorities; the chief priests and elders question Jesus about the source of his authority. Jesus refuses to name for these religious leaders the source of his authority. Instead, he questions the priests and elders through the parable we hear in today's Gospel. The answer given by the religious leaders is correct, but it convicts them for their failure to heed the call of John the Baptist and for their inability to recognize the Kingdom of God.

The situation Jesus poses is rather straightforward. Given the same task by their father, one son asserts his disobedience in words, but then obeys in his actions; the second son obeys with his words, but disobeys in his actions. The question that Jesus poses is pointed and direct: Which son did what the father wanted? All would agree that “actions speak louder than words” and that even if his words were disobedient, the son who did the work as ordered did the father's will.

Jesus' conclusion is also direct. The chief priests and elders, the ones who speak most often about God, did not act accordingly. They did not respond to the message of repentance announced by John the Baptist with a change of heart. Instead, John's message was heeded by those one would not expect to repent—tax collectors, prostitutes, and other sinners. Because of their actions, these sinners will enter the Kingdom of God ahead of the religious leaders.

Jesus could ask us the same question. Do our words indicate our obedience to God? If not our words, do our actions? God desires a full conversion of heart, that our actions (and our words as well) will give evidence of our love for God

FAMILY CONNECTION

The example Jesus poses in today's Gospel could have been taken directly from family experience. Each of us can recall instances in which family members spoke one thing but then did another. The point of Jesus' story is to show that our actions speak louder than words, even with God.

As you gather as a family, talk about times when a family member said one thing and then did another. Acknowledge that sometimes the action taken displays a true change of heart. Then read today's Gospel, Matthew 21:28-32. Observe that Jesus faulted the religious leaders for not allowing John the Baptist's message of repentance to change their hearts and actions.

The word we sometimes use for this change of heart is conversion. Jesus wants us to do more than pay lip service to the Gospel; he wants us to be transformed by his word.

Pray together that your family will experience a conversion to God and show evidence of this in both actions and words. Pray together today's second reading, Philippians 2:1-5.

FEAST OF THE WEEK



ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS

October 1st

The Patron Saint of:

- Florists
- Missionaries
- Pilots
- Priests

THE STORY OF ST. THERESE OF LISEUX

“I prefer the monotony of obscure sacrifice to all ecstasies. To pick up a pin for love can convert a soul.”

These are the words of Thérèse of Lisieux, a Carmelite nun called the “Little Flower,” who lived a cloistered life of obscurity in the convent of Lisieux, France. And her preference for hidden sacrifice did indeed convert souls. Few saints of God are more popular than this young nun. Her autobiography, *The Story of a Soul*, is read and loved throughout the world. Thérèse Martin entered the convent at the age of 15 and died in 1897 at the age of 24.

Life in a Carmelite convent is indeed uneventful and consists mainly of prayer and hard domestic work. But Thérèse possessed that holy insight that redeems the time, however dull that time may be. She saw in quiet suffering a redemptive suffering, suffering that was indeed her apostolate. Thérèse said she came to the Carmel convent “to save souls and pray for priests.” And shortly before she died, she wrote: “I want to spend my heaven doing good on earth.”

Thérèse was canonized in 1925. On October 19, 1997, Pope John Paul II proclaimed her a Doctor of the Church, the third woman to be so recognized in light of her holiness and the influence of her teaching on spirituality in the Church.

Her parents, Louis and Zélie, were beatified in 2008, and canonized in 2015.

REFLECTION

Thérèse has much to teach our age of the image, the appearance, the “self.” We have become a dangerously self-conscious people,

painfully aware of the need to be fulfilled, yet knowing we are not. Thérèse, like so many saints, sought to serve others, to do something outside herself, to forget herself in quiet acts of love. She is one of the great examples of the gospel paradox that we gain our life by losing it, and that the seed that falls to the ground must die in order to live.

Preoccupation with self separates modern men and women from God, from their fellow human beings, and ultimately from themselves. We must re-learn to forget ourselves, to contemplate a God who draws us out of ourselves, and to serve others as the ultimate expression of selfhood. These are the insights of Saint Thérèse, and they are more valid today than ever.

PUBLICATION OF MARRIAGE BANN

1. Emmanuel Osei & Cynthia Doreen Awusi-Nti (2)
2. Paul Joseph & Linda Dadson (2)
3. Philip Kanu C. Nwosu & Shirley Aboagye (2)
4. Christopher Opoku Nyarko & Sally Okailey Peprah (1)
5. Patrick Benjamin Annan & Worlasi - Debi K. Attipoe (1)

FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The death has been announced of **Mrs. Josephine Botsio**, a parishioner. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

The death has been reported of **Mrs. Mavis Cato Benneh**, a parishioner. Funeral arrangements are as follows:

Friday 2nd October, 2020: Filing-past at 7:00 am followed by Burial Mass at 9:00 am at Christ the King Catholic Church, (opposite Jubilee House, Accra).

Sunday, 4th October, 2020: Thanksgiving Mass at Christ the King Catholic Church @ 10:30am.

The Memorial Mass of the late **Mrs. Comfort Mary Nyoagbe** comes of Saturday, 24th October, 2020 at 9:00am at Christ the King Church, Accra. Funeral rites will be held at the Parish Hall after Mass.

TUESDAY TEACHING CORNER

FAITH AS A GIFT

Faith is defined as belief with strong conviction; firm belief in something for which there may be no tangible proof; complete trust, confidence, reliance, or devotion. Faith is the opposite of doubt. Webster's New World College Dictionary defines faith as "unquestioning belief that does not require proof or evidence; unquestioning belief in God, religious tenets."

FAITH: WHAT IS IT?

The Bible gives a short definition of faith in Hebrews 11:1, "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." What do we hope for? We hope that God is trustworthy and honours his promises. We can be sure that his promises of salvation and eternal life will be ours someday based on who God is.

The second part of this definition acknowledges our problem: God is invisible. We can't see heaven either. Eternal life, which begins with our individual salvation here on earth, is also something we do not see, but our faith in God makes us certain of these things. Again, we count not on scientific, tangible proof but on the absolute reliability of God's character.

Where do we learn about the character of God so we can have faith in him? The obvious answer is the Bible, in which God reveals himself fully to his followers. Everything we need to know about God is found there, and it is an accurate, in-depth picture of his nature.

One of the things we learn about God in the Bible is he is incapable of lying. His integrity is perfect; therefore, when he declares the Bible to be true, we can accept that statement, based on God's character. Many passages in the Bible are difficult and sometimes even impossible to understand, yet we accept them because of faith in a trustworthy God.

FAITH: WHY DO WE NEED IT?

The Bible is Christianity's instruction book. It not only tells followers who to have faith in but why we should have faith in him.

In our day-to-day lives, Christians are assailed on every side by doubts. Doubt was the trouble of the apostle Thomas, who had travelled with Jesus Christ for three years, listening to him every day, observing

his actions, even watching him raise people from the dead. When it came to Christ's resurrection, Thomas demanded touchy-feely proof, "Then (Jesus) said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.'" (John 20:27)

Thomas is the Bible's most famous doubter. On the other side of the coin, in Hebrews chapter 11, the Bible introduces an impressive list of heroic believers from the Old Testament in a passage often called the "Faith Hall of Fame." These men and women and their stories stand out to encourage and challenge our faith.

For believers, faith starts a chain of events that ultimately leads to heaven:

By faith through God's grace, Christians are forgiven. We receive the gift of salvation by faith in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

Also by God's grace we go on to become heroes of faith by following the Lord into ever greater adventures in faith.

FAITH AS A THEOLOGICAL VIRTUE

Faith is the first of the three theological virtues; the other two are hope and charity (or love). Unlike the cardinal virtues, which can be practiced by anyone, the theological virtues are gifts of God through grace. Like all other virtues, the theological virtues are habits; the practice of the virtues strengthens them. Because they aim at a supernatural end, however—that is, they have God as "their immediate and proper object" (in the words of the Catholic Encyclopaedia of 1913)—the theological virtues must be supernaturally infused into the soul. Thus faith is not something that one can simply begin to practice, but something beyond our nature. We can open ourselves to the gift of faith through right action—through, for instance, the practice of the cardinal virtues and the exercise of right reason—but without the action of God, faith will never come to reside in our soul.

WHAT THE THEOLOGICAL VIRTUE OF FAITH IS NOT

Most of the time when people use the word faith, they mean something other than the theological virtue. The Oxford American Dictionary presents as its first definition "complete trust or confidence in someone or something," and offers "one's faith in politicians" as an example. Most people understand instinctively that faith in politicians is an entirely different thing from faith in God. But the use of the

same word tends to muddy the waters and to reduce the theological virtue of faith in the eyes of nonbelievers to nothing more than a belief that is strong, and in their minds irrationally, held. Thus faith is opposed, in the popular understanding, to reason; the latter, it is said, demands evidence, while the former is characterized by the willing acceptance of things for which there is no rational evidence.

FAITH IS THE PERFECTION OF THE INTELLECT

In the Christian understanding, however, faith and reason are not opposed but complementary. Faith, the Catholic Encyclopaedia notes, is the virtue "by which



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 gatherings, the blood banks are in dire need of supplies. Let's join the National Catholic Blood Donation Campaign to help save lives near and far.

The exercise comes off on **25th October and 1st of November** respectively, on the CTK Compound.

DONATE BLOOD AND SAVE A LIFE!

the intellect is perfected by a supernatural light," allowing the intellect to assent "firmly to the supernatural truths of Revelation." Faith is, as Saint Paul says in the Letter to the Hebrews, "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). It is, in other words, a form of knowledge that extends beyond the natural limits of our intellect, to help us grasp the truths of divine revelation, truths that we cannot arrive at purely by the aid of natural reason.

TO BE CONTINUED.....

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.