



BE  
CONSTANTLY  
ON THE  
WATCH!

**Our Lord Jesus Christ  
King of the Universe**

**November 26, 2023**

"I was hungry and you gave me food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me drink."

-- Matthew 25:35



**Daily Mass**

**Week of November 27<sup>th</sup> – December 1<sup>st</sup>**

- Monday: 8:00 Patricia Hogenmiller Vernon+
- Tuesday: 8:00 Margaret "Peggy" Mockel+
- Wednesday: 8:00 Carol Balise+
- Thursday: 8:00 Kathleen Riley+
- Friday: 8:00 Ron, Tilin, Chris & Gail Dempster+



Please remember the sick in our Parish, especially Marian Flandrick, Mike Abell, Sunny Ray, Tara Singh, Kerrie Roye, Mark Lutz, Michael Carter, Rufus Smith, Peggy Delson-Rini, Frank Rini, Pamela M., Rita Jurin, Julia and Cecilia Uyeda.

**Join Us! Everyone is Welcome!  
As We Await The Coming Of Emmanuel...**

**\*\*Visio Divina Prayer Service** -- Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Church.

**\*\*Advent Reconciliation Service** -- Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Church.

**Treasures From Our Tradition!**

Coming to the end of the Church year, we can wonder how we got "extreme unction" out of "anointing of the sick." "Extreme" comes from a Latin phrase, *in extremis*, which in English refers to the last struggle of a dying person. "Last rites" is a phrase in common usage, and refers to the fact that years ago, everyone waited until the last crisis of illness to summon the priest. The goal of anointing had always been healing and forgiveness, but in time it began to be seen as a preparation for death. In a hard world, almost anything from a hangnail to a sneeze could be life-threatening, so perhaps the change was inevitable. The emphasis on the penitential aspects was heightened, even to the odd practice of Rome in the twelfth century, when the sick person was sprinkled with ashes mixed with holy water and given a hair shirt as a sign of penance. The reformers thankfully overlooked some of these oddities of history, and today the sacrament of the sick is much more generously applied to persons in a wide range of situations. Still, it is a sacrament of reconciliation, and for that reason is not celebrated for an infant or toddler, although there is a rite for a visit to a sick child not including anointing or Communion.



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In the Book of Revelation, God identifies Himself in no uncertain terms: "*I am the Alpha and the Omega,*" says the Lord God, "*the one who is and who was and who is to come, the almighty.*"

Thus, we come to the end of the Church's liturgical year, the feast of Christ the King. In this feast, we acknowledge that Jesus has dominion over all the living and the dead. This is because He willingly subjected Himself to the will of His Father. The words and deeds of our Lord offer us a unique perspective of what it means to be regal.

We live in a world where greatness is synonymous with power and status. While we all say that it shouldn't be so, most of us bow and pay homage to those who have "made it." We find ourselves emulating them in some small way, or strongly protesting against their way of life. In either case, we give them too much attention and importance in our lives.

Jesus offers us an alternative to this world's understanding of greatness. His way is the way of service and self-sacrifice. He says that, if you want to be first in the Kingdom of God, you must be willing to be last in this world. If you want to be great in God's eyes, you must serve your sisters and brothers.

Most of us find this almost impossible to do because, "*....the world is too much with us.*" But, we need not despair because the greatness of Jesus overcomes our weakness. This is why God anointed Him Ruler of the kings of the earth. This is why we proclaim him, **Christ The King!**

Love, Fr. Leo



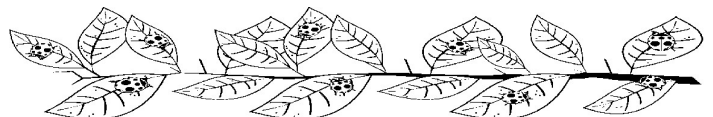
**Today's Readings!**

**First Reading** -- I will rescue my scattered sheep (Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17).

**Psalm** -- The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

**Second Reading** -- As in Adam all die, so too in Christ all shall be brought to life (1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28).

**Gospel** -- Whatever you did to the least ones, you did to me (Matthew 25:31-46).



**Advent Wreath Making Party!**

Celebrate the Season! Make an Advent Wreath for your home with fresh evergreens. The date is Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. in the School Auditorium. The wreaths will be blessed at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. A \$5.00 suggested donation to offset the cost of materials can be made. Sponsored by the Family Faith Formation.

**Coping With The Holidays!**

A presentation on *Coping with the Holidays*, hosted by the Grief Support Ministry, will be held on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Gibson Center. As the holidays can be an especially difficult time, this program will offer practical ideas and suggestions to help those who have experienced the death of a loved one. All are welcome! If you would like to attend, please call the Parish Office.



**Christmas Giving Tree!**

'Tis the Season...the Giving Tree is back! Please consider selecting an ornament or two off the tree. Ornaments will be available on the Giving Tree in the Gibson Center on November 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. There is an ornament customized for each member of the 50 families at The Oakland Catholic Worker and for those from St. Mary's Center. Please purchase one \$25.00 gift card per ornament from either Target or Walmart. You can purchase the gift cards yourself, attach them to the ornament and return them either by giving them to a member of the Living Faith Ministry in the Gibson Center after all the Masses each weekend or dropping them off at the Parish Office during the week. If you prefer, you can write a check to Corpus Christi Church or donate online through your bank and the cards will be purchased for you. **Please write or type "Giving Tree" in the memo line for either of these options.** These must all be in by Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. As Fr. Leo reminds us often, we are our brother's and sister's keeper. Let's ensure that these families have a joy-filled Christmas!

**The Lord's Flock!**

Sheep are high-maintenance animals. Without guidance and care, especially in a climate like Israel's, they would die quickly from predators, starvation or just their own slowness. The scriptural image of us as the Lord's flock is not terribly flattering to us, since it is only the never-ending diligence of a watchful shepherd that allows the flock to survive.

The feast of Christ the King was intended to call the world back to Christ as the sole power of the world, to bring back a flock that had been scattered by many negative forces of the growing industrial, scientific and war-torn world of the early twentieth century. It is fitting that, as we celebrate Christ the King, we hear about Christ the Shepherd who cares for us and who, likewise, will be there at the end of time. Interestingly enough, as the Gospel illustrates, our own destiny is determined by the way we have been "shepherds" to the rest of the flock.

**Readings For The Week  
November 27<sup>th</sup> -- December 2<sup>nd</sup>**

- Monday: First Reading Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20;  
Psalm Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56;  
Gospel Luke 21:1-4
- Tuesday: First Reading Daniel 2:31-45;  
Psalm Daniel 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61;  
Gospel Luke 21:5-11
- Wednesday: First Reading Daniel 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17;  
Psalm Daniel 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67;  
Gospel Luke 21:12-19
- Thursday: First Reading Romans 10:9-18;  
Psalm 19;  
Gospel Matthew 4:18-22
- Friday: First Reading Daniel 7:2-14;  
Psalm Daniel 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81;  
Gospel Luke 21:29-33
- Saturday: First Reading Daniel 7:15-27;  
Psalm Daniel 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87;  
Gospel Luke 21:34-36

**Calling All Volunteers!**

If you love Advent, volunteers are needed to help turnaround our beautiful Church on Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. If you or anyone you know loves the upcoming season or just looking to help out, please volunteer. Feel free to contact either Karen at: [kckeil@msn.com](mailto:kckeil@msn.com) or Art at: [asiadoc@yahoo.com](mailto:asiadoc@yahoo.com) with any questions or let them know that you will be able to help!

**Japan Discovery Cruise!**

- St. Anne's Society in Walnut Creek is sponsoring a
- fourteen-night cruise on the beautiful Holland Ameri-
- ca Westerdam. The dates are April 13<sup>th</sup> through April
- 27<sup>th</sup> of 2024. The trip highlights are: Sail roundtrip
- from Yokohama with port stops in Omaezaki, Kobe
- (Kyoto), Kochi, Fukuoka, Kanazawa, Sakata Otaru,
- Aomori and Hakodate. The cruise includes all meals
- and entertainment, a private cocktail party onboard
- and a Bon Voyage Orientation party. The cost begins
- at \$2,459 per person, double occupancy. Single
- rates upon request. Port taxes are \$250.00 per per-
- son. For more information about this fabulous cruise,
- contact Gale Lydecker at (925) 937-7748.

"We must learn to be still in the midst of activity and to be vibrantly alive in repose.

-- Indira Gandhi