

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

NOVEMBER 24, 2019

I rejoiced because they said to me, "We will go up to the house of the LORD."

— Psalm 122:1

OF KINGS AND KINGSHIP

Americans have an uncomfortable relationship with kings. The American Revolution was fought for independence from King George, after all. Nonetheless, today every Catholic church around the world celebrates the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Today's feast invites us to look beyond our national loyalties and rejoice in our primary identity. We are children of God in Jesus, Christ the King. Our readings help us consider what it's like to belong to God's kingdom. The book of Samuel captures the deep longing of the Israelites for a king to shepherd them. Saint Paul reminds the Colossians that we belong to the kingdom of Christ, whose power he praises in a beautiful hymn. Finally, Luke's Gospel calls to mind the kind of king Jesus chooses to be—a suffering servant, a man for others. By sacrificing his life for us, Jesus throws open the gates of Paradise.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Lord said to David, "You shall shepherd my people Israel" (2 Samuel 5:1-3).

Psalm — Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord (Psalm 122).

Second Reading — Thanks to the Father who has made you fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light (Colossians 1:12-20).

Gospel — Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom (Luke 23:35-43).

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A man found a cocoon of a butterfly. One day a small opening appeared; he sat and watched the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through that little hole. Then it seemed to stop making any progress. It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could and it could go no farther.

Then the man decided to help the butterfly, so he took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon. The butterfly then emerged easily. But it had a swollen body and small, shriveled wings. The man thought that, at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to support the body, which would contract in time. Neither happened! In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shriveled wings. It was never able to fly.

What the man in his kindness and haste did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening were nature's ways of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.

Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our life. If nature allowed us to go through our life without any obstacles, it would cripple us. We would not be as strong as what we could have been.

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Tommy A., Christina, Tommy Faro and Jim Richmon in thanks for Upton on her Birthday;
2. the Skullys' in loving memory of Skully's Ann on the 17th Anniversary of her death and Fr. Bill in loving memory of him on his Birthday;
3. and two Parish Members in thanks to St. Expedite.

THANKSGIVING DAY: NOVEMBER 28TH

Thanksgiving Day in America is a Day set aside each year for giving thanks to God for the blessings received during the year. It is also a Day of family gatherings and holiday meals.

Father Cherian wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving Day!

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED The Church Office will be closed this *Wednesday, November 27th* and *Thursday, November 28th* in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday and will reopen *Monday, December 2nd*.

THANKSGIVING DAY HEALING MASS Rev. Niby, CMI will be celebrate a Healing Mass on Thanksgiving Day at 5:00 P.M. There will be individual and group healing sessions during the service. All are welcome to this spiritual banquet to get ourselves healed and comforted by the Holy Spirit.

MASTER'S TABLE Ann T.'s Legion Group, Our Lady of Epiphany, is scheduled to prepare and serve a hot meal to the clients of the Master's Table in Augusta on Thursday, December 5th. If you would like to participate in this very rewarding opportunity, please contact Ann T.

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$2,286.00	\$1,876.00
Number of Families contributing	71	55
Total Pledge for 2019	\$167,031.00	\$163,188.00
Pledged to Date (46 Weeks)	\$147,909.00	\$144,038.00
Received to Date	\$126,753.00	\$101,412.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$21,156.00	\$42,626.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2019
\$18.00	\$7,889.00

Six ladies made a contribution last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2019
\$70.00	\$54,151.00

Three people made a P.L.C. contribution last week.

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

GOAL	\$165,000.00
Total Pledged	\$208,330.00
Total Received	\$14,247.00

PARKING LOT totaled \$3.00.

14 **CHILDREN** contributed \$49.00.

POOR BOX totaled \$61.00.

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass was 85; Saturday 7:00 P.M. was 120 and Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass was 140.

CHRISTMAS NOVENA

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires, through the merits of Our Savior, Jesus Christ, and of His Blessed Mother.

It is believed that whoever recites the above prayer 15 times a day from the Feast of St. Andrew (November 30) until Christmas will obtain what is asked.

THANK YOU to a member for a donation in thanks to the Holy Spirit, Sacred Heart, Precious Blood and St. Expedite; and to two members for their donations in thanks to St. Expedite.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS It is asked that everyone donate \$10 for poinsettias. Please give your donation to Bibbie's Catherine Ann, Bridget Rita, or the Church Office.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

"Have you been sleeping by an open window, like I told you?" asks a doctor to his patient.
"Yes, just like you said, doc."
"And is the bronchitis gone now?"
"Not yet, so far the only things gone are my laptop and cellphone."

ADDICTION PROBLEMS Do you have addiction problems? Please call Richard Harmon 803-270-8376.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
Monday: St. Catherine of Alexandria
Thursday: Thanksgiving Day
Saturday: St. Andrew

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: For the repose of the souls of Edward Straightner O'Hara on the 20th Anniversary of his death and Birdie Sherlock on her Birthday.
Tuesday: In honor of the Infant Jesus of Prague for all the sick and St. Joseph for all the holy souls in purgatory.
Wednesday: In thanks for Townes on her 2nd Birthday.
Thursday: In honor of St. Expedite, St. Joseph, Infant of Prague and the Blessed Mother for a special intention.
Friday: In thanks to the Infant Prague for the sick.

MY SECRET PLACE

*There's a secret place within my heart
Where no one else can go.
I enter there when I am sad
Or feeling kind of low.*

*I dwell upon God's love for me
And the happy times of the past.
I savor and draw strength from them;
The first memory until the last.*

*Each rhythmic beat of my contented heart
Reminds me that life must go on.
I close the door to my secret place
For now my blues have gone.*

READERS

Sat. Nov. 23rd, 4:00 P.M. Ritz & Ivana
Sat. Nov. 23rd, 7:00 P.M. Bridgette Anna & Carolyn
Sun. Nov. 24th, 10:00 A.M. Jimmy Joseph & Mary Cat
Sat. Nov. 30th, 4:00 P.M. Karen & Cathy Lisa
Sat. Nov. 30th, 7:00 P.M. Christina & Natalie
Sun. Dec. 1st, 10:00 A.M. Jimmy Joseph & Mary Cat

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday - Kara
Tuesday - Leah
Wednesday - Cathy Lisa
Thursday - Celia
Friday - Natalie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M. Front Left Cup
Nov. 23rd Bridget Ann Winnie Ann

Sunday 10:00 A.M.

Nov. 24th Pete Man's Nora Rose Marie
Dec. 1st Pete Man's Nora Rose Marie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday Cathy Pole
Tuesday Pete Man's Nora
Wednesday Margaret Butts
Thursday Betty Jo
Friday Mary Cat

~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TALENT AND GOD'S GIFT

A teacher can give a lecture for two hours on any subject.
—This is talent.
A wife can give a lecture for two hours without any subject.
—This is God's gift.
And a more deadly combination would be...
—If your wife is a teacher.

TRUTH

**You cannot be PERFECT without making MISTAKES.
You cannot get SUCCESS without facing FAILURES.
You cannot feel HAPPINESS without being SAD.
Everything comes in a PAIR and you can never get ONE without facing the OTHER.**

PRAYER FOR THE EASING OF FINANCIL DIFFICULTIES

Dear Lord, I have been taught that money is not what is most important, yet money is often a problem in my life. These latest financial difficulties are particularly hard. Help me to use money wisely — to resist buying what I do not need and to stop comparing my possessions with those of others. Grant me what I need in this life, so that I may care for myself and those dear to me, with enough to share with those less fortunate. Amen.