



## LET CHRIST BE THE KING OF YOUR HEART

On this important Solemnity of Christ the King we share "I Thirst." This truly powerful meditation based on Revelations 3:20 - "Behold, I stand at the door and knock."

Often attributed to Saint Teresa of Calcutta, it was actually written in 1986 by the late Fr. Joseph Langford, MC (Missionaries of Charity Fathers) to illustrate God's love for us. He was a very close friend of St. Teresa. Together they co-founded the Corpus Christi Movement for diocesan priests, the Corpus Christi Fraternity, and the religious congregation of Missionaries of Charity Fathers.

As you read it imagine Christ talking to you - direct, sincere, and fatherly.

## CHRIST THE KING IS KNOCKING, WILL YOU LET HIM IN?

It is true. I stand at the door of your heart, day, and night.

Even when you are not listening, even when you doubt it could be Me, I am there.

I await even the smallest sign of your response, even the least whispered invitation that will allow Me to enter.

And I want you to know that whenever you invite Me, I do come - always, without fail. Silent and unseen I come, but with infinite power and love, and bringing the many gifts of My Spirit. I come with My mercy, with My desire to forgive and heal you, and with a love for you beyond your comprehension - a love every bit as great as the love I have received from the Father ("As much as the Father has loved me, I have loved you..." [Jn. 15:10]). I come - longing to console you and give you strength, to lift you up and bind all your wounds. I bring you My light, to dispel your darkness and all your doubts. I come with My power, that I might carry you and all of your burdens; with My grace, to touch your heart and transform your life; and My peace I give to still your soul.

I know you through and through - I know everything about you. The very hairs of your head I have numbered. Nothing in your life is unimportant to Me. I have followed you through the years, and I have always loved you - even in your wanderings. I know every one of your



problems. I know your needs and your worries. And yes, I know all your sins. But I tell you again that I love you - not for what you have or haven't done - I love you for you, for the beauty and dignity My Father gave you by creating you in His own image. It is a dignity you have often forgotten, a beauty you have tarnished by sin. But I love you as you are, and I have shed My Blood to win you back. If you only ask Me with faith, My grace will touch all that needs changing in your life; and I will give you the strength to free yourself from sin and all its destructive power.

I know what is in your heart - I know your loneliness and all your hurts - the rejections, the judgments, the humiliations. I carried it all before you. And I carried it all for you, so you might share My strength and victory. I know

especially your need for love - how you are thirsting to be loved and cherished. But how often have you thirsted in vain, by seeking that love selfishly, striving to fill the emptiness inside you with passing pleasures - with the even greater emptiness of sin. Do you thirst for love? "Come to Me all you who thirst..." (Jn. 7:37). I will satisfy you and fill you. Do you thirst to be cherished? I cherish you more than you can imagine - to the point of dying on a cross for you.

I thirst for you. Yes, that is the only way to even begin to describe My love for you: I THIRST FOR YOU. I thirst to love you and to be loved by you - that is how precious you are to Me. I THIRST FOR YOU. Come to Me, and I will fill your heart and heal your wounds. I will make you a new creation. and give you peace, even in all your trials. I THIRST FOR YOU. You must never doubt My mercy, My acceptance of you; My desire to forgive, My longing to bless you and live My life in you. I THIRST FOR YOU. If you feel unimportant in the eyes of the world, that matters not at all. For Me, there is no one any more important in the entire world than you. I THIRST FOR YOU. Open to Me, come to Me, thirst for Me, give Me your life - and I will prove to you how important you are to My Heart.

Don't you realize that My Father already has a perfect plan to transform your life,

Continue...

beginning from this moment? Trust in Me. Ask Me every day to enter and take charge of your life - and I will. I promise you before My Father in heaven that I will work miracles in your life. Why would I do this? Because I **THIRST FOR YOU**. All I ask of you is that you entrust yourself to Me completely. I will do all the rest.

Even now I behold the place My Father has prepared for you in My Kingdom. Remember that you are a pilgrim in this life, on a journey home. Sin can never satisfy you or bring the peace you seek. All that you have sought outside of Me has only left you more empty, so do not cling to the things of this life. Above all, do not run from Me when you fall. Come to Me without delay. When you give Me your sins, you give Me the joy of being your Savior. There is nothing I cannot forgive and heal; so, come now, and unburden your soul.

No matter how far you may wander, no matter how often you forget Me, no matter how many crosses you may bear in this life; there is one thing I want you to always remember, one thing that will never change: I **THIRST FOR YOU** - just as you are. You don't need to change to believe in My love, for it will be your belief in My love that will change you. You forget Me, and yet I am seeking you every moment of the day - standing at the door of your heart and knocking. Do you find this hard to believe? Then look at the cross, look at My Heart that was pierced for you. Have you not understood My cross? Then listen again to the words I spoke there - for they tell you clearly why I endured all this for you: "I **THIRST...**" (Jn. 19:28). Yes, I thirst for you - as the rest of the psalm-verse I was praying says of Me: "I looked for love, and I found none..." (Ps. 69:20). All your life I have been looking for your love - I have never stopped seeking to love you and be loved by you. You have tried many other things in your search for happiness; why not try opening your heart to Me, right now, more than you ever have before.

Whenever you do open the door of your heart, whenever you come close enough, you will hear Me say to you again and again, not in mere human words but in spirit: "No matter what you have done, I

love you for your own sake. Come to Me with your misery and your sins, with your troubles and needs, and with all your longing to be loved. I stand at the door of your heart and knock ...Open to Me, for I **THIRST FOR YOU**...

This is available with images on YouTube at: [YOUTU.BE/UXRLDEURXIS](https://youtu.be/UXRLDEURXIS).

## CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY



Since 1925, on last Sunday of the liturgical year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Christ the King. Pope Pius XI initiated the feast during a time when there was a growing belief that religious values should not play any role in the policy and government affairs.

In creating the solemnity, he was reminding all of us that "while governments and philosophies come and go, Christ reigns as king forever."

He wrote in his Encyclical, *Quas Primas*, that we need to identify Christ as the one true King. He declares in doing so "society will at last receive the great blessings of real liberty, well-ordered discipline, peace, and harmony."

The day emphasizes we can't just worship Christ on Sunday and then throw Him and His teachings out the rest of the week. We must acknowledge proper honor and glory to God, and welcome Him into our minds, our words, our hearts, and our homes. God doesn't need pomp and circumstance. He wants genuine sincerity and humility. Christ accepts our imperfections and shortcomings and loves us unconditionally.

Celebrate Him on this great solemnity but remember to let Him guide you every day!

## FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF MARY

On Nov. 21, we celebrate the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, honoring the day her parents, Joachim and Anne, took her to the temple to dedicate her to God and be raised at the Temple as a consecrated virgin. This was to fulfill a promise made by her parents. They were childless and desperately longed and prayed for a child. They promised if they were blessed with a child that they would joyfully have the child be completely dedicated to the God.

The account is not in the bible, but is part of an apocrypha (related writing, specifically the Protoevangelium of James, on the life of Mary believe to have been written prior to 200 AD) based on tradition and accounts from the era.

The feast emphasizes that Mary has always been dedicated to God.



*Heavenly Father, the Blessed Virgin Mary was dedicated to You by her parents, when she was three. In the temple, she joined the girls who spent their days praying, reading Scripture, and serving the temple priests.*

*Please, guide me to where you want me to be in life. Help me not to stray and remind me of your mercy when I do. Grant me grace, patience, and understanding so I may dedicate my life to You.*

*In the loving thought of Mary, St. Joachim and St. Anne, let your will be done. Amen.*



## CCHD SUPPORTS INNOVATIVE RESPONSE TO POVERTY

By: Susan Hollis, Catholic Charities West Virginia Diocesan Director of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development

In the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is housed within Catholic Charities West Virginia. With both organizations having missions to create positive change for people living in poverty, our work compliments each other and is motivated by love.



Refresh Appalachia, one of Coalfield's social enterprises, supplies fresh produce to farmer's markets and restaurants across southern WV.

CCHD, started by the USCCB in 1970, works with diverse organizations across the country that are addressing the root causes of poverty in innovative ways. Here in West Virginia, two organizations recently received funding from CCHD: Coalfield Development Corporation and Try This WV.

Coalfield Development Corporation is a business incubator of social enterprises in Wayne County. Since 2010, they have been striving to employ would-be coalminers and other unemployed people in diversified work opportunities. Following the 33-6-3 business model, trainees work for 33 hours each week, are in the classroom for 6 hours, and receive professional and personal development for 3 hours each week. This model, developed by Coalfield, speaks to the fact that people sometimes need more than a job to keep themselves on track. Incentivizing education and personal development so concretely has led to very successful graduates of the trainee program.



SustainU, one of Coalfield's social enterprises, pivoted during the pandemic to sew custom masks.

Try This West Virginia strives to get West Virginia off the top of the worst-health lists. They focus on healthy lifestyles

and eating practices coupled with policy work to combat health issues including obesity, heart disease, and diabetes. This statewide network of movers and shakers gives local communities the opportunity to learn



A pre-COVID community organizing workshop hosted by Try This West Virginia. They are brainstorming ways to change policy and organize projects.

best practices, create new initiatives, and infuse energy by funding mini-grants and hosting interactive workshops. Since 2014, Try This has awarded more than \$780,000 to local West Virginia communities. They have funded 367 healthy-community projects, ranging from community and school gardens to active afterschool programs, to forming healthy community councils in city governments to supporting health-related policy statewide.

Both of these organizations are doing vital work and creatively addressing issues that have been around for decades. Coalfield and Try This are working for the good of people in West Virginia.



An afterschool mountain biking program in Pocahontas County - a winner of a Try This West Virginia mini grant.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development strives to eradicate poverty by removing barriers, supporting organizations that are made up of and for the poor, and educating all people on the realities of living in poverty. Learn more by visiting [povertyusa.org](http://povertyusa.org) or contacting Susan at [shollis@ccwva.org](mailto:shollis@ccwva.org).

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, visit [CATHOLICCHARITIESWV.ORG](http://CATHOLICCHARITIESWV.ORG).



# ON THANKSGIVING WE PRAISE THE LORD

Dear Lord,  
on Thanksgiving Day, we bow our hearts to  
You in prayer.

We give You thanks for all You have done,  
mostly for the gift of Jesus Christ, Your Son.  
For beauty in nature, in which we see Your  
glory, for joy and health, friends, and family.  
For our daily bread, Your mercy and care,  
these are the blessings You kindly share.  
So today, we offer this proclamation of praise  
with a promise to follow You, imitate Your  
ways, and see You in others all of our days.

All glory and honor are Yours.

Amen.



## Retirement Fund for Religious

**Please give to those who have given a lifetime.**

**Please donate at your local parish or by mail at:**

National Religious Retirement Office

3211 Fourth Street NE

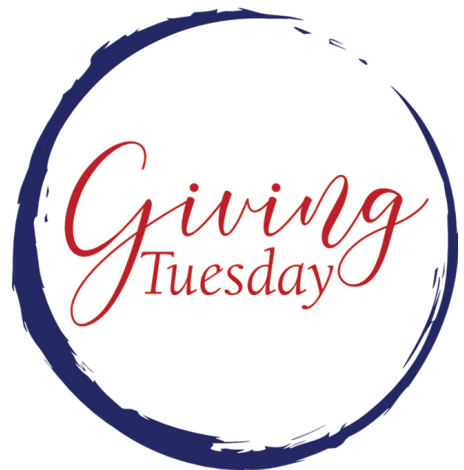
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Make check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious.

[retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org)

Above, from left: Sister Alice Garcia, SSCJ, 91; Brother Martin Gonzales, OCSO, 95; Sister Theresa McGrath, CCVI, 86; Sister Anne Cecile Muldoon, OSU, 93; Abbot Emeritus Peter Eberle, OSB, 79.  
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*Join us* online, as we gather  
together to raise funds, support our  
parishes & ministries, and share our faith!



## DECEMBER 1, 2020

[DWC.ORG/GIVINGTUESDAY](http://DWC.ORG/GIVINGTUESDAY)



# THE SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

## First Reading EZEKIEL 34:11-12, 15-17

Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will look after and tend my sheep. As a shepherd tends his flock when he finds himself among his scattered sheep, so will I tend my sheep. I will rescue them from every place where they were scattered when it was cloudy and dark. I myself will pasture my sheep; I myself will give them rest, says the Lord GOD. The lost I will seek out, the strayed I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, the sick I will heal, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy, shepherding them rightly. As for you, my sheep, says the Lord GOD, I will judge between one sheep and another, between rams and goats.

## Responsorial PSALMS 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6

**R. (1) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose.

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

Beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul. He guides me in right paths for his name's sake.

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for years to come.

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

## Second Reading 1 CORINTHIANS 15:20-26, 28

Brothers and sisters:

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the first fruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father, when he has destroyed every sovereignty and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

## Alleluia MARK 11:9, 10

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## Gospel MATTHEW 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.' Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.' Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we make our responsibility to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, and comfort the neglected a priority, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For world leaders, that they may be inspired by Jesus' call to care for the underprivileged, while developing policies and laws to show that compassion, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For those all who seek the Lord in today's complicated world, that they may see the face of Christ reflected in the goodness of others, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all of us, as we celebrate Thanksgiving this week, that we may have a grateful heart every day and no matter life's struggles, let us pray to the Lord. . .

*Lord hear our prayer*

# LET US GO *Rejoicing* TO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD.

PSALM 122

## UPDATED GUIDELINES RELEASED

Bishop Mark E. Brennan released updated guidelines for our churches and facilities.

- New Norms for Reopening Parish Facilities for Meetings and Gatherings
- Updated Liturgical Guidelines
- Music Protocols for Liturgical Celebrations

These are available online at [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org).

## *Liturgy of the Hours* LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to view a PDF version of the Liturgy of the Hours.

[EBREVIARY.COM](http://EBREVIARY.COM) [LITURGY OF THE HOURS](http://LITURGY OF THE HOURS)



## WV CATHOLIC RADIO BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOU

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## A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



## THE LATEST AND UPCOMING NEWS FROM THE CATHOLIC *Spirit*

### THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT IS NOW AVAILABLE BY E-MAIL!!

Join our e-list to receive The Catholic Spirit by e-mail. To be added, please e-mail Colleen Rowan, [CROWAN@DWC.ORG](mailto:CROWAN@DWC.ORG), with "The Catholic Spirit e-list" in the subject line. Please provide your preference of: "E-mail only" or "E-mail and Printed Copy." Those selecting e-mail only, will no longer receive a printed copy. The Catholic Spirit is available under "Downloadable Spirit" at [THECATHOLICSPIRITWV.ORG](http://THECATHOLICSPIRITWV.ORG).

## MASS ONLINE

Saturday 6pm Masses will continue to be livestreamed from the Cathedral of St. Joseph, and will be available on our website each Sunday at [DWC.ORG](http://DWC.ORG).

Below are four options for enriching your spirit through daily Mass online.

- EWTN airs daily Mass from Our Lady of Angels Chapel, in Irondale, Alabama, at 8am, noon, and 7pm: [HTTPS://WWW.EWTN.COM/TV/WATCH-LIVE](https://www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live)
- St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York has daily Mass live streamed at 7am: [HTTPS://SAINTPATRICKSCATHEDRAL.ORG/LIVE](https://saintpatrickscathedral.org/live)
- Catholic TV also streams its daily Mass: [HTTP://CATHOLICTV.ORG/MASSES/CATHOLICTV-MASS](http://catholicTV.org/masses/catholicTV-mass)
- Daily Mass Online at Notre Dame' Basilica of the Sacred Heart is live at 11:30 am Monday-Friday: [HTTPS://CAMPUSMINISTRY.ND.EDU/MASS-WORSHIP/BASILICA-OF-THE-SACRED-HEART/WATCH-MASS/SPECIAL-MASSSES/](https://campusministry.nd.edu/mass-worship/basilica-of-the-sacred-heart/watch-mass/special-masses/)