

24 NOVEMBER, 2024

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

From Father Jacob

Christ is King!

We are sometimes fooled by crowns, castles, and pageantry into thinking that kings and queens are a romantic sort of thing. After all, in most of those countries that have a king or queen today it is a kindly old man or woman who seems pretty harmless. But of course those kings and queens are just empty figureheads. They don't do anything. Being a real king is not romantic.

Any real king, including those modern-day kings' ancestors, is the king because he has the biggest army and is willing to use it to get rid of those who would threaten him. That's a big part of why we're so fortunate not to have an earthly king here in the US. Kings become kings by conquest.

Jesus Christ is the king of the Universe. Does he have an army? Has he conquered? Does he off people who threaten him?

Yes Jesus has an army. He has a great host of angels at his command. He also has you, who were drafted into His army when you were baptized, armed for combat when you were confirmed, and now are sent out to fight for Him. That fight is first and foremost a fight within your own heart.

Yes Jesus has conquered. He has defeated and destroyed sin and death by his victory on the cross, and he has taken the spoils of war: again, you. We were slaves in the kingdom of sin and death, but we have been freed by Jesus's conquest and now we are His subjects.

No Jesus doesn't need to worry about other people threatening Him. Jesus is God, and no one could ever threaten or challenge Him. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom because it is He Himself. No one could ever take it from Him, but anyone is free to come to Him or to leave. The choice is ours.

Thanksgiving Mass

Join us for Thanksgiving Mass at 8am! What an appropriate way to start our Thanksgivings with *the* act of thanksgiving: the Eucharist.

There will *not* be a 5:30 pm Mass on Thanksgiving.

There will be 8 am Mass on Friday.

Advent

In Advent we prepare for the coming of the Lord. We want to celebrate his *first coming* as a helpless child in Bethlehem to save us. We want to be watchful and alert for His *second coming* in glory when He will judge the living and the dead. We want to joyfully receive His "*middle coming*" here and now. Jesus comes to you now in the grace of the sacraments. He comes in prayer and in the Scriptures. He comes in the poor who need your help, friendship, and prayers. He comes in the daily events of life that bless you.

We have a lot to prepare for!

One of the best ways we can prepare the way of the Lord and make straight His paths is by going to confession.

We have confessions:

Every Saturday 3:00—3:45 pm

Every Sunday 7:00—7:45 am

Advent Thursdays 4:30—5:15 pm

Or by appointment, or *almost* anytime you see Father Jacob anywhere.

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READINGS FOR: December 1, 2024
1ST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16
2ND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2
GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

MASS SCHEDULE

Tue 11/26 8:00 am Bob Burke & Don Friedrichsen-RIP
Wed 11/27 8:00 am Pat Hudek-RIP
Thurs 11/28 8:00 pm Lisa Shafer
Fri 11/29 8:00 am Bernie Erickson-RIP
Sat 11/30 4:00 pm Karen Mehsling-RIP & Maxine Gotto-RIP
Sun 12/1 8:00 am Kenneth Finnegan-RIP
10:00 am Janell Allen
Noon St. Peter's Parish

SATURDAY, 4PM November 30, 2024
ALTAR SERVERS: Rowan Jackson, Emma & Nicholas Rodenberg
LECTORS: Wayne Stangl & Jim Svajgl
EUCH MINISTERS: Eucharistic Minister needed
USHERS: Jack Gross, Linda Bonham, Fred Schaben, One usher needed

SUNDAY, 8 AM, December 1, 2024
ALTAR SERVERS: Connor, Elle, Addie McGrath
LECTORS: Hunter Venteicher, Jim Pidgeon
EUCH MINISTERS: Jim Havermann
USHERS: Kieth Wirtz, Mike Rosloniec, Russ Goeser, Dennis Coughlin

SUNDAY, 10 AM December 1, 2024
ALTAR SERVERS: Kyla & Alyssa Brockelsby, Carter Rossbund
LECTORS: Craig Menges, Eric Ely
EUCH MINISTERS: Patty Gantt
USHERS: Dave Bristol, Bryan Carolus, Jill and Zachary Clevenger

SUNDAY, NOON December 1, 2024
ALTAR SERVERS: Mason Olson, Emma Thompson, Aubree Brandau
LECTORS: Andrea Barnes, Casey Peters
EUCH MINISTERS: Janet Hogsed
USHERS: Rob Peters, Trevor Yanovich, Chris Olson, Meg Busch

FATHER'S THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

Do I say Jesus is my king? Do my choices say it? Do my actions say it? Do my priorities say it? What would it look like if they did?

Do I listen to His voice? Jesus speaks clearly through His Church. If I wish to belong to the truth I should listen.

Santa Claus will be at the Father Kottas Social Hall on Sunday, December 8 after the 10:00 am Mass. Be sure to bring your list so you can tell him how good you've been. Enjoy rolls, cookies, juice, milk, and hot chocolate. See attached flyer for all the important info.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS Meeting is Tuesday, December 3, 2024 in the St. Patrick's Social Hall. Mass at 6pm, followed by a short meeting and our Christmas party. Women, 18 years or older from all Council Bluffs parishes are welcome to join. Visit our website at www.cda330.org.

November 30 is the last day to order Christmas wreaths and arrangements for the Council Bluffs area cemeteries. See the attached flyer form to order. These wreaths will be placed on the graves before Christmas and stay until the middle of March.

The Knights of Columbus are now selling Gorilla Car Washes as a fundraiser. See attached flyer for more information and how to buy. These make wonderful stocking stuffers.

Thanks to generous donations all over Council Bluffs we have exceeded our donations of food needed for this years City-wide Thanksgiving Dinner. Volunteers needed to deliver meals on Thanksgiving Day please email cbthanksgivingdinner@gmail.com. Thank you, City wide Thanksgiving Dinner, Linda Pfenning, Corodinator

FULLY ALIVE YOUTH GROUP MEETING is Sunday, December 1, 2024 at St. Peter's-See flyer for details on this special meeting and "Baby Shower for Jesus" to collect baby needs for Birthright.

LIFE ACCORDING TO JEAN.....

- According to my chocolate Advent calendar, there are only three days til Christmas.
• That annoying moment when you're texting someone and auto-correct decides to join the conversation.
• If people were meant to pop out of bed, we'd all sleep in toasters.
• Being married means mostly shouting "what?" from other rooms.
• I hate that moment when you are tired and sleepy but as soon as you go to bed your body is like "just kidding."
• Doing nothing is hard. You never know when you're done.
• People say "go big or go home" like going home is a bad thing. Heck yeah I want to go home, and I'll have a nap when I get there.
• If nobody sees you eating it, it doesn't contain any calories. Follow me for more diet tips.
• Always answer the door wearing a coat. If you are pleased to see them, say you just got home. If you don't want them to come in tell them you were just leaving. Follow me for more life tips.
• I think I'm worth every headache I give.
• People who take naps are the real heroes. It takes courage to wake up twice in one day.
• Why is everyone so against sugar? Who stood by you when things went wrong in your life? Who comforted you? It wasn't broccoli, that's for sure.
• I'm going to need some of you guys to start getting weirder. I cannot keep pulling all the weight.

HAVE A GREAT WEEK, STAY SAFE, BE NICE TO EACH OTHER

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, November 26-Women's Book Club 6:30 in hall
Wednesday, November 27-No Rel Ed or Confirmation
Thursday & Friday, November 28 & 29 OFFICE CLOSED

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