

Today's Introit takes from the prophecy of Isaiah, chapter 45, vs. 8 & Psalm 18:2. We identify them scripturally then understand them in relation to the feast. Verses in bold print mark Introit inclusions.

Isaiah, “Yahweh is salvation,” the first of the four great prophets (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel), was born in 760 BC, of a priestly or noble family of Jerusalem. After the Judean King, Uzziah, died (742 BC), Isaiah received his prophetic call while praying in the temple: *I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted,.. Then flew a seraphim to me having a burning coal which he had taken with tongs from the altar. He touched my mouth and said, “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin forgiven.” And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”* (Is 6:1-8). Henceforth, Isaiah proclaimed the downfall of Israel & Judah for their infidelity, the Babylonian exile & return, and reformation of life, intermixed with the heavenly dew of Christ’s coming. In 686 BC, Isaiah was sawn in half for correcting his son-in-law, King Manassas.

Chapter 45 is summed: “A prophecy of Cyrus, as a figure of Christ, the great deliverer of God’s people.”

8. Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain the just: let the earth be opened, and bud forth a savior: (and let justice spring up together: I the Lord have created him.)

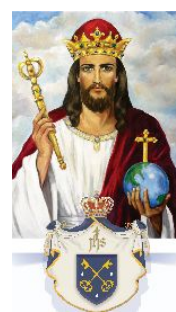
Drop down dew... regards, as it were, heaven, the region above this life, sending down the divine nature; **let the earth be opened...** regards the earth receiving this divine Rain and adding something of itself, a created human nature, which produced, as we know, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, true God and true man.

Psalm 18 is paraphrased: “The works of God show forth his glory: his law is greatly to be esteemed and loved.”

2. The heavens show forth the glory of God, and the firmament declares the work of his hands.

The heavens, which are plain to all, wonderfully prove the beauty of the Law which is less obvious. **The heavens show forth...** St. Bellarmine says the heavens, by their grandeur & beauty, especially show God’s glory. *Heavens* and *firmament* mean the same thing i.e., the whole celestial plenitude: sun, moon, stars, etc., as in Genesis: “*and God called the firmament heaven.*” Again, a humble study of the heavens gives us an idea of the majesty of their Maker & the perfection of His Law.

The Feast of the 4th Sunday of Advent ends our Christmas preparations, leaving us with two presents beneath our spiritual Christmas tree. The Epistle beckons us to leave judgments to God: *judge not before the time, until the Lord come...*; the Gospel invites us towards self-perfection: *Prepare ye the way of the Lord...* Let us open these treasures and use them wisely so that, when He comes again, we may be found worthy of His eternal gift of heaven.



CHRIST THE KING Catholic Church

An apostolate of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter
preaching the Gospel & sanctifying souls
according to the liturgical books of 1962.

4th (Rorate) Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021

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Christ the King Catholic Church.

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The Daily Mass Schedule is:

Monday at 12 noon

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:00 am and 9:00 am.

Friday at 9:00 am and 6:30 pm. (On Friday, a 5:30 pm Holy Hour & confession time, precedes the 6:30 pm Mass.)

Saturday at 9:00 am.

The Sunday Mass Schedule is:

7:00 am low; 8:30 am low; 10:30 am sung; and 12:30 pm low.

Items on the “Blessing Table” in the hall are blessed after the 12:30 pm Mass; or, after the 10:30 am Mass, if there is no 12:30 pm Mass.

Confessions are heard in the confessional box ½ hour before Mass.

In Ocala:

Sunday Mass at 4:30 pm

Monday Mass at 7 am.

1st Saturday Mass at 10:30 am.

Sarasota “Lost & Found”
now located in the office

Liturgical Calendar for the Upcoming Week

DATE	FEAST	CLASS/COLOR	COMMEMORATION
Sun 12-19	4 th (<i>Rorate</i>) Sunday of Advent	1/V	
Mon 12-20	Greater Feria of Advent	2/V	
Tues 12-21	St Thomas	2/R	Feria
Wed 12-22	Greater Feria of Advent	2/V	
Thu 12-23	Greater Feria of Advent	2/V	
Fri 12-24	Vigil of Christmas	1/V	
Sat 12-25	The Nativity of Our Lord	1/W	St Anastasia (Dawn Mass)
Sun 12-26	Sunday in the Octave	2/W	St Stephen



Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week in Sarasota

Sun 12-19	(7 am) Amy Miller Allen (8:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (10:30 am) Jack Kitko+ rb MF Kitko (12:30 pm) Thanksgiving to God rb N Truong
Mon 12-20	(12 pm) George Hemeryck rb his daughters
Tues 12-21	(7 am) Fr Mahowald rb B Rodriguez (9 am) Tim Steindorf+ rb Marchand family
Wed 12-22	(7 am) Mary Burns rb Anonymos (9 am) Jeanette deLallo+ rb J & MJ Redding
Thu 12-23	(7 am) Maria Dinh rb K Dinh (9 am) Francie Huber Maurad rb D Matthews
Fri 12-24	(9 am) Blessed Virgin Mary rb A friend (6:30 pm) No Mass
Sat 12-25	(12 am, Midnight Mass) <i>Pro-populo</i> (8:30 am, Dawn Mass) The Holy Father (10:30 am, Day Mass) All unborn babies
Sun 12-26	(7 am) Children of David & Kathy Wilson (8:30 am) Intentions of the Sacred Heart rb L&D Duerbeck (10:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (12:30 pm) Joseph & Wihelmina Mercier+ rb D Priest

Merry *almost* Christmas!

Today's 10:30 am Mass: creator of the Stars (#799), *Asperges* (#567); Mass XVII (#762) & Credo I (#768); Exit: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel (#796).

This week, Monday, Vespers (5 pm); **Wednesday,** Choir practice (7 pm); **Thursday,** CtK day at Planned Parenthood (1-5 pm); **Friday,** no 5:30 pm Holy Hour or Mass; **Saturday, Sarasota Christmas Mass schedule (see above); Ocala Christmas Mass schedule:** 12 am Midnight Mass, 7 am Dawn Mass (without distribution of Communion), immediately followed by 7:30 am Day Mass with distribution.]

Last Sunday's collection: \$6,262.00; CFA \$1,245.00.

Attendance: 7 am-63; 8:30 am-108; 10:30 am-152; 12:30 pm-67; total 390 souls.

Christmas Caroling! Tues., Dec. 21 from 10:45 to 11:30 am, join sidewalk counselors in front of Planned Parenthood to witness Jesus Christ, once in the womb of His Blessed Mother. May this touch the heart of every pregnant woman, PP workers, and any standbeyer in the area! Contact Missy if you have questions.

HELP! Christ the King's day at Planned Parenthood nears (12/23). Sign-up for an hour from 1-5 pm in the vestibule; or email Missy at mlfunderburk@gmail.com.

Thank you for parking on G. Fried Flooring America, to our NE about 75 yards, before parking on our grass.

We are now collecting money to replace our aging shutter-windows with impact windows, a \$10,000.00 project. To date \$3,675.01 has been collected.

Status of 2021 CFA at Christ the King as of December 9, 2021: \$73,000.00 assessed by the diocese; \$56,215.41 pledged; 77.01% of goal; from 30.72% of 153 households; payments being \$55,555.41. (from dioceseofvenice.org) **Regarding CFA donations,** write checks to "Catholic Faith Appeal" or "CFA" and on memo line "Christ the King."

Thank you for your donations to CFA. This last month, may I suggest you concentrate your giving to this fund; it really does help us.

The Diocese of Venice mandates a Volunteer Management System, whereby volunteers sign in & out at the kiosk located just outside the sacristy. Please see Susan, our church secretary, who will, painlessly, help you register. **Thank you** to those who have already registered. You help keep CtK going!

Please pray for: Frank Burns, McNamara family (12/19), Debbie Jaquith, Larry & Mary Jo Sciscenti, Mark Wendel, Anne Finazzo, Jo Cunningham (12/5); Lynda Hall, Winston Shuttleworth, Tom Costo (11/28); and Hoa Pham (11/21).

Sunday Dress & Modesty: Please dress appropriately at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. When sitting, a woman's dress should reach below her knees, cover the shoulders, and rest near the pit of the throat; a man ought to wear a suit & tie, or, at least, a collared shirt & clean slacks; shorts, short skirts, shirts with slogans, baggy or tight-fitting clothes are all inappropriate.

Attend the annual Catholic Days at the Capitol in Tallahassee from Feb., 1-3, 2022. The 3-day trip includes a legislative briefing on bills relating to human life, a breakfast with legislators & Florida Bishops, tours of the capitol & museum, scheduled visits with legislators & the annual Red Mass. Bus transportation is free. To registration (Jan. 10 deadline) see <https://dioceseofvenice.regfox.com/catholic-days-at-the-capitol-2022>; or Jeanne Berdeaux at Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org or 941-374-1068, or visit <https://www.facebook.com/edac>.

Be kind to everyone you meet, for we are all in a great battle!