

Christ the King Year C 2016

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Thanksgiving is this Thursday. Here is a nice prayer to use for Thanksgiving diner:

Heavenly Father, bless us. Bless this food that we are going to receive through your kindness. Bless the hands that prepared it. Give as much to those who don't have anything and grant your peace and justice to all. Bless this hour and fill it with happiness. This we ask you through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

2. Aileen's Art in New Stuyahok: I was able to check out Aileen's beautiful artwork hanging over the office door at the school when I flew to New Stuyahok this week.



3. The past week I was able to fly to Saint Theresa in Naknek/King Salmon, Saint Peter the Fisherman in Clarks Point, and New Stuyahok. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New\\_Stuyahok,\\_Alaska](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Stuyahok,_Alaska).

I caught a three mile ride to the New Stu school from the airport. I asked about Catholic teachers but there were none. I asked the people who prepared the student's lunch to let any new Catholics know that I am available to fly out if a Catholic Priest is needed.



## **HOMILY**

The Gospel says, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."  
Will Jesus remember you when you come into his Kingdom?

### **NEED OF A PASSPORT**

When you enter another country you need a passport. A custom official will stamp your passport to keep tabs on you. A passport also ensures that if you do something against the law in one country, you have to be judged according to the laws in the United States.

### **HEAVENLY PASSPORT STAMPED**

Jesus will remember you when you attempt to come into his heavenly kingdom because you will have a heavenly passport. Christ the King has stamped your passport in order to keep tabs on you. You will need this heavenly passport because you will someday be judged, not by a court system, but by God.

### **OUR PASSPORT WILL NOT HAVE...**

Our heavenly passport will not have our race, age, nationality, or culture stamped on it. The passport will not say: I was a member of Sacred Heart Parish; I was married for 50 years; I raised ten children; I prayed the rosary twice a day.

### **STEPPING STONES**

The way we pray, worship, and what we believe are all important in our lives here on earth. These are all stepping-stones and landmarks that lead us to do what is really important.

### **WHAT IS IMPORTANT?**

The King of Heaven will ultimately judge us on what is REALLY important: our behavior in relation to our neighbor who is in need. Christ the King is our example. During his life on earth, he took pity on the poor, helped the defenseless, and was kind to outcasts.

### **GOAL SETTING**

One of the most difficult things for me before I became a priest was changing my Business oriented thinking. I set goals for myself. I used physical,

financial, and social objectives to meet those goals. Setting goals is a great way to excel in certain areas. It really works.

### **SPIRITUALLY GOAL SETTING DOES NOT WORK**

Goal setting does not work in the spiritual realm. We cannot say that if we go to church every Sunday, donate a certain amount of money, or pray every day, then we will go to heaven. It does not work that way. We cannot do something good and expect something in return. One has to do good for the sake of doing good and not for some other human reason, i.e. recognition, approval, or gifts.

### **TREASURE IN HEAVEN**

In the seminary I learned that I do not have to please anyone but God. Storing treasure in heaven means pleasing God is enough. Heavenly treasure helps to ensure that when standing before those pearly gates, Christ the King will give your passport that stamp of approval. Treasure in heaven ensures that Jesus will remember you when you come into his Kingdom.

### **WHAT I WANT STAMPED ON MY VISA**

As we grow in our spiritual lives we learn the language of love. I pray the language stamped on my visa says this: I allowed Christ the King to be my shepherd. I learned to trust and follow God. I walk where the Lord leads. I lead others to the restful waters, to healing, and to love (495 Words).

### **READINGS**

2 Samuel 5:1-3 – All the tribes of Israel came to David in Hebron and said: "Here we are, your bone and your flesh. In days past, when Saul was our king, it was you who led the Israelites out and brought them back. And the LORD said to you, 'You shall shepherd my people Israel and shall be commander of Israel.'" When all the elders of Israel came to David in Hebron, King David made an agreement with them there before the LORD, and they anointed him king of Israel.

Colossians 1:12-20 – Giving thanks to the Father, who has made you fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light. He delivered us from the power of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For in him were created all things

in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers; all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things he himself might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile all things for him, making peace by the blood of his cross (through him), whether those on earth or those in heaven.

Luke 23:35-43 – The people stood by and watched; the rulers, meanwhile, sneered at him and said, "He saved others, let him save himself if he is the chosen one, the Messiah of God." Even the soldiers jeered at him. As they approached to offer him wine they called out, "If you are King of the Jews, save yourself." Above him there was an inscription that read, "This is the King of the Jews." Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us." The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply, "Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

## **INTERCESSIONS**

### **Celebrant**

Christ's rule in our lives brings us peace and freedom. With confidence we turn to him with all our needs.

### **Deacon/Lector**

Let us pray for those in positions of authority among God's people: may we always know the power and love of Christ's kingship, we pray to the Lord.

For the world, that all who govern tend first to the needs of the poor, we pray to the Lord.

We remember, especially today, all young people: may they have hearts open to God's will for them, and play their parts in the building up of the kingdom, we pray to the Lord.

Let us pray for those who are sick, sad, or lonely: may the majesty of God's love for them console and heal them, we pray to the Lord.

For those who have died: That the Lord will welcome into the fullness of life all those who call upon his name, we pray to the Lord.

In Silence, let us now add our own intentions for our community and for the world.....We pray to the Lord.

**Celebrant**

Heavenly Father, teach us as we place our trust in you, to live lives worthy of your royal household, through Christ, our Lord and King.