



SAINT ANTHONY of PADUA
Catholic Community

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 26, 2023

✦ Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

JESUS CHRIST is king of all creation. At the end of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me" (28:18). The Book of Revelation calls him, "King of kings and Lord of lords" (19:16). People wanted to make Jesus a king after he worked the miracle of the loaves, but he went away by himself instead (John 6:15). They wanted a secular king to govern their land. Jesus wanted to rule their hearts.

The Catholic Church celebrates the kingship of Christ on the last Sunday of the Church year. The liturgical year reaches its climax in a celebration that honors the supreme command of Christ. He has dominion over all creation, and he rules every person who believes in him.

The Solemnity of Christ the King entered the Catholic calendar in 1925, which Pope Pius XI had set aside as a holy year. Pius thought the feast would bring the year to a solemn close, help combat the forces of secularism, and remind the world that Christ is its ultimate ruler. The pope chose the last Sunday of October because of its proximity to the end of the liturgical year and to serve as a prelude to All Saints Day on Nov. 1. The same day was already being observed as Reformation Sunday in the Protestant traditions.

Pope Paul VI moved the observance from the end of October to the very last Sunday of the Church year in order to exalt its theme even more. Now we end the year with an idea that sums up all that we have celebrated and that prepares us to start anew: this Jesus, whose birth we will soon celebrate, is the king of all creation.

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ADVENT RESOURCES! In keeping with parish tradition, *Advent Calendars* as well as new copies of "*At Home with the Word*" will be distributed to all families beginning November 26th and will be available while supplies last. The first Sunday in Advent is December 3, 2023. As you already know, the first Sunday in Advent begins a new liturgical year. Happy New Year! 😊

LECTOR RESOURCES AVAILABLE: With the new liturgical year approaching, the newest edition of the *Workbook for Readers* is now available to all those on the reading rotation for mass. This helpful book will put the Sunday readings in your hands along with a pronunciation guide and important background to help you in your ministry of the Word. Get yours from Fr. Jason or Fr. Julian!

BOOK OF THE NAMES OF THE DEAD-FINAL WEEK: Feel free to write names before or after mass as the book remains open and on display in church. This is the last Sunday that this book will be on display, but you'll be able to add names any time upon request.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION: Our next Faith Formation Day will be **Sunday, December 3rd**.

CHRISTMAS EVE/CHRISTMAS DAY: This year the 4th Sunday of Advent is on December 24th. That means there will be mass on Sunday and the next day, December 25th, at 12:30pm. This is not a matter of choosing "*which*" to attend. Please plan on attending both in celebration of our faith.

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY: There will be no fellowship for the month of December due to the holiday celebrations all around us! The next Fellowship Sunday will be **January 28, 2024**.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY: In the event of severe weather that may prohibit safe travel to/from mass on Sunday, notification will be made first on the parish Facebook Page and then on the parish website. When possible, a virtual mass will be provided from Fr. Jason or Fr. Julian's home. We hope to make these decisions Saturday evening.