

I AM 'THE VOICE OF ONE
CRYING OUT IN THE DESERT,
"MAKE STRAIGHT THE WAY
OF THE LORD"' JOHN 1:23

Christ the King Parish



Christ the King Church

123 Good Street · Houtzdale, PA 16651

Immaculate Conception Mission Church

408 Stone Street · Osceola Mills, PA 16666

Clergy

Rev. Johnathan Schmolt, Pastor
Deacon Eugene J. Miller, Deacon Assistant
Rev. Joseph Staszewski, Retired

Office Hours at Christ the King

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday..... 9am until 3pm

Christ the King Phone 814-378-7653

Immaculate Conception Phone 814-339-7321

Office email office@ctk-ic.org

Marriages

Arrangements begin 4 to 6 months prior to anticipated date.

Baptisms

Call rectory for appointment.

Mass Schedule

Sunday: 8:30am (IC), 10am (CTK)

Saturday: Mass 4pm; Confession 3-3:30pm (CTK)

Weekdays: Monday 8:30am (IC); Tuesday-Friday 8:30am (CTK)

Third Sunday

of Advent

12/17/2023

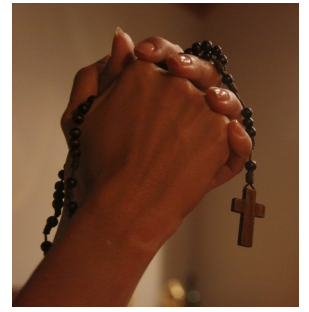
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In order to stay up-to-date on everything happening at Christ the King & Immaculate Conception Parishes, visit our website at <http://ctk-ic.org> or follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ctkic>.

Prayer Chain

Christ the King & Immaculate Conception would like to use the power of prayer to help all those in need. If you or a loved one is in need of prayer, please contact the rectory. Names will remain on the list for three months, at which time they will be removed to allow space for more names. If someone is still in need of prayer, call to renew that name. Please pray for: *Joann Bezilla, Clara Tubo, Lane Hawkins, Chris Tekely, Sherri (Murawski) Gehringer, Bill Collins, Jr., David Collins, Charles Lockett, Sr., John Mahute, Zoey Bryan, Carmen Yarger, Judi Lesko, Roger Witherow, Jamie Washell, Lucy Weis, Mick Patkalitsky, Luke Francisco, Sherri Thompson, Cecilia Demchak, Better Health of Anonymous*



Marriage Moments

As we get closer to Christmas it may be hard to continue to wait. OR, you may be feeling that there's just not enough time to do all the shopping, cooking, decorating, etc. Let go of the non-essentials and focus on unconditionally loving each other. If necessary, forgive.

Engagement Encounter

Looking for the perfect Christmas gift? If your family is planning a wedding in 2024, consider giving a gift that helps couples plan for lifelong marriage. Give your children the gift of Engagement Encounter. The next EE weekend will be held on January 19-21 at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie. Space is limited and early registrations are encouraged. Contact the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261 or email familylife@erieRCD.org. Visit <https://www.erieRCD.org/familylifeoffice/> for more information and registration. Remember, "A wedding is one day, but marriage is for a lifetime."

Weekly Schedule

Sunday, December 17 • Third Sunday of Advent

- 11am** • Religious Ed. Christmas Pageant (CTK Parish Center)
- 2pm** • K of C Bingo (CTK; doors open at 1pm)

Friday, December 22

- 9am** • Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (CTK; until 10am)

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 18

- 8:30am** • Nadine Selensky by Sylvia Dugan & Children (IC)

Tuesday, December 19

- 8:30am** • Ray Buynak by Family (CTK)

Wednesday, December 20

- 8:30am** • Better Health of Fr. Joe Staszewski by Robbie Ball (CTK)

Thursday, December 21

- 8:30am** • Mike & Irene Demchak, 3 sons, grandparents, & all deceased family by Cecilia Demchak & Family (CTK)

Friday, December 22

- 8:30am** • Jim Callovini by wife Nancy (CTK)

Saturday, December 23

- 4pm** • Helen E. Archer by Family (CTK)

Sunday, December 24

- 8:30am** • People of the Parish by Pastor (IC; Sunday obligation)
- 10am** • Sandy (Wuldkerk) Bosin & David Wulderk by Mom & Family (CTK; Sunday obligation)
- 5pm** • Al Adams by Laura & John Lukens (IC; Christmas)
- 9pm** • People of the Parish by Pastor (CTK; Christmas)

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp at Christ the King Parish burns this week in memory of Helen E. Archer requested by grandchildren.



Parenting Pointers

Are your children getting tired of waiting...for Christmas? Our human personalities aren't geared to wait happily. Instant gratification seems more attractive. But learning to wait for treats is a good habit to cultivate in your child. If every day was your birthday, your birthday would not feel very special.

Stewardship

Your generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

Sunday & Holy Days

Actual 12/03/2023	Actual Total Fiscal YTD	Budgeted Fiscal YTD	Percentage Over (Under)
\$7,889	\$12,806	\$10,130	25.1%
Count of envelopes: 169/529		Weekly Budgeted Offertory: \$5,065	
<i>Catholic Services Appeal 2023</i>			
Actual 12/03/2023	Actual Total to Date	Parish Goal	Percentage Over (Under)
\$755	\$46,699	\$44,383	5.2%
Total Pledges: 113/529		Total Pledged: \$50,539	

Retirement Fund for Religious

Our women and men religious offer gratitude. A sister shares, "I thank the Lord for all who give. I don't think we would make it without them." Thank you for giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious last week. Your donation makes a difference in the lives of elderly women and men religious. To learn more about how your gift helps, visit retiredreligious.org.

Decorating for Christmas

Thursday, December 21 • 2pm

The Christ the King Decorating Committee will be meeting on Thursday, December 21 at 2pm to decorate the church. Anyone wishing to help is welcome to attend; the more the merrier!

Bulletin Sponsor

Did you ever notice the ads on the back of the bulletin and wonder how you can get your name or business on there too? Now is your opportunity. If you're interested in advertising on the back of this bulletin, call the rectory during business hours and talk to Ali. Sponsors do not need to be businesses, personal sponsors are also accepted. Bulletin sponsors are necessary to eliminate the cost of printing the bulletin.

Safe Environment Training for Religious Ed.

Safe Environment Training for all grades will occur on January 7, 2024 during religious education time. Parents/legal guardians who do not want their child to participate in the program must notify the parish in writing, so the child may be excused from the training presentation.

Open/Close Times for the Churches

Immaculate Conception, Osceola Mills

Monday-Sunday • 8am until noon

Christ the King, Houtzdale

Monday-Friday • 7:30am until 2:30pm

Saturday & Sunday • 7am until end of Mass

Finance Council Advertisement

Finance Council Nominations

Dear Parishioners,

Due to the merger of Immaculate Conception into Christ the King, the finance councils for the previously separate parishes have ended and a new combined finance council needs to be formed. In forming the new finance council, I am seeking nominations from you for parishioners whom you would recommend to be on Finance Council.

Nominations need to be written and can be sent to Fr. Johnathan by email, dropped into the collection basket, or delivered to the office. When nominating a person, please provide the following information:

- Your name
- The person being nominated
- Why you are nominating the person
- Why you believe the person is qualified to be on the Finance Council

Nominations will be accepted through January 1, 2024. Thank you for helping me find the best people to advise me about our financial affairs.

Peace in Christ,
Fr. Johnathan Schmolt, Pastor

CHRIST THE KING
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM PRESENTS

Children's Christmas Pageant

FREE ENTRY!


SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 AT 11AM
Christ the King Parish Center



LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED



2024 Calendars & Oplatki

Complementary calendars are available in the back of both churches. We have a limited number to offer both churches, so please only take what you need.

Oplatki, or Christmas Wafers, are available in the back of each church. A donation of \$3 per pack is appreciated.

Advent Penance Services

Sunday, December 17

3pm • St. Francis, Clearfield

Monday, December 18

6pm • St. Agnes, Morrisdale

Christ the King 21 Club

We give away a total of \$10,00 in cash prizes! 20 weekly drawings of \$100, \$50 & \$25, totaling \$3,500; the first drawing will be November 12. For the 21st week, we offer an appreciation party for all ticket holders, which includes dinner, dancing, and our grand prize drawing where we'll give away a total of \$6,500—you could win up to \$2,000. Entertainment at the party will be provided by The Moore Brothers; a 50/50 raffle, lottery animals, and instant will be sold all day long. Tickets cost just \$21 and can be purchased from any one of our sellers: Jack Archer, Marie Fleming, Tom Fulare, Alvin Gmerek, Ray Graham, Beth Greslick, Leon Hansel, Elizabeth Lockett, John Mahute, Karen Martin, Elaine Murawski, Judy Reese, Cindy Slifko, Michelle Stine, Kristi Twoey, Robert Yebernetzky, or by calling the rectory at 814-378-7653.

21 Club Winners (Week #5)

Art Wisor (Ray Graham) \$100
 Durwin Latchford (Elizabeth Lockett) \$50
 Lindsay Reiter (Elizabeth Lockett) \$25

Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 17

11am • Religious Ed. Christmas Pageant (CTK Parish Center)
2pm • K of C Bingo (CTK; doors open at 1pm)

Friday, December 22

9am • Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (CTK; until 10am)

Sunday, December 24

5pm • Christmas Vigil Mass (IC)
9pm • Christmas Vigil Mass (CTK)
No Religious Ed. Classes

Monday, December 25

9am • Christmas Day Mass (CTK)

Friday, December 29

9am • Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (CTK; until 10am)

Sunday, December 31

No Religious Ed. Classes

Religious Education

A reminder that there will be no Religious Education classes for all grades on Sunday, December 24 and Sunday, December 31. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 7, 2024. We wish you all a happy holiday!

In Memoriam

We remember Lord, those who have died before us marked with the sign of the cross, especially **Raymond Buynak, Sr.** of Christ the King Parish. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

Holiday Mass Schedule

Because Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, the Sunday obligation remains as well as the obligation to The Nativity of the Lord—both falling on the same day. Weekend Mass times will not change: Saturday, December 23 at 4pm (CTK), Sunday, December 24 at 8:30am (IC) and 10am (CTK). Mass times for Christmas will be as follows:

Sunday, December 24

5pm • Christmas Vigil Mass (IC)
9pm • Christmas Vigil Mass (CTK)

Monday, December 25

9am • Christmas Day Mass (CTK)

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THROUGH THE GENEROSITY
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