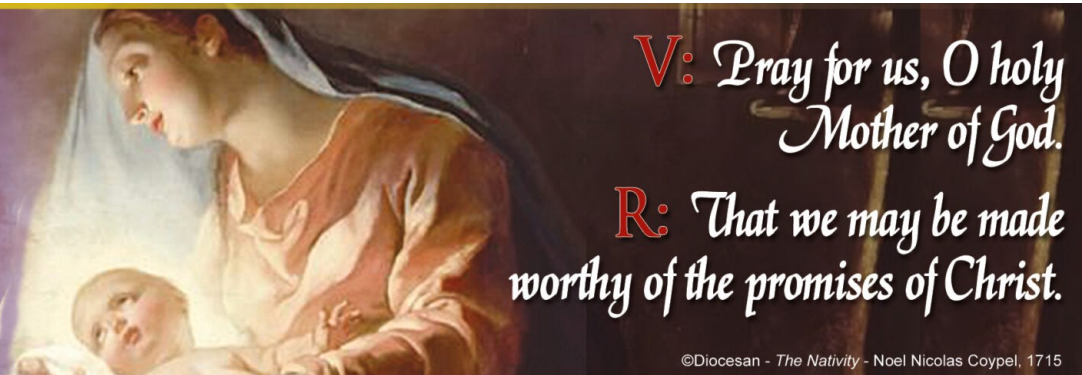


Dec. 21, 2025



Fourth Sunday
of Advent

A
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S



V: Pray for us, O holy
Mother of God.

R: That we may be made
worthy of the promises of Christ.

©Diocesan - The Nativity - Noel Nicolas Coypel, 1715

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
Rev. Stephen Collins, Retired Resident

Office Hours at Christ the King

Monday-Friday..... 9am until 1pm

Phone..... 814-378-7653

Email office@ctk-ic.org

Website..... ctk-ic.org

Facebook facebook.com/ctkic

Marriages: Contact the office at least 6 months prior to anticipated date.

Baptisms: Call rectory for appointment.

Anointing: Call if you have a desire for yourself or a loved one to receive the sacrament.

Mass Schedule

Sunday: 9am (CTK); 11am (St. Agnes)

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

Weekdays: Monday 12pm (St. Agnes); Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30am (CTK);

Thursday 5:30pm: 12/25 See Christmas Schedule; 12/1 See New Year's Schedule;
1/8 St. Severin



Bulletin Announcements

Please submit all bulletin announcements in writing to office@ctk-ic.org at least **two weeks** prior to the anticipated date.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Christ the King Parish 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 **Kathy Grace, Jared Gmerek, Clara Tubo, Pam Moyer, Tom Glinsky and, pre-born Madelyn Grace Hughes.**



Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for **Jennifer Kokoskie** by **Tony, Natalie and Adam.**

Homebound?

If you or a loved one are homebound, but wish to receive Communion and keep up with church news by receiving a mailed bulletin please call the rectory during business hours. Father Johnathan will add you to his Communion Call list.

Weekly Schedule

Wednesday, December 24 Christmas Eve

- 4 p.m. • Mass CTK
- Parish Office Closed

**Thursday, December 25 Christmas Day
Holiday of Obligation**

- 10 a.m. • Mass IC
- Parish Office Closed

Penance Service

The final area penance service will be held
**Sunday, December 21 at
1 p.m. at St. Francis**

✠ In Memoriam ✠

We remember Lord, those who have died before us marked with the sign of the cross, especially **Barbara Flango** and **Larry Kokoskie**, both of Christ the King. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 23

- 8:30 a.m. • Helen E. Archer by Family

Wednesday, December 24

- 4 p.m. • Joseph Ropchock Sr. By Bernie & Pat Ropchock

Thursday, December 25

- 10 a.m. • People of the Parish by the Pastor (IC)

Friday, December 26

- 8:30 a.m. • Eugene R. and Eugene B. Kawa by Sister and Aunt Elaine

Saturday, December 27

- 4 p.m. • Haney and Gertrude Dugan Family and Larry Dugan by their children, Kathleen and John Lobb

Sunday, December 28

- 9 a.m. • Donna Kasubick by her brother Jim

Join us this Christmas!

Special Mass Times

December 24 Christmas Eve
4:00 p.m. - Christ the King
6 p.m. - St. Agnes
8:00 p.m. St. Mary of the Assumption

December 25 Christmas Day
8 a.m. - St. Severin
10 a.m. - Immaculate Conception

Dec. 31, Mary, Mother of God
4 p.m. - Christ the King

Jan. 1, Mary, Mother of God
8:30 a.m. - Immaculate Conception
10 a.m. - St. Agnes



Pastor's Christmas Message

♦ MERRY CHRISTMAS ♦

Dear Parishioners,

Merry Christmas! In just a few days, we will celebrate God's great gift to humanity, the Word becoming flesh and dwelling among us. The birth of Jesus is part of our deposit of faith. God teaches the world by His actions how far he is willing to go to show us His love. While we can have difficulties in our personal lives, we need to celebrate the blessings that are all around us these days. What are your blessings? For me, being your pastor at Christ the King Parish or being your parochial administrator at St. Agnes is a wonderful blessing. Can the responsibilities be stressful, of course. However, I want everyone to know that your faithfulness very much supersedes any stress that I have experienced. Many of you have volunteered as you can to care for the sick, be a friend to the lonely, visit the imprisoned, take time to maintain our facilities, and especially to come together to worship as our Catholic family. Multiple times, people have offered their assistance to me. My number one request is for you and your family to participate in Mass. That is why we are here. That is where we are sustained in our communal faith by participating in Communion. In our Catholic faith, we have no greater action as the family of God than to gather together each week, supporting one another in prayer and presence. In our age, where the availability of our technology can isolate us more than ever, I need, you need, we all need to be PRESENT with each other in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Johnathan Schmolt

Pastor, Christ the King

Parochial Administrator, St. Agnes



The Linus Project



The Altar Rosary Society of Christ the King Parish was happy to participate in the Linus Project recently! Each child received a gift bag with supplies for when the power goes out. A small flashlight, a battery-operated tea light candle, a glow stick and, of course, a small Jesus figurine since He is the Light of the World!

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, December 31 Mary, Mother of God Mass

4 p.m. • Mass CTK

Thursday, January 1 Mary Mother of God Holy Day of Obligation

8:30 a.m. • Mass IC

Friday, January 2

6:30 p.m. • Confession and Adoration

Saturday & Sunday, January 3 & 4

After 4 p.m. Mass and 9 a.m. Mass • Defibrillator Training

Stewardship

Your generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

Sunday & Holy Days

Actual 12/14/25	Actual Total Fiscal YTD	Budgeted Fiscal YTD	Percentage Over (Under)
\$5,647	\$117,710	\$170,424	(-30.93%)
Count of Envelopes: 191 Retirement Fund for the Religious: \$1,165		Weekly Budgeted Offertory: \$7,101	

Catholic Services Appeal 2025

Actual 12/14/2025	Actual Total to Date	Parish Goal	Percentage Over (Under)
\$750	\$47,369	\$72,000	(-34.21%)
Total Pledges: 132		Total Pledged: \$48,122.00	

Please make all checks payable to Christ the King.

**THE PARISH OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED
DECEMBER 24 & 25.**

21 Club Winners

Week #5

George Pallo, Jr. (Michelle Stine).....\$100

Bobby & Mandee Corrigan (Elizabeth Lockett).....\$50

Sarah Miller(Robert Yebernetsky).....\$25



**You're invited to a
Life Line Screening
event!**

Where: Christ the King Church

123 Good St
Houtzdale, PA 16651

When: Thursday, January 8, 2026

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader
in **Stroke** and **Cardiovascular Disease**

Risk Screenings.

Anyone over 40 should attend.

Special Pricing for \$129

Carotid Artery Disease Screening

Peripheral Artery Disease Screening

Atrial Fibrillation Screening

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

To Book an Appointment

call

1-800-324-9458 and use promo code:

HABC001 or

Visit **LLSA.SOCIAL/HAVBC**

American Red Cross

**BLOOD
DRIVE**

The blood drive will be held
at Christ the King Parish.

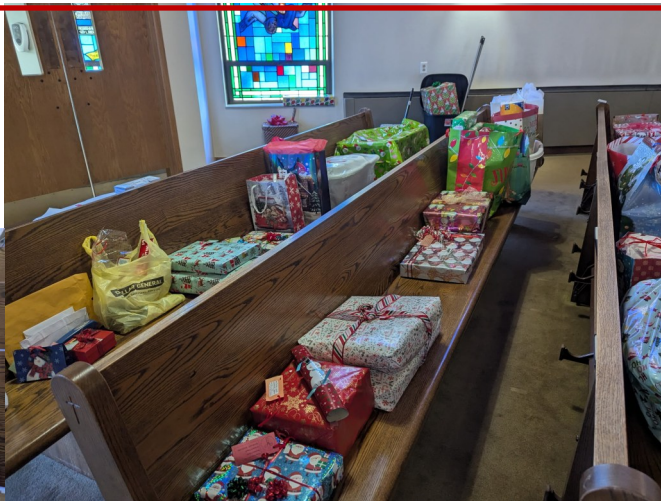
**JAN. 7
1 P.M. - 6 P.M.**

To make an
appointment to donate,
please call

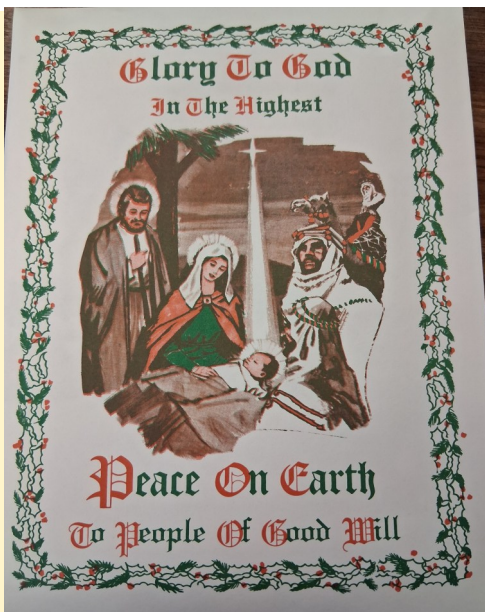
1-800-RED-CROSS



The Giving Tree



Over 70 people will receive Christmas packages due to the generosity of Christ the King Parish parishioners. Thank you for making their Christmas brighter!



Oplatki Available

Oplatki is available in the back of the church for those who would like to bring this tradition to their Christmas Eve table. Oplatki are thin, unleavened Christmas wafers, similar to communion hosts, that are part of a cherished Catholic Christmas tradition in Poland, Lithuania, Slovakia and Moravia. The tradition symbolizes reconciliation, forgiveness and unity.

During Christmas Eve dinner (Wigilia in Poland), before the meal begins, the family members gather around the table. The eldest member starts the ritual by breaking a piece of their wafer and sharing it with another person, exchanging heartfelt blessings and good wishes. They ask for forgiveness of any wrong doings over the past year. It continues until everyone has shared a piece with another person present. Even pets

are given a piece to remind us that animals were the first witnesses of Jesus' birth. The wafers are made of pure wheat flour and embossed with Christmas images such as the nativity.

In many households, an extra place setting is set at the table for an unexpected guest, as a gesture of hospitality and a reminder that Mary and Joseph had to seek shelter.

Oplatki means sacred bread or offering. The breaking and sharing of the wafer symbolizes the unity of the family with Christ and each other, mirroring the communal spirit of the Eucharistic meal.

Bring this beautiful tradition to your Christmas Eve table this year to express love, strengthen bonds, and begin the holiday season in a spirit of peace and forgiveness.



Echoes of a Polish Christmas

All Saints Parish 325 Quemahoning St., Boswell, Somerset County, invites you to their annual singing of Polish Christmas Carols (Koledy), Sunday, January 4 at 2 p.m. at their church.

Following the singing of hymns by the parish's Polish choir, there will be Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament as well as refreshments.

