

*Christ the King Parish*  
*180 Old North Road*  
*Kingston, Rhode Island 02811*  
*401-783-7459*

*Solemnity of Mary,*  
*the Holy Mother of God*  
*January 1, 2012*



## PONDERING

Another year has passed; a new year waits at the threshold. This is a good day to look back and to look forward.

The old year was a good year for me. There were too many blessings to count and even more difficult to list. Overall, good things happened. The parish continues to grow and change – this is a good sign of life. When something or someone stops changing, that is a sure sign of death.

There were of course some challenges, but that is to be expected. The biggest challenge we face together was the new translation of the Mass. Even though the sample size is too small to use in any realistic way, I must say that what we now use does not fill me with its promised growth in reverence. Maybe that will happen over time, but I doubt it. I wonder just how long it will last and hope that it won't be long. Finding new ways to be good Stewards of God's gifts is an ongoing challenge. It seems to me that more and more folks are stepping forward to share their Time and Talent. The need of the giver to give is alive and well in the fabric of our parish. This fills my heart with gratitude. Even in these difficult times we have found ways to share our Treasure. Last fiscal year we came within \$5,000 of being the first parish in the history of the diocese to raise one million dollars by passing the basket. With just little more generosity we will be the first parish to collect one million dollars when we close our books on June 30, 2012.

When I look forward I realize that 2012 will be a challenge for both you and me. I still remember many years ago when 1967 turned into 1968 and I realized that before the year was up I would be ordained to the priesthood. That was a long time ago and I have enjoyed priestly ministry in all those years and in many different ways. 2012 will be the year that I retire and leave active ministry. The exact date for that transition is still not determined but it will roughly coincide with my 44th anniversary of ordination late in the month of June. We will need to remind each other frequently that change is a sign of life. We will need to pray for each other as our parish prepares to welcome new leadership, new possibilities and new directions.



## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, December 31**

5 p.m.

Julia Dalton  
Anna McKee  
Margaret Walsh

**Sunday, January 1**

8 a.m.

Ray Panzica  
John David Fanning

9:15 a.m. Daniel, William and Ernest Gardiner

11:35 a.m.

Francisco Cruz Schmidt  
Robert Fox

**Tuesday, January 3**

12 p.m.

John Seddon

**Saturday, January 7**

5 p.m.

Philip Durigan  
Audrey Reynolds

**Sunday, January 8**

8 a.m.

Edward Wrinn, Jr.

Robert and Dorothy Poirier

11:35 a.m.

Philip Bishop

### **MASS SCHEDULE**

*Saturday, December 31 at 5 p.m.*

*Sunday, January 1 at 8, 9:15, 11:35 a.m.*

*Monday January 2*

*Mass at 9 a.m. at the Catholic Center*

## STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

"Whatever you do," says St. Paul to the Colossians, "...do it in the name of the Lord Jesus. Give thanks to God the Father through Him." And so it is that we offer our gifts in the Eucharist "through Him, with Him and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit."

## ADULT EDUCATION PRESENTATION

The 2012 Adult Education Series continues on **Wednesday, January 11 at 7 p.m.** in the parish hall. Our presenter is **Dr. Terence McGoldrick** and the topic is "The Church in America." Dr. McGoldrick is a lay theologian for more than twenty five years. He earned a pontifical doctorate (STD) and license (STL) in Catholic Theology from the faculty of Fribourg Switzerland and is now Assistant Professor of Theology at Providence College.

## SAVE THE DATE

The Parish Activities Committee is planning a "Christ the King Parish Hoedown" on **Saturday, January 21 at 7 p.m.** in the parish hall. More details and ticket information will follow.



## RELIGIOUS FORMATION

No classes on **Sunday, January 1**. Classes resume **Sunday, January 8**.



### Confirmation Notes

The next class for Phase I/II is **Sunday, January 8** from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**Please note** - Phase I classes are in the Catholic Center on 1/8.

### STEPHEN MINISTRY MESSAGE

Every time you turn on the radio or TV, someone is talking about New Year's Resolutions. So many of them are broken before January 2. Make a resolution to be good to yourself and take the bold step to give the Stephen Ministry a call if you have trouble in your life right now. Call **Carol Hartley** at 783-4036 (email [carolhartley@cox.net](mailto:carolhartley@cox.net)), **Larry Bartley** at 965-7276 (email [LBJR@cox.net](mailto:LBJR@cox.net)) or contact the office at 783-7459.

### VISION FOR CHANGE IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH (VCCC)

Vision for Change's first action plan is completed. In November, during our two-week letter writing campaign, we sent more than **2,209 letters** to 11 different bishops asking them to accept all who are called to the priesthood. The 11 bishops were chosen because they were most likely sympathetic to our cause. We sent the letters in time for the US Conference of Catholic Bishops meeting.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the letter writing campaign, donated money, envelopes and to everyone who took time out of their busy schedules. Our next meeting is **Tuesday, January 3** at 7 p.m. in the sunroom. All are welcome.

### STOREHOUSE DESSERTS

Christ the King has generously supported the Storehouse by providing desserts for their Friday night meals. Christ the King is responsible for the **Friday, January 20** meal and if you can drop off a dessert on that Friday between 9 – 10 a.m. or 4 – 5 p.m. on Allen Ave., Wakefield, it would be greatly appreciated. Contact **Karen Hawkins** at 792-2249 for more information or directions.

## CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2 – 8

### Monday, January 2

*Offices Closed*

9 a.m. Mass at the Catholic Center  
6 p.m. Stephen Ministry PotLuck/Hall

### Tuesday, January 3

7 p.m. Parish Activities Committee/Hall  
7 p.m. Vision for Change/Hall  
7 p.m. Religious Formation Committee/Hall  
7:30 p.m. Choir

### Wednesday, January 4

8:30 a.m. Staff Meeting/Library

### Saturday, January 7

4 p.m. Confession

### Sunday, January 8

5:30 p.m. PH I Confirmation/Catholic Center  
5:30 p.m. PH II Confirmation/Hall

### *New Year's Prayer*

*God of Creation and New Beginnings,*

*As we enter into a new year we give you thanks for last year.*

*Thank you for all of the blessings you placed before us.*

*Thank you for challenges that brought us closer to you.*

*Thank you for the relationships that grew stronger under another year of your guidance.*

*Thank you for all of the people brought into our lives last year in whom we had the opportunity to see your face.*

*As we begin a new year, we ask for your continued blessing on the journey ahead.*

*Bless us with the courage to speak your word in our daily life.*

*Bless us to see your face in those we encounter.*

*Bless us with the strength to endure the challenges we will encounter.*

*Most important, bless us with the conviction to continue Christ's mission of proclaiming and promoting your Kingdom.*

*In the name of Christ, your Son and our Savior, we pray.*

*Amen.*



**On the 1st day of Christmas my true love gave to me...**

**A Partridge in a Pear Tree**

The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus the Christ, the Son of God, whose birthday we celebrate on December 25, the first day of Christmas. In the song, Christ is symbolically presented as a mother partridge that feigns injury to decoy predators from her helpless nestlings, recalling the expression of Christ's sadness over the fate of Jerusalem: "Jerusalem! Jerusalem! How often would I have sheltered you under my wings, as a hen does her chicks, but you would not . . ." (Luke 13:34)



**On the 2nd day of Christmas my true love gave to me...**

**Two Turtle Doves**

The Old and New Testaments, which together bear witness to God's self-revelation in history and the creation of a people to tell the Story of God to the world.



**On the 3rd day of Christmas my true love gave to me...**

**Three French Hens**

The Three Theological Virtues: 1) Faith, 2) Hope, and 3) Love (1 Corinthians 13:13)



**On the 4th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...**

**Four Calling Birds**

The Four Gospels: 1) Matthew, 2) Mark, 3) Luke, and 4) John, which proclaim the Good News of God's reconciliation of the world to Himself in Jesus Christ.



**On the 5th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...**

**Five Gold Rings**

The first Five Books of the Old Testament, known as the Torah or the Pentateuch: 1) Genesis, 2) Exodus, 3) Leviticus, 4) Numbers, and 5) Deuteronomy, which gives the history of humanity's sinful failure and God's response of grace in the creation of a people to be a light to the world.



**On the 6th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...**

**Six Geese A-laying**

The six days of creation that confesses God as Creator and Sustainer of the world (Genesis 1).