

## From the Pastor's Desktop

A Message from Father Charles Puthota



Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

**Christ the King:** This Sunday is the feast of the majestic King, Christ our Lord. It's the last Sunday of the liturgical year. It's our belief that at the end of the world, Christ the King will tie up all the loose ends and bring the whole creation to an end and present it to his heavenly Father. Meanwhile, he is King of our lives today and every day. He rules over us not with power and glamor, but through love and humility, through selflessness and self-effacement. He is the King who washes our feet and dies for us so that we can have life and have it abundantly. His Kingdom fills the whole world. His Kingdom values are often contrary to what the world tends to practice. But the deepest longings and desires of our hearts can be found in the values of this universal King, Christ our Lord. All our dreams for love and intimacy, peace and justice, health and happiness—all these are the values of Christ the King as well. We can open our hearts and minds more fully to this King who will dwell in our lives and make us shine with truth and integrity. Long live Christ the King!

**Advent:** After the feast of Christ the King, we turn our attention next Sunday to the beginning of the season of Advent. What a beautiful season of longing and waiting for the Lord to be born all over again in our lives! Let's get ready psychologically and spiritually for this wonderful season of Advent which will lead us to the new-born King at Christmas. Given the pandemic, what will Advent and Christmas mean for us this season is up to us to explore.

**Happy Thanksgiving:** The fabulous, heartwarming, all-American festival of Thanksgiving is round the corner. Covid-19 has rearranged all our celebrations this year. Usually, people all over the nation get ready to travel back home to be with family. Love is in the air everywhere. According to AAA, about 50 million people were expected to travel this Thanksgiving, but on account of the pandemic, travel is supposed to be down by at least 50%. There is much sadness and anxiety this Thanksgiving. While we work together and collaborate in overcoming the pandemic, we still are filled with a sense of gratitude for God's blessings of life and love. For the blessings of family and faith. For the blessings of people caring for each other. We have much to be thankful for. Gratitude makes us better human beings and Christians. Gratitude makes explicit our human condition and our dependence on God and one another. It helps us appreciate the fact that we are not self-sufficient and that we are interdependent. It energizes us to go out of ourselves to others and think about others' needs. With our love and service, we can create a better world for all of us.

**Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA):** We still have to make \$17,763. to reach our goal of \$48,719. Please give early and generously. It is to support the Archdiocese in its mission and ministry.

**Memory of the Dear Departed in November:** Let's continue to keep the departed members of our family in our hearts and prayers. "Eternal rest grant unto them, O, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen. May they rest in peace! May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace, Amen."

**Parish Consultors Meeting (PCM):** In the meeting I had called on November 16<sup>th</sup>, I sought the opinions of various people in different ministries and organizations in our parish about our faith-related matters as well as the physical plant. I'll be calling this meeting once in two months. The purpose will be for various organizations and ministries to report what they do. It will also be the occasion for me to inform them of various happenings in our parish and seek opinions. Thank you to all those in this group. Your presence and input is much appreciated.

**Simbang Gabi:** After consultations in the small group as well as in Parish Consultors Meeting (PCM), we have come to the conclusion that this year, on account of the pandemic, the Simbang Gabi Masses (December 16 to 24) will be incorporated into the daily Mass at 8:00 a.m. and on Sunday (December 20) at 9:30 a.m. Mass. I have requested **Hermie de los Reyes** to be the chair of the committee to make all the detailed plans for how these Masses will feature the beautiful customs and traditions of Simbang Gabi.

**Thanksgiving Humor:** 1. A man was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store for Thanksgiving Day, but couldn't find one big enough for her family. She asked a stock boy, "Do these turkeys get any bigger?" "No, ma'am. They're dead." 2. Can you tell the difference between a female and a male turkey? A: The male is the one with the TV remote. 3. Q: What can never ever be eaten for Thanksgiving dinner? A: Thanksgiving breakfast. 4. Q: What happens when you're too harsh on the cranberries and make them sad? A: They turn into blueberries. 5. Why didn't the turkey bake properly on Thanksgiving? A: I've no idea, but I suspect some fowl play.

**Happy Thanksgiving! May we join our families, friends, and communities, even if it has to be remotely, to thank God for his myriad blessings and share them with others by loving and caring for them. May we all be protected from the pandemic and enjoy good health and peace!**

Your Friend & Pastor,

Fr. Charles Puthota  
11-22-2020

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Monday</b> 8:00 am	<b>November 23</b> † Joseph, † Frank and † John DeLuca
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:00 am	<b>November 24</b> † Joe Sapiano
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:00 am	<b>November 25</b>
<b>Thursday</b> 9:00 am	<b>November 26</b> Thanksgiving
<b>Friday</b> 8:00 am	<b>November 27</b> † Joseph and † Carmen Spiteri
<b>Saturday</b> 8:00 am 4:30 pm	<b>November 28</b> † Anthony Agius † Jack Choy
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	<b>November 29</b> People of the Parish † Jerry Sapiano † John Sant

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

## Sunday Collection November 15, 2020

<b>Weekly Need:</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>Sunday Collection</b>	<b>\$ 2,013.00</b>
<b>Church Project</b>	<b>\$ 250.00</b>

If you make your offertory donation by check, without using parishioner envelopes, it would be most helpful if you placed your parishioner/envelope # in the "memo" section of the check. This helps us input your donation to the offertory data system.

**We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)**



On Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, our Parish will celebrate a special Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9:00 am. Due to the Corona virus limitations, we will not be collecting food items this year. In lieu of food donations we will be accepting monetary donations to be given to St. Anthony's Dining Room. Please be advised that the maximum number of people allowed at any given mass is 100 people.

## Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe November 22, 2020

"I was hungry and you gave me food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me drink."  
— *Matthew 25:35*



## THE SHEPHERD KING

The job of shepherd and the job of king couldn't be more different from each other. Shepherds are on the lowest rung of society; kings are at the top. But God says, through the prophet Ezekiel, that the Messiah will lead in a way very different from earthly authorities who lord it over their people and cause harm with their poor leadership.

Our King takes on the job himself. Christ, like a shepherd, will give rest, seek out the lost, bring back the strayed and scattered ones. He will heal the wounded and bind up the injured. He does not delegate, but will "shepherd them rightly." We have a king who cares for us and who is not afraid to "judge between one sheep and another" (Ezekiel 34:17).

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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — I will rescue my scattered sheep (Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17).

**Psalms** — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

**Second Reading** — As in Adam all die, so too in Christ all shall be brought to life (1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28).

**Gospel** — Whatever you did to the least ones, you did to me (Matthew 25:31-46).

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## Archdiocesan Annual Appeal Update

Goal:	\$ 48,719.00
Raised:	\$ 30,956.00
Balance:	\$ 17,763.00

Our generous parish family has raised \$26,341.00. This is an impressive success given the Covid -19 pandemic and the challenges we are facing as a result. Please consider generously donating 1% (\$500.00). You would join our 1% Circle at St. Elizabeth. Please consider donating whatever you can to help us meet our assessment.