

For Catholics, the liturgical season of Advent helps us focus on the spiritual preparation for Christmas and for the coming of Our Lord. When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, sharing in the long preparation for the Savior’s coming.

That’s why on one hand, we reflect back on Our Lord’s first coming, when He humbled Himself, becoming incarnate, and entering our time and space to free us from sin. On the other hand, we recall in the Creed that Our Lord will come again to judge the living and the dead, and that we must be ready to meet Him.

Dear parishioners and visitors of Holy Spirit Parish & Christ the King Mission: I prepared some very easy suggestions for you to help you prepare yourself for Christmas this year.

**First**, make an Advent Wreath for your family at home. I hope most of you have them already. Why is it important to have an Advent Wreath? The lights of the candles represent Christ, who entered this world to scatter the darkness of evil and show us the way of righteousness and love.

**Second**, pray daily. Hopefully, prayer is already part of your daily routine, but if not, make it one.

Schedule a regular time for prayer with your family members. You can pray the rosary individually, or as a family. Ponder the various events in the life of Our Lord and the example of Mary, “the handmaid of the Lord,” who gave of herself to receive the gift of the Savior.

**Third**, read Sacred Scripture. Try to spend a few minutes each day reflecting upon Bible Scriptures, and allow the Holy Spirit to speak in the quiet of your heart.

**Fourth**, take the time for Confession. Try to make a good examination of conscience, and go to a priest to confess your sins. Before confession, be sure to pray for light and help from the Holy Spirit. If you do not remember the sins that you committed long ago, just write down those sins on paper and read them to the priest. After you have finished, receive absolution from your sins, and be sure to complete the prescribed penance.

**Fifth**, catechize your children. In your free time, read the stories of St. Francis and the Christmas story to your children. Explain to them why we decorate a Christmas tree, and tell them about Saint Nicholas.

**Sixth**, support the poor, financially or spiritually. Pray for the less fortunate during Christmas. Do not reject

the hands of those who ask you for help during this sacred time, because the Baby Jesus comes through them to your families.

**Finally**, give yourself to your family members by spending as much time with them as you can. Talk to them, and if you are holding any grudges in your heart toward anyone, let them go. Try to reconcile with those who hurt you deeply and forgive them as Jesus forgave us on His Cross.

During this special, sacred time of Christmas, try to do good works, say prayers for your family members, attend Mass, and make a sacrifice for a special intention. As true disciples of Christ, during Advent prepare to receive Jesus Christ as though He were coming for the first time. Make this Christmas a celebration of the birth of Our Savior and the great gift of faith you have received at your own Baptism. By striving to live in the presence of Christ during Advent, you will receive the best present of all — Our Savior who loves you so very much.

God bless you all.

**Fr. Peter Kmiecik**

***Advent Penance Service***

We will have an Advent Penance Service for the Parishioners of Holy Spirit Parish and Christ the King Mission on Thursday, December 16, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at Holy Spirit Catholic Church.

***Next Sunday is the Special Diocesan Collection for the Retired Religious***

***Las Posadas Novena***

Please join us on Wednesday, December 15th, for this year’s Las Posadas novena.

Due to the on-going Covid issues we are doing Las Posadas different this year. We will have a one-night event from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm. We will begin in the Church and then pray with Mary and Joseph as they travel and make their way to Bethlehem. We will travel around our Church property to 9 different stations, that will represent each of the 9 nights of the Las Posadas novena, and end up at our Parish Hall (Bethlehem) for a celebration and meal. Please let Deacon Johnny know if your family would be interested in hosting the Holy Family for a night. Everyone is invited to join us and are encouraged to bring your favorite Christmas side dish or desert for our meal. See Deacon Johnny for more information.

**In 2021 Catholic are obliged to participate in the Nativity of the Lord Mass as well as The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Mass. Both days are Holy Days of Obligation**

**Mass Schedule For  
the Nativity of the Lord  
A Holy Day of Obligation**

**Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup> Vigil Mass:**

Christ the King: 4:00 p.m.

Holy Spirit: 6:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.

**Saturday, December 25<sup>th</sup> Solemnity Mass:**

Christ the King: 9:15 a.m.

Holy Spirit: 11:00 a.m.

We will not have a 6:00 p.m. Mass at Holy Spirit

**Mass Schedule for  
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
A Holy Day of Obligation**

**Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup> Solemnity Mass:**

Christ the King: 9:15 a.m.

Holy Spirit: 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

***Spanish Ministry***

Effective January, 2022, Fr. Peter will begin serving the Spanish Community by celebrating Mass once a month at 4:00 p.m. at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Vancleave. Please help spread the word by inviting people that you know who may enjoy coming to this Mass. ***The first Mass will be celebrated on January 16, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.***

***SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:*** Fr. Peter is available for Confession every day, before daily Mass and after, or by appointment.

***HOMEBOUND VISITS:*** Fr. Peter is able to visit the homebound parishioners and Minister to them the Sacraments of Confession, Communion and Anointing.

<i>MASS</i>	<i>LECTOR</i>	<i>Altar Servers</i>
Sat Dec 18 4:00 pm CK	Mary Rogers	
Sat Dec 18 6:00 pm HS	Marie Peterson	
Sun Dec 19 9:15 am CK	Pat Fast	David Yennie
Sun Dec 19 11:00 am HS	Karen Bahnick	Stephen Maddox
Sun Dec 19 6:00 pm HS	Michael Rosas	

Contact the Parish Office or Fr. Peter directly (228-233-0947) if you would like him to visit your relative.

**CK & HS COMBINED ACTIVITIES**

**CYO :** (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) 7:00pm to 8:00pm 1st & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – Parish Hall

**Youth Ministers:**

**RCIA:** Wednesday. 6:30pm-8:00 pm – Parish Hall

**K of C Meeting:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of the month at 7pm.- KC Hall

**Parish Charity:** Tuesdays- 4:30pm.-5:00pm C.K.

**Boy Scouts Troup 826: Michael Rosas** -Tuesdays- 6:30pm- HSCC

**HOLY SPIRIT ACTIVITIES: 6705 Jim Ramsay Road, Vancleave, 39565**

**Altar Society** – Margaret Brenke, President

Maintenance – Mark Hopkins

**CCD Director:** Jessica Maddox

**CCD** Grades K-9 – Sunday 9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

**CCD** Grades 10 & 11 – Wed. 6:15 p.m.-7:30 p.m. HSCC

**Bible Study** – Wed. after 8:00am Mass and Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm in the Holy Spirit Community Center.

**CHRIST THE KING ACTIVITIES**

**10601 Daisy Vestry Rd, Latimer, MS 39565**

**CCD Director:** Shirley McCusker

**CD:** Grades K – 11<sup>th</sup>- Sunday 10:15am-11:15am

**Parish Council:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 6:45pm

**Altar Society/Flowers** – Tina Shoemaker, President. Please contact her at (228) 238-3791.

Stewardship			
Date	Holy Spirit	Christ the King	
12/5	2,235.85	1,279	Offering
	610.25	287	Bldg. Fund

***PRAYER REQUESTS***

***Please pray for vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate, and Religious Life. Please pray for our seminarians:*** Michael Johnson, Chris Collins, John Olivier, Adam Frey, Jesse Schmitt, Christian Baca, Marcelo Gois, Jacob Lott and Deacon Tomasz Powrozniak, ***and permanent deacons; our Service Men & Women:*** Chad Parker, James Griffith, Scott Fisher, Patrick Ekhlās, Josh Iler, Michael Ferencak, Bruce Spearnock, Kris Moe, Joshua Cook and Matthew Ekhlās; ***those in nursing or assisted living homes and those who are ill:*** Maria Kmiecik, Pete Dacri, Joe Martin, Garrett Windham, Bryleigh Brochard, Albert Santa Cruz, Thomas Newman, Jim Hinton, Sandra Hill, Beverly Reese, Gwen Flurry, Mary Osterman, Nell Kieff and Miguel Saavedra.

**WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS † PLEASE FILL OUT A NEW MEMBER REGISTRATION FORM AND SUBMIT IT TO THE PARISH OFFICE (OR DROP IT IN THE OFFERTORY BASKET). THE FORMS ARE LOCATED IN THE FRONT OF THE CHURCH.**