

# Prepare a Way

As last week's Feast of the Epiphany and the image of the journey of the Magi provided us with a biblical inspiration for the Church's synodal journey of faith along "The Way", so today's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord also brings a helpful insight.

In the first place it marks a transition in the story of Jesus, from his 'hidden life' as a carpenter in Nazareth, to his public ministry which he began immediately after his baptism and temptations in the wilderness. After a quiet and almost anonymous life, he himself would now be permanently on the road, "his winnowing-fan in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn", as John the Baptist declares in today's Gospel (Luke 3:17). Jesus, "The Way", is "on the way", and we, the People of God, are on the way (literally, 'synodal') with him. The Church cannot remain settled and anonymous. She is always on mission.

John the Baptist anticipated Jesus' arrival as "one coming, more powerful than I am" (Luke 3:16). John's message is elucidated by the Prophet Isaiah in the first reading (Is 40:1-5), a message that contains a blueprint for our own journey to and with Christ:

Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.  
Make a straight highway for our God  
across the desert.

Let every valley be filled in,  
every mountain be laid low.  
Let every cliff become a plain  
and the ridges a valley.

These words are a metaphorical roadmap for

us personally and for the Church collectively. In the desert of the heart, in the wilderness of life's challenges, in the challenges of the times in which we live, amidst the tragedy of

suffering and warfare, the cliffs and ridges of economic hardship, or of the mountainous choice to flee one's home and country in search of security, in all this we are called to prepare a way for the Lord, to open a path for him.

The baptism of Jesus marks the key moment in Jesus' life when he chose to walk the human journey with us. He enters the waters of the Jordan to share the ritual washing from sin, which gives us the example of humility pointing us to the way of salvation. The opening paragraph of Pope Francis' new encyclical, *Dilexit Nos-He Loved Us*, could not put it more beautifully:

"He loved us", Saint Paul says of Christ (cf. Rom 8:37), in order to make us realize that nothing can ever

"separate us" from that love (Rom 8:39). Paul could say this with certainty because Jesus himself had told his disciples, "I have loved you" (Jn 15:9,12). Even now, the Lord says to us, "I have called you friends" (Jn 15:15). His open heart has gone before us and waits for us, unconditionally, asking only to offer us his love and friendship. For "he loved us first" (cf. 1 Jn 4:10). Because of Jesus, "we have come to know and believe in the love that God has for us" (1 Jn 4:16).

He is on the way with us. May we, his disciples, be on the way with him!



# SUNDAY MASS

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

*After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Psalm 104.

## RESPONSE:

*Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, how great you are!*

1. O Lord my God, how great you are,  
clothed in majesty and honour,  
wrapped in light as with a robe!  
You stretch out the heavens like a tent. **R**
2. On the waters you establish your dwelling.  
You make the clouds your chariot;  
you ride on the wings of the wind.  
You make the winds your messengers,  
flame and fire your servants. **R**
3. How many are your works, O Lord!  
In wisdom you have made them all.  
The earth is full of your creatures.  
Vast and wide is the span of the sea,  
with its creeping things past counting,  
living things great and small. **R**
4. All of these look to you  
to give them their food in due season.  
You give it, they gather it up;  
you open wide your hand, they are well filled. **R**
5. You hide your face, they are dismayed;  
you take away their breath, they die,  
returning to the dust from which they came.  
You send forth your spirit, and they are created,  
and you renew the face of the earth. **R**

**SECOND READING:** Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

*Alleluia, alleluia. John said: He who is coming is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia.*

**GOSPEL:** Luke 3:15-16, 21-22.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

*Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.*

## THE WEEK AHEAD

# Live the Word

## Mon 13 Jan (St Hilary, BD)

Hebrews 1:1-6; Psalm 97; Mark 1:14-20

"The perfection of learning is to know God in such a way that, though you realize he is knowable, yet you know him as indescribable." – St Hilary of Poitiers

## Tue 14 Jan Liturgy of the Day

Hebrews 2:5-12; Psalm 8; Mark 1:21-28

We naturally gravitate toward those who are personable and friendly. But God challenges us to open our eyes and hearts to everyone, because to shun anyone is to diminish our experience of God.

## Wed 15 Jan Liturgy of the Day

Hebrews 2:14-18; Psalm 105; Mark 1:29-39

Good works in themselves are common to both good and bad people. Everyone can do them if they wanted to. But to truly love others, while hating only their sin, can be done only by good people.

## Thu 16 Jan Liturgy of the Day

Hebrews 3:7-14; Psalm 95; Mark 1:40-45

In the busyness of your day seek a time of silence and solitude, a time alone with God. It is not possible for everyone to join a monastic order, but everyone is called to be the most loving version of themselves.

## Fri 17 Jan St Anthony, Ab

Hebrews 4:1-5.11; Psalm 78; Mark 2:1-12

"There is present with you the angel whom God has appointed. . . This angel, who is sleepless and cannot be deceived, is always present with you; sees all things and is not hindered by darkness." – St Anthony

## Sat 18 Jan Liturgy of the Day

Hebrews 4:12-16; Psalm 19; Mark 2:13-17

"Seek joy in God and peace within; seek to rest in the good, the true, and the beautiful. It's the only resting place that also allows us to hear and bear the darkness." – Fr Richard Rohr OFM

## Sun 19 Jan 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 96; John 2:1-11

"Saint Francis, faithful to Scripture, invites us to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness." – Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*

**KEY:** SOLEMNITY; FEAST; Memorial; (Optional Memorial)  
B=Bishop; D=Doctor; Ab=Abbot



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# CHRIST THE KING PARISH

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(For banking details please contact the Parish Office)

## MASS INTENTIONS JANUARY 2025

11	Sat	18h00	RIP Wally Bruton
12	Sun	08h00	RIP Augusta & Fernando Moutinho
		10h00	RIP Clementina de Nobrega RIP Nelson Gomes Rodrigues RIP Ludy Lembeck - Faase
		18h00	RIP Mona Vest
13	Mon	18h00	<b>COMMUNION SERVICE</b>
14	Tues	18h00	Special intention for families grieving the loss of loved ones
15	Wed	18h00	Special intention for Jarrad
16	Thu	18h00	Special intention for Chantelle
17	Fri	18h00	Prayer to Saint Joseph for all who seek work

## CATECHISM NEWS

**Catechism Teachers Needed:** We are seeking dedicated catechism teachers for both primary and high school levels. If you feel called to teach and are available on Thurs evenings or Sun mornings, please contact Claire at 079 514 8824.

**Parent Meeting:** A parent meeting for both high school and primary school parents will be held on January 16, 2025, at 18:00 in the Denis Adami Hall. Please bring completed registration forms along with proof of payment. Forms can be downloaded from the church website.

**Sponsor a Child's Catechism Journey:** Catechism and the Sacraments of Initiation are essential pillars of our Catholic Faith. It is vital that every child has the opportunity to receive this formation, regardless of their financial situation. To ensure no child is left behind, we are appealing to the Christ the King community for your generous support. Your contributions will help cover registration and camp fees for students in need, ensuring they can fully participate in their faith journey. We encourage you to make a donation, in any amount you feel called to give, to the Christ the King bank account with the reference "CYD." Your support is a powerful act of faith and solidarity. Thank you for helping to nurture the future of our Catholic community.



# PARISH NOTICES

**SUNDAY EVENING MASS TIMES:** Please note that the time for Sunday evening Mass is at **18h00** from this weekend as communicated in 2024.

### **CATECHISM CLASS RESUMPTION DATES:**

- High School Confirmation Group: January 16, 2025
- High School (Grades 8-10): February 6, 2025
- Primary School (Grades 1-7): February 9, 2025

**WORLD MISSION ROSARY:** This will resume every Thursday from **30 January 2025**. Evening Prayers will start at 5.15pm followed by Rosary at 5.30pm with Mass at 6pm. All are welcome to attend.

**2025 JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE:** Walk through 4 Holy Doors in celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Consolation in Turin with Fr Daniel. Visit Our Lady's sanctuary in Basilica and participate in the processions around the streets of Italy. Posters are on the noticeboard with additional information.

**1000 HAIL MARY:** Save this date - **Sat 24 May 2025** for the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians. In thanksgiving for her profound influence & protection. Further details will follow closer to the time.

**BISCUIT SALE:** Biscuit sales resume next Sunday 19/01

**REPOSITORY NEW HOURS:** The repository is open every Saturday evening from 5-6pm and Sunday between 7.15am and 9.45am and for 30mins after the 10am Mass Please pop in, there is something for everyone. **The repository will have additional hours on the 1st weekend of every month. Friday 17h00 to 018h00, Saturday 17h00 to 18h00 and Sunday evening 17h00 till 18h00**

**LADIES KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY:** There will be 5 Compulsory team formations on the following dates. **25 January;** 22 February; 1 March; 5 April; 3 May. Our weekend inside is scheduled for the 15-18 May. For team formations attendance on all 5 dates are compulsory. For invitation to participate, contact Sheila 0616198308.

**NEW OPERATING SECURITY / CHURCH HOURS:** The security is on a new rotational roster which means the church will open for **Adoration** during the following hours\_10h00 till 22h00 Monday to Saturday and from 07h30 to 19h30 on Sunday.

## **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND AND THEIR CAREGIVERS**

Veronica Wheeler, Wendy Elliott, Genevieve van der Merwe, Gideon Wathen, Venancio Ruguwa, Okopantse Matshane, Moira Lottering, Yvonne Penney, Jillian Heslop, Pieter Du Pokoy, Cecilia Forbes, Enita Davies, Elsa Stroh, Miriam Marais and Lyne Bogle.

We would appreciate an update every 2<sup>nd</sup> month as to whether they stay on the list or if they are well enough to be removed.

Should you wish to add a loved one to our sick list please send their details to [secretary@christking.org.za](mailto:secretary@christking.org.za)

## PARISH FINANCES

**TITHING:** There are Tithe application sheets in the front of the church please fill one in and either drop it in the slot or email to

[finance@christking.org.za](mailto:finance@christking.org.za) We encourage you to tithe to support the parish and its many projects that are underway.

Thank you to everyone who currently supports the works of the church.

**Please continue to support our Parish via the banking details or the attached**

**Snapscan code**

**Banking details:**

Christ the King Catholic Church

Standard Bank Branch 051001

Main Account No. 011564733

Tithing Account No. 011181230

**Snapscan**

SnapScan

Scan the SnapCode to complete the payment.



Queenswood Catholic Church

## PARISH OFFICE

**Parish Priest:**

Fr. Daniel Kivuw'a IMC

Tel: 012 333 4738 / 071 306 3769

Email: [dankbwa@yahoo.fr](mailto:dankbwa@yahoo.fr)

**Parish Office Administrator:**

Angela Solomons

[secretary@christking.org.za](mailto:secretary@christking.org.za)

**Office Hours:**

Mon to Fri **08h00 - 16h00**

**Tel:** 012 3334738

*For any appointments with Fr. Daniel, please contact Angela, she manages Fr. Daniel's calendar.*

**University Chaplain:**

Fr Manuel Graca: [m.c.graca16@gmail.com](mailto:m.c.graca16@gmail.com)

Tel: 073 254 4185

## HUMANITAS

**OUTREACH:** We would like to ask the generous community to continue their support of this worthy cause. This is one of the outlets we use to service the needy in our community.

Should you wish to donate to this worthy cause our banking details are:

**Christ the King Catholic Church Queenswood; Standard bank, cheque account, Account number 011 182709, Branch code 000145.** All donations are gratefully accepted.

## Happy Birthday

11 Jan: Mr Corneille Hutten, Ms Anna Millar

12 Jan: Mr Thendo Mudau, Ms Margaret Ruguwa, Ms Stefania Jerman

13 Jan: Mr Naem

15 Jan: Mr Denzel Ramsbottom

16 Jan: Mr Bradley Godfrey, Mr Brandon Du Preez, Ms Veronica Nel

17 Jan: Mrs Cheryl Forssman, Ms Albertina Barlow, Ms Kimberley Taku

*(If your birthday does NOT appear on the weekly list, you are NOT registered on the electronic system. Please inform the Parish Secretary at 012-333 4738 to update your particulars).*



**SPRED WISH LIST:** We earnestly request all parishioners to review the list on the notice board and consider donating any

items they may have at home and are willing to part with. These items are vital for the successful facilitation of our SPRED programme, and your contributions would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be delivered to the parish office. As items are received, they will be removed from the wish list. Your generosity and support are essential to the success of this programme, and we are deeply grateful for any assistance you can provide.

## CALENDAR - JANUARY 2025

**16 Jan:**

\* Primary and High School Parent's Meeting in Denis Adami Hall from 18h00.

\* First class of High School Confirmation Group

**24 - 28 Jan:**

Jubilee of the World of Communications

**25 Jan:**

\* Ladies Kairos Prison Ministry - compulsory formation meeting

\* Catechist Retreat

**30 Jan:**

\* World Mission Rosary starting at 17h15 with Evening Prayer.

\* Opening Mass for Catechetics





## DEDICATION / TITHE

After prayerful consideration, I would like to be included as a Dedication / Tithe Contributor.

Once completed, please email to [Finance@christking.org.za](mailto:Finance@christking.org.za) or leave at the **Parish Office** during office hours.

**SURNAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CELLPHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your dedication number will be emailed, sms'd or phoned through to you.**

I have decided that I can dedicate R\_\_\_\_\_

- Monthly to the works of the Church
- Annually to the works of the Church
- I will do this by EFT into the Parish Tithe Account
- I would like to give cash in an envelope
- Please contact me to make a Bequest to the church in my Last Will and Testament

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for your kind contribution.*