



# CHURCHES OF CHRIST THE KING & HOLY CROSS

Served by the Society of the Divine Saviour – The Salvatorians

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## Sunday 25th January 2026

**YOUR SERVICES THIS WEEK: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle of Readings Year A; Weekday Cycle Year 2)**

<u>Saturday 24th January</u>	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mass: 17:00 (HC) Richard Barlow + and Family
<u>Sunday 25th January</u>	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mass: 09:00 (CTK) Mary McCoy +
<u>Sunday 25th January</u>	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mass: 10:30 (CTK)
<u>Monday 26th January</u>	Memorial of Saints Timothy & Titus	.....
<u>Tuesday 27th January</u>	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Mass: 10:00 (CTK) John Marnell +
<u>Wednesday 28th January</u>	Memorial of St Thomas Aquinas	Mass: 10:00 (CTK) Helen Nuttall
<u>Thursday 29th January</u>	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Mass: 09:15 (HC) Special Intention
<u>Friday 30th January</u>	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Mass: 10:00 (CTK)
<u>Saturday 31st January</u>	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mass: 17:00 (HC)
<u>Sunday 1st February</u>	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mass: 09:00 (CTK) Rodger Steedman (Anniv)
<u>Sunday 1st February</u>	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mass: 10:30 (CTK) Bill Clarke +
<u>Sunday 1st February</u>	Reception into Church (Mary McCoy)	Svce: 17.30 (CTK)

(CTK) = CHRIST THE KING

(HC) = HOLY CROSS

**Live Stream:** the Sunday 9.00am and 10.30am Masses at Christ The King are available on Live Stream for those unable to attend in person:

[Live Services – Christ The King & Holy Cross](#)

**Confessions:** Are available by request, before or after Mass, please ask Father Frank for a convenient time.

**Holy Hour: Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament – Thursday 10.30-11.30**

**Diocesan Prayer League: St Margaret Mary, Coleford, Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent/St Joseph, Lydney.**

**Mass Book: Year A Volume 1:**

**Page 127 (Third Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

Christ the King Church is open most days for  
private prayer from **10am to 4pm**



**Matthew: 4:12-23 'Follow me ....'**

**Reflection:** I suspect that the first Apostles of Jesus didn't really know what they were letting themselves in for when they left their nets to follow Jesus. The same could be said for us. When Jesus began his Public Ministry, His opening words repeated in this weekend's Gospel were to "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Repentance basically means to "turn again" to "change" in terms of our mind and our actions to something different. The question is, what do we need to change or do differently to become more ardent followers of God?

Some people may suggest that "repentance" is a "once off born again" experience. Most Catholics would argue that it is, perhaps more realistically, an on-going through life experience. St Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva and Doctor of the Church, 1567 -1622, said it took him 20 years to overcome his recurring bad temper. Ongoing repentance for all of us is no bad thing.

The first Apostles of Jesus may not have fully understood their calling from the outset, in our case looking back we have the choice to follow the "Light of the World"; a light which darkness will never overshadow no matter how hard

it might try. "The Lord is my light and my salvation", with whom there is no fear, no matter how many times we may stumble and fall along the way. Our God is always there to pick us up again, provided we have a contrite heart.



## Holy Cross

**Coffee after Mass** - Saturday 14th February

### Reading Rota

24th January - Maria Little

31st January - Philippa Simpson

### Welcome Rota

24th January - Jane Parker

31st January - Philippa Simpson

### Monthly Rosary

4:40pm Saturday 7th February

**A Tanzanian invitation from Fiona and Alun Thomas** - Fiona and Alun would like to invite all Parishioners from Holy Cross and CTK to join them for a Tanzanian tea and coffee after the 5.00pm Mass at Holy Cross on **Saturday 21st February**. Alun and Fiona will present a talk about their three-week trip to visit Bishop Lazarus in September 2025. The event will also be a fund raiser to support the renovation of the Cathedral in Morogoro. All will be most welcome, so please put this in your dairies!



### Pope Leo XIV Prayer Intentions

**Jan 2026** - "Let us pray that praying with the Word of God may be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us build a more fraternal and missionary Church."

This weekend is the "Sunday of the Word of God", Pope Francis instituted this day

as a fitting time of year when we are encouraged to strengthen our bonds with the Jewish people and pray for Christian Unity. Pope Leo has continued that prayer intention as we conclude the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Jan 18th to Jan 25th).

### Food Bank

After the Christmas period, stock items such as tinned vegetables and UHT milk are once again required. The full list for January is on the noticeboard and on the donations box. Thank you for any support you are able to give.

### Fairtrade

The next stall will be after Masses at CTK on Sunday 25th January.

### CAFOD

Lent will soon be with us, and CAFOD is once again asking us to consider joining their 'Big Lent Walk': 200km over the 40 days of Lent to raise sponsorship for their work.

Please get in touch with Jean or Mark if you are interested, or see the web-page [The Big Lent Walk 2026](#)



### First Holy Communion Programme

The **enrolment Mass** for those planning to make their First Holy Communion this coming year, will be held in CTK after their second meeting this **Sunday 25th January during the 10.30am Mass**. All families, friends and parishioners are invited to attend to show their support as the First Holy Communion children make their promises during the Mass.

### World Leprosy Day 2026

World Leprosy Day will be observed this **Sunday 25th January 2026**. There will be an Appeal and a Retiring collection at all Masses this weekend.

### Celebration Mass for Marriage & Family Life Saturday 14 February

Bishop Bosco will be celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on **Saturday 14 February** (12 noon) and is inviting all families to join him to acknowledge the joys & challenges of family life. In addition, we will celebrate those couples with significant anniversaries in 2026. If you are, or know of a couple, celebrating a special anniversary during 2026 please send names to: [adult.education@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:adult.education@cliftondiocese.com) with an address so that a personal invitation can be sent out from the bishop. Please include the number of years celebrating. It is always a wonderful Mass at the Cathedral, we look forward to seeing you there.

## Prayers

Please remember in your prayers all our Parishioners who are ill, in hospital or housebound particularly Carrie Sidoli, Peter Bradshaw, Tony Gaynor, Mairead O'Donnell.

### Recently deceased

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Mary McCoy, Edna Parker, Jane Bradshaw and Barbara Godman who have died recently.

The Requiem Mass for Mary McCoy will take place at 12:30pm on Monday 2nd February at CTK which will be preceded by Mary being received into the Church at 5:30pm on Sunday 1st February.

The Requiem Mass for Barbara Godman will take place at Holy Cross on Thursday 5th February at 12:30pm.

The funeral service for Edna Parker will take place at St Mary's Church, Wotton, at 11:00am on Thursday 12th February.

The Requiem Mass for Jane Bradshaw will take place at CTK on Friday 13th February at 10:30am.

All Parishioners from Holy Cross and CTK will be most welcome to attend the Funeral Services listed above. We keep all their families in our prayers also at this time.

### Anniversaries

We remember those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace Lorna Bird, Barney McAllister, Frances Brown, Ronald Rose, Judy Leister, Hetty Rutter-Welch, Muriel Sellars, Ernest Winkler, Ada Tuffen, Bridget McBrien, Bill Ward, Tom Kelly, Norman Rawling, Joe Wynne, Gemma Lavery, Wilfred Parker Tadeusz Siolo, Mona Green, Thomas Lynch, Veronica Bruce.

### Christ the King Forthcoming Dates

Music Night ... 19:00 Sunday 25th January  
Quiz Night ..... 19:30 Wednesday 4th February  
Friday Music Night ..... 19:30 Friday 6th February

### CTK Readers, Offertory and Music

*The new readers rota for Feb to Jul 26 are available [here](#)*

Date	9.00 Reader	10.30		Collector	Music
		Reader 1	Reader 2		
25th Jan	N McCarthy			FHC Enrolment Mass	Folk Group
1st Feb	G Hunter	A Clarke	B Clarke	C & D Clarke	Choir

### Christ the King Church Cleaning Rota

Mon 26th Jan & 2nd February M Gilroy & K Byrne  
Mon 9th & 16th February L Godding & S Evans

### CTK Weekend Coffee Rota

Sunday 25th January: M Gilroy & M Cullimore  
Sunday 1st February: S Emm & J Wallis

### Special Ministers (CTK) Rota

25th Jan: 9:00 J Hurford/K Gill 10:30 L Emm/M Wallis  
1st Feb: T Fernandez/S Evans 10:30 M Scott/D Nicholls

### RCIA Programme

The next meeting for the RCIA Programme will be this Sunday 25th January in the Parlour at Porch House after the 10.30am Mass.

On **Saturday 21st February at 11.00am** in the Cathedral, Bishop Bosco will celebrate the "Rite of Election" service for all people wishing to be in full communions within the Church from across the Diocese. All are welcome to attend this celebration.

### Lent 2026 – Liturgies of Reconciliation

During the season of Lent 2026, Bishop Bosco will be celebrating the abundant mercy of God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation at five venues across the Diocese.

We are pleased to confirm that one of these celebrations will be hosted at Christ the King, Thornbury on **Tuesday 24 March at 7.00pm**. Further details to follow. All most welcome.



### Congratulations!

We congratulate and pray for Athena and Artemis Moorefield who were baptised and received into the Church last Sunday, 18th January 2026. Welcome to our Parish family and to their parents Luke and Florianne.