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Rev. Joseph R. Upton, Ph.D.
 Administrator, Saint Alexander
 Pastor, Saint Mary of the Bay



MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday at 9am
 Saint Alexander

Saturday Vigil at 4pm
 (Preceded by Confessions at 3pm)
 Saint Mary of the Bay

Sunday at 8am, 10:30am and 6pm
 Saint Mary of the Bay

Monday-Friday 8am
 Saint Mary of the Bay

Holy Days as Announced



TRUSTEES & AUDITORS

Nancy Urban, Trustee
 John Saviano, Trustee
 Patricia Dugan, Auditor
 John Flynn, Auditor

Padre's Ponderings

Dear Parishioners,

Today, we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King. I came across this reflection by Tracy Earl Weaver that raises some good questions for us to consider this week:

When you think of a king, who is the first person to pops into your head? It may depend on how much history you know, or which historical period intrigues you the most. As Americans, the first person we might think of is King George III, whose reign has become synonymous in our national lore with the concept of tyranny.

We don't have much familiarity with kingship in modern American society. Kings tend to make us uneasy. Presidents, on the other hand — we can handle those, because we know we are a president's boss. No matter how much power he has, we are the electorate. We are the source of that power. We're comfortable with this arrangement.

But with kings it is profoundly different. Traditionally, the king derives his power from God. His rule bridges humanity with the divine.

We should reflect carefully on whether or not we have made Jesus Christ king in our hearts, or whether we regard him as a president. The difference isn't just one of titles, it's one of roles. Subjects do not demand anything of a king. They beseech. They entreat. They submit, and they accept.

Do we demand of Christ, or do we beseech? Do we tolerate God's edicts with grumbling, or do we embrace His word as the means of our reconciliation with Him?

The "good thief" treated Christ as a king. His counterpart treated him as a president. And it's worth remembering that Jesus Christ is not the President of the Universe.

I hope that you are planning on joining us for a communal Celebration of Mass at 9am this coming Thursday, Thanksgiving Day, at Saint Mary of the Bay. It will be the first time that the parish communities of Saint Mary of the Bay and Saint Alexander are able to gather for a single celebration of the Eucharist. And what better time to do that than Thanksgiving Day? That Mass will be offered in thanksgiving for the benefactors of both parishes. And a new tradition, "From Our Table to Yours," will mean that each household can take home a loaf of blessed bread from Seven Stars Bakery and a table blessing to share with your loved ones. We hope you can make it!

Until next week,

Fr. Joe

∞ MASS INTENTIONS ∞

November 20, 2022

9am: Anthony F. Urban

Requested by his wife, Nancy

Deceased Members of the Godek & Ferrara Families

Requested by Betty & David Hoague

November 27, 2022

9am: Anna Mattes

Requested by her family

Deceased Members of the Ranieri Family

Requested by Jean & Jim Baxter

∞ SAINT OF THE WEEK ∞



Saint Cecilia's story, like many of the earliest saints', is largely apocryphal and legendary in nature. According to tradition, Cecilia was born to a wealthy and prominent Roman family. Though she had consecrated her virginity to the Lord, she was married to a man named Valerian. It is said that she was "singing in her heart to the Lord" at her wedding. She confessed her promise of virginity to her new husband revealing that an angel protected her. Valerian would honor her vow only if he too

could see the angel. Cecilia told him he would see the angel if he was baptized, which he went to do immediately. When he returned to her, he saw the angel beside her. Cecilia also converted Valerian's brother, Tiburtius.

Unfortunately, it was a turbulent time in Rome for Christians. Valerian and Tiburtius were martyred for burying the bodies of Christians, which was illegal. Cecilia was also targeted for her faith. First authorities attempted to suffocate by locking her in the bath in her home and overheating the room. Some accounts say that she didn't break a sweat and even began to sing. They then sent in an executioner to behead her, but he faltered and was unable to complete his task, only succeeding in mortally wounding her. She remained alive for three days before she died.

The saint's body was exhumed twice, first by Pope Paschal I in 821, then by Cardinal Sfondrato in 1599. Both times her body was found incorrupt, the first saint to exhibit this extremity. St. Cecilia is the patron saint of music and musicians.

∞ LIVING THE SCRIPTURES ∞

Today's Readings:

2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5/Col 1:12-20/
Lk 23:35-43

From today's First Reading:

When all the elders of Israel came to David in Hebron, King David made an agreement with them there before the LORD, and they anointed him king of Israel. (2 Sm 5:3)

Consider: **The Israelites recognized that David was anointed by the Lord to shepherd and rule over them as their King. What do you think it takes to be a really good leader?**

From today's Second Reading:

He delivered us from the power of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. (Col 1:13-14)

Consider: **Paul teaches the Colossians that through the death and resurrection of Christ, God has redeemed and reconciled all of us and creation, and "transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son." How should we celebrate this incredible gift from God?**

From today's Gospel:

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." (Lk 23:42-43)

Consider: **While the rulers and soldiers ironically mocked Jesus as "King of the Jews" as they were crucifying him, Jesus offered words of comfort to the repentant criminal crucified beside him. What words of comfort do you need to hear today from our Lord Jesus Christ?**

