

## From the Desk of Father David Jenuwine

Dear Parish Family,

Happy almost Thanksgiving! We're just one week away! So much has happened in the past couple of weeks! Friday was the Holidays in the Heart of the City concert here at Holy Family, and it's only been a couple of weekends since our Harvest Dinner. Both were wonderful events!

Coming up this Wednesday, Nov 27, we'll move 4:00 pm Mass to 7:00 pm (just this week) to offer a special Mass of Thanksgiving expressing our gratitude to God for the many blessings we've all received, especially in this past year.

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe; often shortened to "Christ the King." This feast marks the last Sunday of the Church's liturgical year, and Christ's kingship over us all.

Advent, too, is nearly upon us! On the Tuesdays of Advent, we will have a special series. Each evening will start with a simple dinner at 5:00 pm, and end with sung Night Prayer at 7:00 pm. At 6:00 pm, each Tuesday will have a different theme: Dec 3 will be an Organ Recital, Dec 10 a Spiritual Talk by the

Sisters of Our Mother of Divine Grace from Port Sanilac, and Dec 17 we will have an hour of Eucharistic Adoration. Let us pray for each other to have a Blessed and Happy New Liturgical Year! Fr. DAVID



Christ the King - Nov 24 Pope Pius XI instituted the Feast of Christ the King in 1925 in response to growing secularism. In 1969, Pope Paul VI gave the celebration the title: "Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe", and moved it to the last Sunday of the liturgical year, before a new year begins with the First Sunday in Advent.



## Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary



The Immaculate Conception is a dogma of the Church maintaining that from the moment she was conceived, the Blessed Virgin Mary was preserved from original sin; so that from the beginning of her life, she was filled with the sanctifying grace normally conferred in Baptism. It is one of the four Marian dogmas of the Church. The dogma of the Immaculate Conception regards original sin only. The proclamation states "that the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instance of her

conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin." The definition makes no declaration about the Church's belief that the Blessed Virgin was sinless, in the sense of actual or personal sin; however, Church teaching also states that Our Lady was "free from all sin, original or personal."

This year, December 8th, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, falls on the Second Sunday of Advent. Because of this, the Solemnity is transferred to December 9th (Monday), but the obligation normally attached to this Holy Day is dispensed. There will be a 7:00 am and a noon Mass at the Cathedral in the St. Dominic Chapel for those wishing to honor Our Blessed Mother on this special day.



Holy Family Novena: Fri, Dec 20 - Sun, Dec 29 Lord Jesus Christ, look upon our parish and on our families in Your loving kindness. Preserve us from danger, give us help in time of need, and grant us the grace to persevere to the end. Help us to imitate Your own Holy Family, so that having served and loved You faithfully on earth, we may praise You eternally in heaven. – Amen.



## **December - Month of the Divine Infancy**

O Jesus, Prince of Peace and King of the Universe, You chose to humble Yourself and come into the world, not as a powerful ruler, but as a helpless infant; grant us the grace of humility and gentleness toward You and our brothers and sisters. Grant, too, O Lord, that we may always strive to achieve the virtue and innocence of Your own Holy Childhood.

Instill in us a growing faith in You, O Lord, and the strength to resist temptation in a world which so widely rejects You. Look upon us with compassion and forgive our sins. Fill our hearts with kindness and understanding.

O Jesus, give us the grace not only to pray fervently but to help to spread Your Gospel by our deeds as well as our words. – Amen.