

Mustard Seed

NEWSLETTER OF CHRIST THE KING PARISH

SUMMER 2015

As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them in loving justice with others and return them with increase to the Lord. — Stewardship: A Disciple's Response

A Life of Boundless Joy

For the past seven years, Fr. Matt Glover's enthusiasm, spirit and boundless joy have given Christ the King parishioners a unique perspective on being Catholic. From stories about his golf adventures, his years studying for the priesthood in Rome, his work in Nicaragua, and the many details of his family life, Fr. Matt has shown us that ordinary life is the place where the true face of God shines most brightly.

His youthful enthusiasm and joy-filled presence are infectious; you cannot help but be raised up when Fr. Matt engages with you, even if it's just to say hello. Energy and life emanate from him like a beacon; he is an excellent example of a modern-day priest, one who embodies the spirit of Jesus Christ.

"... We will know the missionary joy of sharing life with God's faithful people as we strive to light a fire in the heart of the world."

*Pope Francis
The Joy of the Gospel*

Fr. Matt's primary role in Kingston has been to serve the needs of the Catholic students at the University of Rhode Island. To that end, he has created a warm and welcoming space at the Catholic Center where young people can feel comfortable coming in at any time of day to read, study, talk, play ping pong and other games, visit with friends, or cook themselves a meal in the kitchen.

Through his work with the RCIA process at Christ the King, Fr. Matt has guided the faith journey of those looking for full initiation in the Catholic Church. This important ministry has enriched our parish as a whole, as well as providing a path for college students and other adults who are at a critical junction in developing a spiritual life.

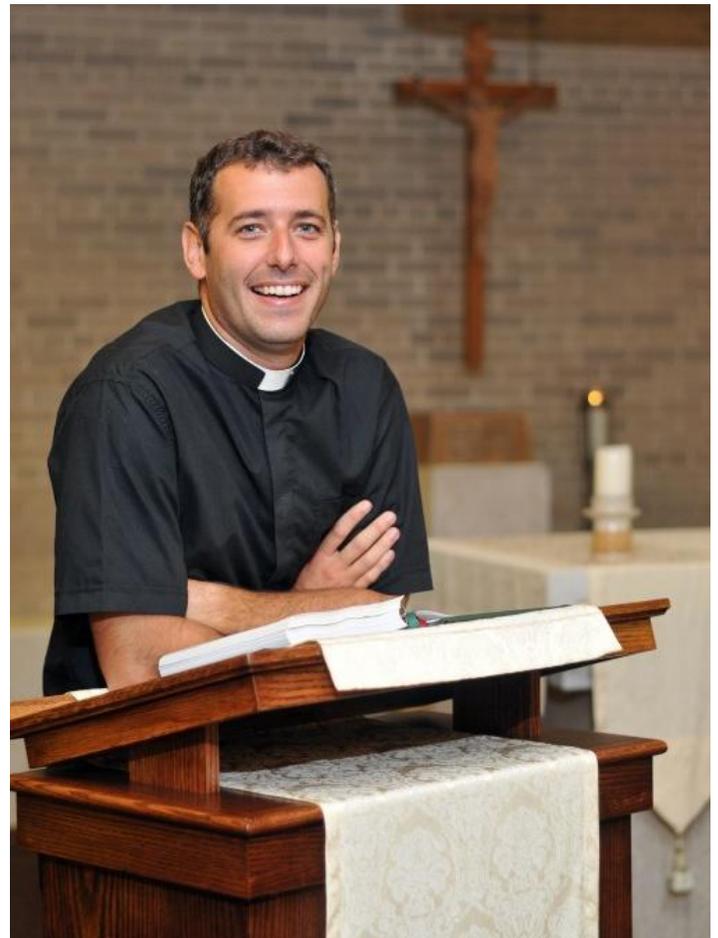


Photo: Michael Derr, South County Life Magazine

Father Matthew Glover

But perhaps Fr. Matt's greatest ministry is his missionary work in Nicaragua. All of us have been moved by stories of his trips there, taking URI students to work in an orphanage for a week in January every year. And for the adults who went on the special mission trip to Nicaragua in June 2014, it was an opportunity to see just how much has been accomplished there over the years by Fr. Matt and his various teams. This effort

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Boundless Joy

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has truly been a mission of hard work, generosity and love – the very best of sharing Christian values.

A few years ago, after Fr. Matt had been at Christ the King for some time, he, my husband Tom and I happened to be on the same flight out to Phoenix. He was going to spend a week with his aunt and uncle in Scottsdale, Arizona, while Tom and I were on our way to a religious education conference in Anaheim. I sat next to Fr. Matt, and for the next few hours had a delightful conversation talking about our lives, experiences and thoughts about religion. Many in the parish have had similar experiences, where they've gotten to know Fr. Matt over dinner, golf or other such opportunities. His genuine love and openness to life are an inspiration.



Father Matt in Nicaragua

for the seven years of his life that he freely shared with the URI community at the Catholic Center and with us at CTK.

We have been blessed by his presence.

— Mary Carol Kendzia

“Come Holy Spirit and Renew the Face of the Earth!”

On the day of Pentecost, the apostles, gathered in an upper room, received the “gift of tongues” so that all people from every country could understand the Christians’ inspired message of salvation as if they were hearing it in their own language. The Holy Spirit came to the Apostles in the form of “tongues of fire” filling the room with vibrant energy. Like the apostles, each of us is called to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in our own unique way.

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Adult Confirmation

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It is becoming a Pentecost tradition at Christ the King to welcome adult parishioners to the fullness of their initiation in the sacrament of Confirmation. Often there are members of our community who have received the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist, daily living their Christian commitment and worshipping with us regularly, but for some reason have not had the joy and privilege of the sacrament of Confirmation. After a short period of preparation, we welcome them to participate in the fullness of their initiation by receiving the sacrament of Confirmation on Pentecost.

In the Rite of Confirmation, the Bishop or pastor prays:

"... Send your Holy Spirit to be their Helper and Guide. Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgment and courage, the spirit of knowledge and reverence. Fill them with wonder and awe in your presence ..."

On May 24, as we prayed that the Holy Spirit fill our hearts and our lives with a renewed energy to live our faith and share the many gifts God has given us, we joyfully celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation for nine adults in our community: Peter Bartkiewicz Jr., Briana Lynn Bruno, Bruce Catelle Jr., Caroline Colonies, Robert Corkery, Victoria Fratantonio, Jacqueline Iacobbo, Henry Morancy and Thomas Schipritt. Congratulations!

If you are an adult who has received the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist, but have yet to receive Confirmation, please consider joining us next year! For more information, please contact Jennifer Marran at 783-7459 or jmarran@ctkri.org



Sacrament of Confirmation May 24, 2015



We Are God's Work of Art

On a beautiful Saturday morning this past April, sixty people gathered in the parish hall to hear Sr. Elissa Rinere, CP, speak about the spiritual journey. Spring had arrived and Easter was still fresh in our minds and hearts, as participants eagerly awaited the chance to explore the inner life, the life of the spirit.

The workshop was the first event organized by the Spiritual Life committee, which was formed in the Fall of 2014. This committee is charged with developing resources and activities to help parishioners deepen their faith and spiritual practice in various ways.

Simply titled “Your Spiritual Journey,” the workshop on April 25 was a great place to begin the committee’s efforts. The morning opened with coffee, food and conversation as participants came in to register and get settled for the two-hour workshop. At 9:30, Sr. Elissa began her talk. A Cross and Passion sister from the Archdiocese of Hartford, she is a canon lawyer who also works in the pastoral planning office for the Diocese of Norwich. But on this day, her intellectual gifts were less at the fore than her ability to draw us into a deeper sense of our spiritual selves.

At the heart of Sr. Elissa’s talk was this message: Find time to sit with God each day, and God will sit with you. In so doing, your life will change.

The workshop had more of a mystical slant – that is, focused on having an experience of God – rather than one that looked at theological foundations of a spiritual journey.

Participants learned that contemplative prayer – becoming aware of ourselves as one with the presence of God – can be practiced in many ways: silence, solitude, laughter, surrender, authentic community, and reaching out to others, for example.

At several times during the workshop we paused to pray, and to sing our theme song for the day, “We Are God’s Work of Art.” The words to this song echoed the tone of the workshop: “We are God’s work of art / fashioned in Christ / fashioned to shine with goodness and light. / As it was from the start / formed by this great, great love / we are God’s great, wondrous work of art.”

By the time you read this article, the Spiritual Life committee will have sponsored a tour of the stained glass windows in the church, on May 27, that blended the stories behind the creation of the windows with reflection and prayer on the Scripture passages that inspired each window. But not to worry – we have plenty of other events coming up, including an evening of reflection on the beach in July, continuing workshops on the spiritual journey starting in the Fall, and focused opportunities for prayer and meditation, using both traditional and contemporary practices.

Also, look for a survey later this summer where we’ll ask about your needs and desires regarding resources and activities for developing your spirituality and deepening your faith. As we together explore the spiritual foundations of Catholic Christianity, we will be better equipped to live out the Gospel and grow along our own spiritual journey.

— Mary Carol Kendzia



**Sister
Elissa Rinere, CP**



Living a Life of Stewardship

Bill DeCesare lives in West Kingston with his wife, Eddie. Bill and Eddie have two grown children, Colleen (30) and Will (28). Bill works full-time in the field of electrical conservation, yet still finds time to give back to Christ the King. Although there are many parishioners who really get involved, Bill has given of himself to a great extent.

Bill has served on just about every committee, including two terms as President of the Parish Council. But the focus of this profile is on Bill's work as a collector, a labor of love that he has performed for the last twenty-seven years. It all started on a day when a collector was absent, and Bill was asked by Father Joe Creedon to pinch-hit; he's been doing it ever since. You'll see him directing the collection crew at the 9:15 a.m. Mass.

When most of us think of collectors, we picture the person who distributes and collects the baskets during the offering. But the collectors also are responsible for facilitating the presentation of the gifts to the priest after the collection. They make sure that people are there to bring up the gifts and they give them directions they might need if they've never done it.

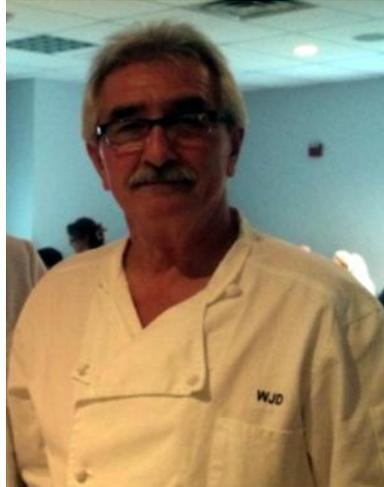
When I asked Bill what he liked most about his ministry as a collector, he told me how he likes educating young children about what it really is that they're doing when they bring up the gifts. One little child told Bill that he'd never been in a parade before. Bill explained to him that these are our gifts to God; this is what we give because we can and we should. The bread and wine are our offering to God, and we receive the body and blood of Christ. Many parents thank Bill for educating their children, and some even tell him that they learned something as well.

Bill tells the children to smile, and he likes that they get excited about being a part of the Mass. He especially likes being a part of this ministry because it allows the community

to be involved. We talked about how the young children like to participate by putting the envelope in the basket and holding the basket until the collector retrieves it. Hopefully all of these things will lead to many of these young parishioners getting involved more fully as they grow older.

I asked Bill whether he'd found anything particularly interesting in the basket over the years. He told me that he had noticed several times that when we had a guest speaker and a special collection that a few times he's found a large bill in the basket. He attributes this to a person being especially moved by the speaker and his or her cause. The generosity of our parish continually amazes him.

I asked Bill whether he thought the new procedure of taking the fish to indicate that you wished to bring up the gifts was working well. He said that it was, and noted that he was seeing many new faces participating.



Bill DeCesare

In addition to his volunteer work at CTK, Bill is a member of the South Kingstown Elks Lodge and is the former "Exalted Ruler." He and his family also run the Pilkington Memorial Golf Tournament, which is the longest continually running charity tournament in New England at thirty-seven years strong. The tournament benefits the American Cancer Society, Hospice Rhode Island and Friends Way, a Christian-based grief counseling organization. The tournament is held in honor of Eddie's father and has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years.

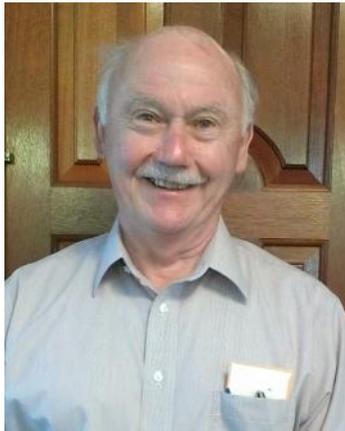
It is because of Bill, and others like him in our great parish, that we can accomplish the things that we do. If not for them, our priests would have much more to be concerned with, and to direct, and to do themselves. It's reliable people like Bill who make their job easier and less stressful. Thank you to Bill DeCesare for being a long-standing active member of our church community.

— Karen Pinch

Did You Know...

Parishioner Danica Mason organized a fundraiser to help a younger schoolmate at Wakefield Elementary School who is battling cancer. Her efforts raised \$1,141 dollars! That is a wonderful example of stewardship starting at a young age. Well done Danica!

Meet a Hospitality Minister



Jack Kelly

In the mid 1990s, Jack and Olga Kelly moved from New York to Rhode Island and joined Christ the King Parish. New in the neighborhood, they inquired from neighbors about a church and Christ the King came highly recommended. They both came not only to love our parish but to become involved in its life. Olga was a Stephen Minister and Jack is very involved as a devoted steward. Jack was born in Queens and educated in the parochial (elementary) and public (high) schools in that city. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Queens College and was employed by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company for more than forty years, during which time he was transferred to Rhode Island. He and Olga met while they were both employed by the same company. They were married in the

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Vacation Bible School Leader

Stephanie Bjorn has a new appreciation for the CTK staff and community after taking on the role as director for Outback Rock, Vacation Bible Camp held in April. She made Outback Rock her senior project at North Kingstown High School, selecting the "provide a service" component for her year-long project required for graduation.

She worked closely with youth minister Kelly Caton, Father Jared, and other staff members while taking charge of all aspects of planning, organizing and managing camp week. During this time, she discovered how giving and caring the staff is, and how much she enjoyed working with them. Her faith has grown along the way, and she wants to be more involved at CTK. She plans to teach CCD in the fall, a logical step toward her goal of becoming a teacher.

While coordinating Outback Rock, and from previous experience as a crew leader with summer bible camps Kingdom Rock and Weird Animals, Stephanie also discovered how much she enjoys working with children. She says last year's bible camp was the most fun she had all summer! She loves seeing the kids' enthusiasm at that age (5-10), and enjoyed starting and ending each day singing together during the Music and

More sessions based on the Bible point for the day. As director for Outback Rock, Stephanie was responsible for everything from ordering materials, setting up the registration table, and providing bulletin announcements to speaking at Masses, assigning roles and responsibilities, and overseeing daily camp groups and activities. She did a stellar job, and all went as planned.



Stephanie Bjorn

Her biggest challenge was coming up with two extra days of activities, games and crafts, since the session was originally designed to be held over a weekend. She made it work for four days instead of two.

Stephanie and her family have been members of CTK for seven years, after moving to Saunderstown from Hadley, Massachusetts. She has a twin sister, Robyn, and a younger sister, Rachel. Her father, Thorr, is director of Athletics at URI, and her mother, Cyndy, is a nurse. Stephanie enjoys theater and music, and is an avid runner. She's been a member of the NKHS theater group for four years and sings in the chorus. She also ran cross country on the track team during her junior and senior years. Stephanie will attend URI in the fall and plans to major in Elementary Education. Following her success in Outback Rock, she'll make an excellent teacher!

— Elise Hedglen

Hospitality Minister

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Bronx and lived in Commack, Long Island, for twenty years prior to coming to Rhode Island. Interestingly, while they resided in Long Island they attended Christ the King Church. Sadly, after thirty-two years of a happy marriage, Olga died in 2004. The love and support Jack received from our parish family at the time of Olga's death touched him deeply and is one of the reasons why he continues to give back to our parish community. Following Olga's death, Jack returned on a part-time basis to the Metropolitan Insurance Company and was employed there for ten years.

Jack lives in West Kingston and is a veteran of the United States Air Force having been stationed at both the MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida, and at the Davis-Monthan base in Tucson, Arizona. During this period of time he received an excellent education in mechanics and electronics, mostly in regard to jet fighters, and to this day he enjoys working with machinery. Jack also enjoys gardening and spending time with old friends. During one of these meetings with friends, Jack became part of the East Greenwich Parade committee. One of his suggestions has been adopted, and this year there was a contingent of marchers who honored deceased veterans. Jack also attends cardiac rehab at South County Hospital following double bypass surgery.

Currently, Jack is active in two ministries, the first being the Social Action Committee. Most of us are familiar with the

collections that are suggested at various times throughout the year, such as the school supplies in September – and we try to give generously and, for us, the giving is done. Those who are part of the Social Action Committee, however, must spend many hours sorting, counting and making certain that all children will be receiving supplies to fill their needs. Then there are those who must deliver the many supplies to the various schools in our area. At one time, Jack helped the committee in painting the Women's Resource Center and the Safe House for the many victims of domestic violence. At present, Jack is chairman of the Hospitality Committee and, as a hospitality minister, I can vouch for the wonderful and complete job Jack does. He is responsible for arranging schedules for sixty-nine ministers. He sees that the assignments are prepared and posted for each two-month period, and he is always willing to help to arrange for substitutes when needed. Jack also has taken the time to produce a manual for ministers, which explains the duties at each door at each Liturgy. The mission of the Hospitality Committee is to extend hands and voices to all who come to Christ the King Church to celebrate with our community and to encourage an atmosphere and attitude of welcome.

Jack is the perfect example of a dedicated steward as indicated in words by which he tries to live: "If not now, when?" ... If not me, who?"

— Margaret Riley

The Pascal Candle



The Pascal candle takes center stage at Easter and symbolizes the eternal presence of Christ, the light of the world. The lighting of the Pascal candle is one of the most solemn moments of the Easter Vigil service. At the opening of the service, a new fire is lit and blessed. The Easter candle is the first candle to be lit from this sacred fire and represents the light of Christ coming into the world. The candle leads the procession into the church.

In 2014, Fr. Jared asked one of the parishioners to carry the Easter candle into the church. And so began a new tradition at Christ the King.

JAY MASSE – 2014

Jay Masse had frequently attended the Easter Vigil Mass on the Saturday night before Easter. It was always an enjoyable experience. But it became much more than that in 2014 when at the last minute Fr. Jared asked Jay to carry the Pascal candle in the procession into the church. Jay had been tending the fire outside the church that night. That set the stage for him to be asked to step in. As Jay said, you can't say "no" to such a request.

He describes the experience in very personal terms. He felt that he was the only "light" as he entered the church, walked down

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Pascal Candle

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the aisle, and put the candle in the stand. The darkness became light, just as Christ's death was followed by his rising.

Carrying the Paschal candle was certainly doing something outside Jay's comfort zone. We do our best deeds when we are challenged to act outside our comfort area. Jay imagined what it must have been like when Jesus asked the apostles to leave their boats and follow him. They had the faith to leave the lives they knew as fishermen and follow Jesus into the unknown. We should do the same in our lives.



Jay Masse

Throughout the year, Jay would be reminded of the spiritual feeling he had as he carried that light into the darkened church. It had a very positive effect on his life. When he had to face a difficult task, he was reminded of that night. He realized that the smallest thing he did could make an important change in someone else's life. On his rounds as a postman, Jay shares his positive outlook on life with some of his patrons.

He told the story of an elderly man who lost his wife many years ago and had no interest in continuing to live. Jay reminds him of the important role he has for the rest of his family. A simple "hello" or a conversation with an acquaintance on his postal route are like ripples in the water. They start as small acts but their effects increase in ever widening circles.

Jay has been making a difference in people's lives for many years. He served in the National Guard for many years and is now retired from the Guard. He's very active in stewardship activities at Christ the King. Besides tending the fire at the Easter Vigil Mass, he is a Eucharistic Minister, he is working on the pictorial directory that is presently being put together, he is the "jack of all trades" for the CCD program, and he is a member of the Photography Committee that is covering church events. Jay also is a Boy Scout leader.

Jay and his wife, Jennifer Nappi, live in Wakefield with their two sons, both of whom are Eagle Scouts. Jonathan, 18, is a freshman at the Community College of Rhode Island and Joseph, 21, is just graduating from Western New England

College in Springfield, Massachusetts. Joseph will be attending law school in the fall.

Jay hopes that other parishioners at Christ the King will have the opportunity to carry the Paschal candle in future years and that it will be as meaningful an experience for them as it was for him.

KAREN LAROCHE – 2015

In 2015 the opportunity to carry the Paschal candle was offered to another Christ the King parishioner. Easter is a new beginning in the life of the Church. It is a time of renewed hope. And so it was fitting that the Easter candle was carried down the aisle at the Easter Vigil Mass by Karen LaRoche who herself was marking a new beginning. Karen lost her husband in November 2013 after a twelve-month fight against esophageal cancer. Robert was just 44 years old at the time of his passing. He left Karen and two children, Emma, 15, and Michael, 12. It has not been easy to build a life without her partner but she has been helped by her faith and by many in the Christ the King community. They have given her the hope that is the hallmark of the Easter season. And as Karen is able, she wants to give back to Christ the King.

Karen credits Fr. Jared and Fr. Matt with helping her cope with her loss. She calls them "incredible." She relates the story of a day this Spring when she was feeling particularly low. When she got home there was a message from Fr. Jared asking her to carry the Paschal candle at the Vigil Mass. She said that request moved her in ways she can't describe. It was an affirmation of her faith. It was very special to be asked to participate in that service.



Karen LaRoche

Friends Way also has helped Karen and her children cope with the death of her husband and their father. This is a program for families who have recently suffered the loss of a close family member. The family members meet with volunteers who lead adult groups and children's groups. Two of these volunteers are Christ the King parishioners Margaret Riley

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Pascal Candle

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and Michelle Saslow. They are uniquely qualified to work with Friends Way since they both have had tremendous losses in their own families and both have a history of service to the community and to Christ the King.

This past year, Karen served as a volunteer in the CCD Grade 6 class. She is involved with the Dana Farber Jimmy Fund and the Center for Esophageal and Gastric Cancers. She hopes to become more involved at CTK as time goes on.

Karen has been a parishioner at Christ the King since she was in high school. She was married at CTK and her children

have received their sacraments here. You will find Karen, her children and her mother, Ginny Moran, at the 11:35 a.m. Mass each Sunday. Her daughter, Emma, a sophomore at North Kingstown High School, is an avid horseback rider. She is a member of the Best Buddy Program, a group that works with special needs children. Michael is a sixth-grader at Wickford Middle School, and he plays basketball and runs track and cross-country.

Karen says that her faith has helped her through this loss along with the support of the Christ the King community.

— Lee DeLucia

On the Road to Christ the King

One Sunday at the Holy Name church the pastor started his sermon by stating, “Everyone in this parish is going to die.” Those in attendance were completely silent except for one man who laughed loudly. The priest repeated more emphatically, “Everyone in this parish is going to die!” The man laughed even louder. The pastor asked the man, “Why do you think this is funny?” He replied “I don’t belong to this parish!”

Many of us occasionally attend Mass at other churches away from our own parish for a number of reasons. We are apt to go a little farther away for practical purposes to do with schedules and of course for special sacraments of loved ones. Hopefully none of us laugh hysterically at the wrong time!

Here at Christ the King a significant number of people come from quite a distance away to attend Mass. The remarkable thing about this is they *are* parishioners. We have members from North Smithfield to Jamestown, from Cranston to Middletown – even over state lines to Connecticut and Massachusetts. Those of us born in Rhode Island know this is a really strange phenomenon simply because over a 15-minute drive to church is just crazy! There are wonderful Catholic churches in every city and town in the state. There must be a really good explanation for this. We had to dig a little deeper ... Could it be the friendly greeters? The lively, upbeat atmosphere? The exceptionally beautiful music? Fr. Jared and Fr. Matt? Yes, yes, absolutely and most definitely!

Speaking to some of the “out of towners” makes it clear

there are many reasons people belong to Christ the King parish. There is not just one common denominator. One thought was that it has to do with fond memories at URI as a student attending Mass at CTK and being involved at the Catholic Center. Sometimes that does apply.

THE GAUTHIER FAMILY

Karen Gauthier grew up in Mystic, Connecticut, and transferred to URI well into her college years. She joined the



The Gauthier Family

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On the Road

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Newman Club at the Catholic Center and happily recalls the meetings on Wednesday nights. The chaplain at the time was Fr. John Soares or “FJ” as he was affectionately known to the members. Besides meetings, they planned and enjoyed dinners together every other week as a group. Senior year, through a mutual friend, she met a young man at the center, Rich Gauthier, a “geeky” freshman from Tiverton. Little did she know at the time he would become her husband not too many years later.

After graduation Karen became a Jesuit volunteer in Maine for a year, helping adults with disabilities. Returning home she pursued a career as a special education teacher. One evening that mutual friend invited her over for dinner, and a certain guy also was invited. He was no longer a freshman and no longer geeky! They connected and began dating. Fast forward to the present – they are married with a 2-year-old daughter and a 4-year-old son. Karen says they have lived just over the line in Connecticut for years and are now moving to Mystic. She says they have always gone to CTK except for her year in Maine. And, they will continue to after moving though it’s a bit farther. It’s obvious they feel connected to Christ the King and very clear that this is their parish.



Jeff and Kathy Dennard

KATHY DENNARD

Kathy Dennard has a completely different story that led to her joining the CTK parish. She had been perfectly happy at her East Greenwich parish for years. Her husband, Jeff, was not brought up Catholic but he often attended Mass with

her and their children. Several years ago he became very emotional when there was a special procession at Mass one Sunday. He couldn’t explain what had come over him. Soon after he told her he wanted to begin the RCIA process and become a Catholic. The process classes at their church were held on Sundays. The Dennards, avid skiers, always spent winter weekends up north so the Sunday meetings wouldn’t work.

A friend mentioned Christ the King where the RCIA meetings are held on a weeknight. Jeff signed on and saw it through. Despite a little hitch, in July 2004 he received the sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation at a Mass Kathy will never forget. At that same Mass they even renewed their wedding vows. Fr. Joe Creedon presided at that Mass and Kathy says there was not a dry eye in the church. They found themselves so connected with Fr. Joe, Fr. John Soares and many other new friends that they wanted to stay on at CTK. Heartbreak came to the Dennard house in December 2012. Jeff suffered cardiac arrest and passed away.

Of course this was devastating and shocking for Kathy and their family. Jeff was 67. As difficult as it was, she felt blessed to be comforted by so many from CTK. Fr. Joe gave the homily at Jeff’s funeral Mass. He was able to speak from the heart because he had become good friends with Jeff. Kathy has continued as a parishioner at CTK and fortunately has the support of many good friends here.

KATHERINE FEMLEY

People can find themselves yearning for something specific from their church and from its priests. Katherine Femley comes from a distance because she was looking for “teaching priests.” She very much wanted to learn and grow in her faith. A desire to understand how to apply the gospel to everyday life was guiding her to CTK.

At the suggestion of a coworker she attended Mass here for the first time about five years ago. She was pleasantly surprised to see greeters on the way in offering a warm welcome. A really nice touch, but even more important was having leaders who strengthened her faith with the messages they delivered each week. It gave her the better understanding she was hoping for. Great passion and enthusiasm also come across according to Katherine.

She very much found a home here. Katherine was married here three years ago! The drive is twenty miles, about thirty minutes each way from Middletown. As she says, they would drive that distance to many other destinations, so why not church?

We are all just here temporarily ... on the journey Home. If being at Christ the King helps strengthen our faith and brings us closer to God on that journey, then that is what it’s all about! Whether we drive five minutes or fifty-five minutes on the road to Christ the King it is well worth it.

— Diane Mihilaides

Mission Trip: Peru 2015



Andrew Sarazen in Peru

Two members of Christ the King Parish traveled to Lima, Peru, for 10 days in February as part of a Christian Brothers mission trip with Bishop Hendricken High School. Andrew Sarazen of Saunderstown and Jay Zizza of Narragansett, both juniors at Hendricken, together with nine other students and three teachers, learned firsthand what it means to live and work in a Third World country.

Early each day, after morning prayers, the boys climbed almost 200 steps to reach the homesite of an impoverished family to build a small house and pour a concrete walkway. Often ten times a day they made the 200-step hike up the mountainside to bring lumber and materials to the site. Each night, the boys wrote in their journals recording how moved they were by the

local people who had so little yet were happy, full of life and devoted to their faith.

The group visited a school and a hospital where they interacted with local children. Andrew noted, "I realized that, in Peru, the people who had nothing were the friendliest and most giving people I had ever met in my life. If you were to walk down a street, without fail, everyone you passed would say, 'Hola! Como estas?' to you. Also, the people are even able to share and give more than one could ever expect. A few examples come to mind to support this observation. First of all, I remember one day going to help around the house of one family that had four children. I had packed snacks with me for the day, but after meeting one little boy, Max, I decided to give him a package of fruit snacks. Instead of eating them, he immediately took them inside of his house and split them with his brothers and sisters. His first thought after being given something was to give it away.

The second story that comes to mind occurred on the day a new house was built for a family. Large wooden panels that would become the walls of the house had to be carried up 200 stairs to get to where the house was being built. While this was being done, the family we were helping bought our group five two-liter bottles of water. They went out of their way to spend what little money they had to help us when it was our job to help them. Everyone in the area cared about each other so much, and the tough times just brought everyone closer together.

The people actually seemed happy with their lives even though they had so little." Andrew added, "I felt a strong sense of service when the mother hugged all of us with tears in her eyes – so happy to have a new home for her family."

Did You Know...

At the Boy Scouts of America annual meeting May 22 in Atlanta, parishioner Bob Sirhal of Kingston was presented with the Silver Buffalo Award, Scouting's highest national commendation for noteworthy and extraordinary service to youth. He is the third Rhode Islander to receive this award since its inception in 1926.

His 31 years of Scouting leadership began as Cubmaster of Pack 66 Kingston and then as committee chair of Troop 1 Kingston, Sea Scout Ship 1 Westerly, district chair, Narragansett Council president and chairman of the Catholic Committee on Scouting, Order of the Arrow lodge and

section adviser and Vigil Honor member, Northeast Region Area One president, regional vice president of Program, and chair of the Wood Badge and Venturing committees.

At the national level, he has served as Jamboree subcamp chief and Operations Group vice chair, Philmont Training Center Committee chair, Order of the Arrow vice chair for training, and member of the Sea Scout, Cub Scout and National Growth Initiative committees. He led the National Basic Training Task Force to rewrite the Cub Scout Leader Basic Training course.

Locally, Bob has served United Way of RI as vice chair for allocations; president of the Courthouse Center for the Arts and the Tavern Hall Preservation Society; and as board member of the Potter Fund of the Rhode Island Foundation.

Mustard Seed

Newsletter of Christ the King Parish

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*To everything there is a season and
a time for every purpose under heaven.*

– Ecclesiastes 3:11

A TIME TO BE BORN – BAPTISMS

Ben Alden, son of Adam and Lauren Walsh
Louis James, son of Paul and Kelly Ortelt
Maeve Murphy, daughter of John and Maura Gazerro
Ryker Nicholas, son of Nicholas and Vanessa Stebenne
Emiliana Corina, daughter of Jason and Lisa Boswell
Liam Patrick Kenneth, son of Patrick and Kimberly Short
Eve Elizabeth, daughter of Luke and Beth Walker
Greyson James, son of Kyle and Theresa Hemmerle
Edward Walker, son of Thomas and Leanne Hudson
McKenna Quinn, daughter of Brad and Kelly Davis
Paige Frances, daughter of Jason and Caroline Colonies
Rocco James, son of Nicholas and Megan Catalozz

A TIME TO DIE – DEATHS

Helen Sandmeier Mary Daly Gerard Wood
Robert Brown Joan Carr Charles (Chick) Gavitt

A TIME TO LOVE – NEW PARISHIONERS

Mr. and Mrs. Jason Lafferty and family
Mr. Lou Northup
Ms. Paige Sullivan
Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Cusick and family
Mrs. Maria King
Mr. and Mrs. John Normandin
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Coons
Mrs. Maria Kamel
Mrs. Jeanne DeSimone
Mr. and Mrs. Darlington Ebere and family
Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Conley and family
Ms. Alice Oman
Ms. Mary Devine
Mrs. Catherine Cool-Rumsey
Mr. and Mrs. William Clark and family
Mr. and Mrs. Mark DeMoranville and family
Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Charbonneau
Mr. and Mrs. John Kenyon and family
Mrs. Donna Murtha-DiMeo
Mr. and Mrs. Hayes McCarthy and family
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sinotte
Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Conley
Mrs. Pearl Hirsbrunner