



# THE KING'S CONNECTION

November 2017

Volume 2017 No. 9

## November: The time to give thanks, share blessings in Cathedral Capital Campaign

**By Fr. Paul Prabell**  
CTK rector

The month of November begins with a flurry of spiritual themes. As Halloween is celebrated on October 31, we encounter our mixed emotions as this is a day for children, masquerades, and zany, but it is also a day whose origin was as a spiritual preparation for the great feast day of November 1.

This particular year, October 31 is the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, as this was the day that Martin Luther put his 95 theses on the door of the Wittenberg Cathedral.

We give thanks for the special experiences many of us have had through the summer and the month of October as area Catholics and Lutherans have prayed, sang, studied, and served together and taken one more step towards the unity that Christ desires for his Church.

November 1 is All Saints' Day, a holyday when we commemorate the many men and women through all of history, and within our fami-

lies, who are resting in God's presence in their eternal home. At all our Masses we give thanks for those who have gone before us and inspired us by their lives.

On November 2, we celebrate All Souls' Day and particularly at our 5:30 Mass we lift up those whose funerals have been celebrated here at the cathedral over the past year and we offer special prayers of support and empathy for their loved ones who are in various stages of adjusting to their loss.

This also offers the opportunity to express our thanks to our bereavement ministers, who help families plan the funeral Mass and its surrounding aspects; our Resurrection choir, who faithfully sing at the funeral Masses; the bereavement luncheon volunteers, who provide a nourishing meal in the aftermath of the funeral; and those who serve as sacristans, servers, and other liturgical ministers at funerals.

Because of the ministry of this cadre of good folks, people who are grieving, coming in from out of town, and often unfamiliar with the Catholic



### Prayer for the campaign

Dear Lord God, we dedicate our Capital Campaign to your glory. We thank you for the blessings you have given us through our Church. We have encountered you and many good people here in our spiritual home. Within the walls of our buildings we have found direction for our lives, strength in times of weak-

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## Campaign

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Church are able to feel the love of Our Lord as they are on the verge of drowning in a sea of emotions.

On November 3-6 we will experience our first Light of the World retreat, and we trust that as winter's darkening days are looming, the light of Christ engendered by this retreat will be a blessing and a beacon for our parish as we go deeper into our mission of living as disciples.

On the next weekend, Saturday, November 11, our nation celebrates Veterans' Day as we give thanks for all those who have served in our nation's military forces and have given themselves to help the people of our world live with peace and justice. It is a prime day for gratitude and re-focusing ourselves on the ideals of our country and to pray for all those presently serving in the armed forces.

For many of us, the culmination of November is the feast of Thanksgiving, a day that has its roots in the chaos of our Civil War, but also a day whose seeds are fundamentally spiritual. As a nation, as a parish, and as families, we all have many blessings. November is a month-long invitation to give thanks, to notice our blessings, to share our blessings.

Through the month of November, many of you will be assessing your assets, but also assessing your love for our cathedral parish as you consider how you will give of your blessings to assist in our Capital Campaign to repair and refresh our aging parish and school building. I have my own spirit of gratitude as I give thanks for your vibrant vision of the spiritual power of our parish buildings, your generosity and your love for our parish home.

**Morality is pretty simple:  
Treat others the way you  
want them to treat you.**

## Prayer

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ness, and perspective in times of success.

We humbly ask you to bless our campaign to prepare our cathedral parish to be a home and a haven for years to come. Open our hearts to be guided by the prayers of Mary and the many saintly people who have been part of the life of this parish.

Send your Holy Spirit to inspire us as we participate in our campaign to stabilize our church facilities. Bless us so that we can turn this challenge into an opportunity to trust and praise you.....

We pray in the Spirit of Christ Our King.....AMEN



## CHRISTMAS CHOIR

### Limited time commitment:

\* Attend 3 out of 4 rehearsals

\* Sing for Midnight Mass

Rehearsals on Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30  
p.m.

Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, & 19

Cathedral Music Room – Parish  
Life Center

(in the basement of the church)

To reserve your place in the Choir:

Contact Robert Whitaker

Cathedral Director of Music

335-3693 ~ [rwhitaker@cdlex.org](mailto:rwhitaker@cdlex.org)



# CKS honored as blue-ribbon school

**By Kim Thompson**  
CTK parishioner

U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos HAS recognized Christ the King School (CKS) as a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School.

Based on all student scores, subgroup student scores and graduation rates, CKS is honored in the Exemplary High Performing Schools category. Exemplary High Performing Schools are among their state's highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests. CKS was first recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School in 2005.

"National Blue Ribbon Schools are active demonstrations of preparing every child for a bright future," Secretary DeVos SAID to the honorees. "You are visionaries, innovators and leaders. You have much to teach us: some of you personalize student learning,

others engage parents and communities in the work and life of your local schools and still others develop strong and forward-thinking leaders from among your teaching staff."

"This is such an honor for Christ the King School," said CKS Principal Paula Smith, Ed.S. "Our students, parents, staff and faculty have worked very hard to earn this distinction."

CKS strives to build strong moral character in an academically challenging, faith-filled community for grades K-8. All of CKS's teachers are chosen for their competency and dedication to educating the whole child in a beautiful Catholic community.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students achieve very high learning standards or are making notable improvements in closing the achievement gap.

This coveted award affirms the hard work of educators,



families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content.

Now in its 35th year, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has bestowed recognition on more than 8,500 schools. On Nov. 6-7, the Secretary and the Department of Education will celebrate with these honorees at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

**A child's mind is not  
a vessel to fill but a  
flame to kindle**

## The King's Connection

**Co-Editors:**

Bob Naydan  
Mike Horenkamp

**Contributors:**

Kerri Baunach  
Meg Compos  
Linda Harvey  
Fr. Paul Prabell  
Kim Thompson  
Robert Whitaker

# CHRIST THE KING SCHOOL

## OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, Nov. 12th 12:30-2:30 p.m.



## REGISTRATION

Monday, Nov. 13th 8 a.m.-noon

# CCS a CTK institution providing material, spiritual help to the poor

**By Meg Compos**  
CTK Outreach

**By Linda Harvey**  
CCS founder  
And CTK parishioner

## An introduction

Christians in Community Service (CCS) is a lay ministry that was established by parish members here at Christ the King to serve our Bluegrass community.

CCS provides financial and material support services on an individual basis to anyone in need, regardless of beliefs, race, or lifestyle. People in need are screened and referred to CCS by qualified social workers from Lexington agencies. This ministry relies on CTK parishioner volunteers as "point people" to take calls from social workers and match their needs with resources.

In 2015 and 2016 CCS disbursed \$91,160 to provide vital food, medical, rent and utilities assistance to 934 clients in need in Lexington. Please consider supporting this important ministry that benefits so many in our local community. The next CCS collection at Masses will be on December 3, 2017 but contributions are always welcome. Below, enjoy an article written by the parishioner and founder of CCS.

Christians in Community Service (CCS) began in December 1982 at Christ the King. It has helped thousands of people in the Bluegrass area and our parish with financial and material assistance and emotional and spiritual support to individuals in need. It also has given birth to other CCS-type ministries and other programs.

In the beginning, I came up with the concept of CCS in 1982 when I was a delegate to the Kentucky Council of Churches Annual Assembly, which focuses on social justice issues. I thought to myself, there is no way many people in the pew will understand these issues unless they experience individual people living in poverty on a one-one basis. Once they have a non-threatening relationship with a person in need, then they might be moved to become further involved. So we developed the motto, "if you just reach out to one person in need, you can change the world."

The key was a newsletter that was inserted in our parish Sunday bulletin bi-weekly or monthly for a number of years and made it more personal for those in need and those who

contributed. I wrote this newsletter and then other volunteers would edit it. Our last editor was Nancy Sallee, who is deceased. The newsletter gave constant feedback on donations and described people in need. It showed the impact, how individual volunteers made a difference. Within the first year of our founding, we had \$32,000 donated from our parish and this amount kept increasing each year.

There was a spirit, deep friendships, and a community that existed with the CCS volunteers. This team supported me in my journey and we supported one another as we faced life's challenges. No one was paid and the parish helped with operating costs of \$4,000 a year. Donna O'Bryan was the treasurer for many years and Mary Burkley Pike followed her. Julie Nash would write the thank-you notes to individual donors and pick up the checks each week.

We had a medications program for a while that Agnes Black and Linda Harris operated. They are nurses and made decisions on who we would help with this service.

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# CCS: A CTK tradition

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CCS gave birth to several other programs. We had “friend-friend,” “community furniture bank,” “adopt a family for Christmas,” “adopt a family for Thanksgiving,” and “Share and Care.” These programs operated out of my home and we used our home phone of 269-6772 (still same number today for CCS) for people in need or social agencies to call me directly. Since I am a social worker, I would screen the calls and make decisions on how much we would help.

Often we would not have \$500 to pay someone’s rent. In faith, I reached out to individuals who wanted to assist financially and always came up with the money to meet the needs. There were two donors specifically who gave large sums of money when I called them.

At Christmas and other times, we had “Share and Care” a group of retired men from our parish who would deliver food vouchers, holiday gifts, diapers and other materials directly to the people in need. All these men have since died but they brought me and those in need so much joy with their humility. Nothing was too small or big for them to do.

With “Friend to Friend”, John and Mike are an example from our parish who helped a blind mother with four children navigate her apartment and other areas of need. Volunteers were matched with families in need for six months. We collaborated with Christ Church Episcopal Church

(covenant relationship) that our parish has with them. They started a CCS type ministry called “Cross Ministries.”

With the “Community Furniture Bank”, we had men who helped move furniture from donors to those in need for many years. We received a donated van that lasted a long time from Bill Barkley who also designed our logo of an “angel bringing gifts to the cross.”

I found a four page newsletter I wrote on January 21, 1990 that indicated that CCS served 270 clients with the “Christmas Sponsor Program.” This still exists today in the Diocese and is headed by Connie Kotzbauer. Julie Preston did the Thanksgiving Program for many years in our parish.

In this same newsletter, the relationship between CCS, Catholic Charities, and Lex-Care was described. Lex-Care is a group of agencies (about 119 at the time) that sponsors a community emergency fund. They raise money by describing people in need situations and receive donations from those who respond in the Lexington Herald-Leader weekly column in the community section. I wrote this initial column for a year that came out of our CCS experience. I am grateful that it still exists today.

We had a relationship with

Catholic Charities of the Diocese in the '90s when they used to be located on Duke Road. Ginny Vicini who is now the Director of Catholic Charities was one of the social workers in the past who screened client calls. We provided volunteers to answer their calls and had a close working relationship for several years.

So by now, I hope you see how “personal” CCS was to us and to those we served. It was one on one. Of all of my life experiences, Birthright of Lexington and CCS are two organizations that I hold close to my heart in the past. Now Mary Queen of Holy Rosary is doing a CCS type ministry under the direction of Kabby Akers for Juvenile Restorative Justice, Inc. for the needs of adolescents at risk and their families.

The faithful volunteers of CCS now continue to carry the spirit of this ministry to those in need. It is beyond comprehension how many individuals and families have literally been saved from becoming homeless and experiencing other severe consequences. But more important, these people experience the compassion of Jesus Christ!

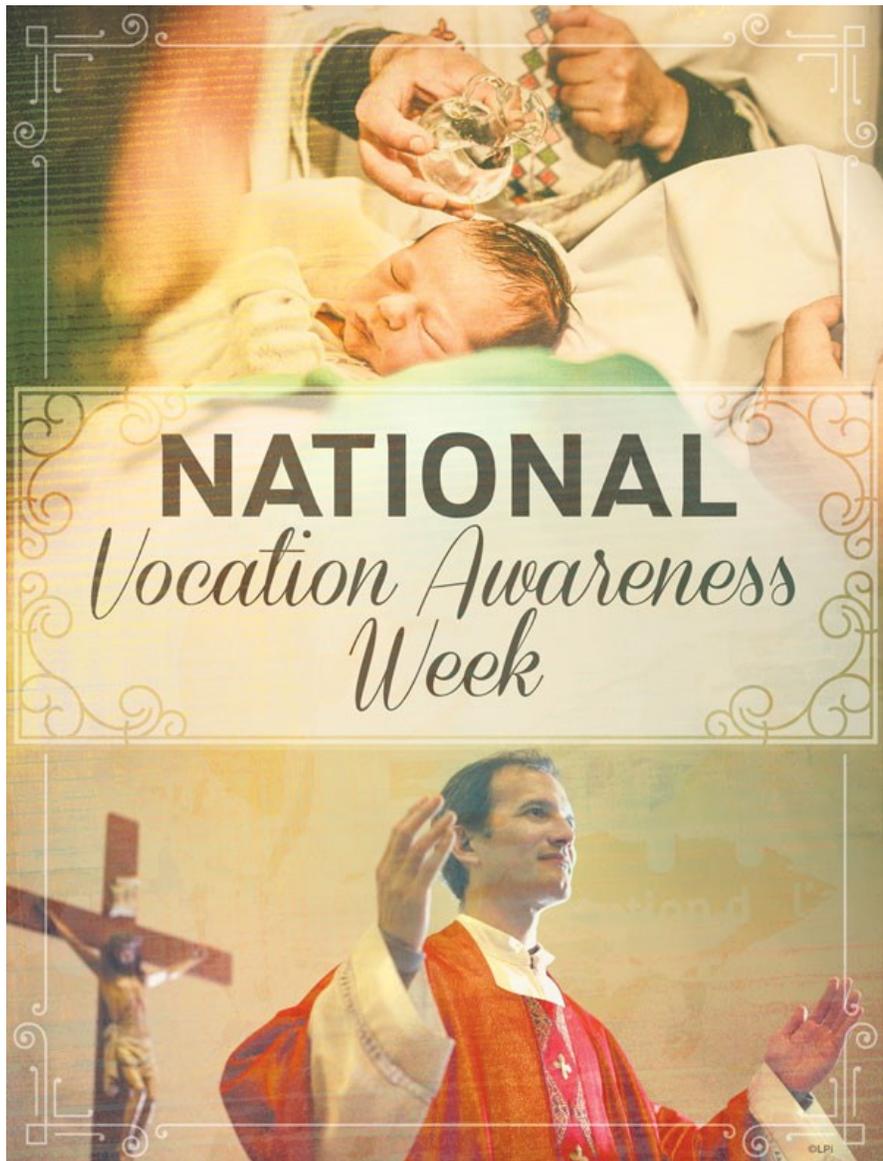
# Help mark Vocations Awareness Week

**By Kerri Baunach**  
CTK parishioner

National Vocations Awareness Week begins on Sunday November 5. This is a great time to say an extra prayer for more vocations from our parish and diocese, to talk to our children about the importance of always falling God's will for our lives, and to say "Thank you" to all those who have responded to the call, our priests and religious.

On Sunday November 5, in Hehman Hall from about 10am until 12:45pm, we will have tables set up with information about a variety of religious orders, prayer cards, brochures about vocations and how you can start the discussion of vocations in your family, and much more. We will have some representatives from a few orders there as well, please come by and say hello and thank them for their yes to God. While you check out our materials, please also consider signing up to host our Vocations Crucifix for a week.

We hope you can join us on Sunday November 5 as we open National Vocations Awareness Week. Please take some time during the week to say a prayer for vocations. Below is the



Vocation Prayer from the diocese.

## **Prayer**

Heavenly Father, you are the one who made us, and you know us better than we know ourselves.

Call forth your servants, O Lord, and teach us to recognize your voice.

Son of God, you gave your life for all people, and you invite us to share in your mission.

Guide us with your love, dear Je-

sus, and help us to show it to others.

Holy Spirit, you are present within us, and you lend us the strength to live out our calling.

Remain with us always, our Helper, and give us the courage to say, "Yes."

Hail Mary ...

Lord Jesus, today we especially ask that you offer your mercy, love, and guidance to all single persons.