## SAINT MANNE

Religious Education Weekly Newsletter For the Week of November 26, 2023



FROM CARMEN PERLAS
COORDINATOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This Sunday, November 26, 2023 is the 34th Sunday of Ordinary Time, the last Sunday of the Liturgical Year and is the SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING! Amidst the growing popular sentiment towards secularism and atheism in a world ravaged by the First World War, a period characterized by the lack of peace and tranquility, Pope Pius XI, on December 11, 1925 issued the encyclical "QUAS PRIMAS." In the Pope simply wanted to this encyclical. remind the world to give glory and honor Christ. Lord and King and the source of salvation through the most holy Roman Catholic Church. The Kingship of Christ is above all 'man-made' kingdoms, regimes and governments - and that's because there would always be darkness and hopelessness in a secular world. Only where Christ is the Sovereign King and Ruler will we find everlasting iov. In His Kingdom love reigns over hatred, generosity over selfishness and life over death. Thus His Kingdom is spiritual and is concerned with spiritual things. This is what Christ meant when he said that His Kingdom is not of this world! Let this solemnity continue to inspire us to 'hang in there' with Christ as the center and ruler of our lives, particularly, the King of our Families as well. As a wife and mother, I would like to encourage all of you, to

bring your children (and husband) ever closer to the King through daily family prayer and the practice of the Sacraments of the Church. Happy Feast Day.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES



CLASSES RESUME
ON DECEMBER 3,
2023 - FIRST
SUNDAY OF
ADVENT. See you all!



**Simple Needs Drive** - On December 2, 2023 (Saturday), from 9:00 - 11:00 am, Saint Anne's Parish is asking everyone to extend yet more love to babies up to 16 year old boys and girls for gently used and clean toys, socks, sweaters, goves, scarves and hats. Registration is requested. Please see our website for details.



**Giving Tree -** We have more opportunities to share our love with our brothers and

sisters through Saint Anne's Annual Giving Tree project. Remember to stop by the Giving Tree located in the Church and select an ornament. Catholic Charities is requesting \$25 gift cards from Target or Safeway.

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Please join our parish annual Family Nativity and Choir at 5:00 pm Vigil Mass on December 24, We are in need of a Holy Family that will depict Saint Joseph, the Blessed Virgin Mary and Jesus.

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## REFLECTIONS ON TODAY'S GOSPEL Matthew 25:31-46



Today's Gospel reading is what we can call Jesus *parousia*, or His Second Coming. It's not really a long story (though it still is a parable), but rather a sort of an analogy between the separation of the sheep (holy people of God) and the goats (evil people). So he establishes here a statement worth our imagination, "when the Son of Man comes in glory" - it's a vivid description of how he will come down from heaven to make that Final Judgment. Will he be riding in a special spaceship flown by a multitude of angels? However that might be, the message of Mattew's gospel is clear. To those who recognized Jesus in the poor, the outcast, the downtrodden. the hungry and the least ones, to them the Kingdom of Heaven will be opened. Does it mean this is all we would need to enter HIs Kingdom? Yes and no. Yes, we must love our neighbor through the corporal works of mercy. Yet, we must love God above all things through humble obedience to HIs Will Commandments that can be summarized as follows: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul. This is the greatest and most important commandment. The second is like it: love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22: 37-40).