

# INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

In the Diocese of Plymouth

#### Feast of Christ the King

### The Precepts of the Church

You have no doubt heard about the 10 commandments. Perhaps you are less familiar with the precepts of the Church. This Sunday, and for the following few Sundays, we will have a series of small articles in the newsletter about these precepts of the Church. The first of these is "to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy days of obligation and rest from servile works".



This precept identifies the practical means by which we observe the third commandment of God – to observe the sabbath day and keep it holy. We cannot understand how important the sabbath day was for the Jewish people. Observance of the sabbath was the focal point of all their worship and their religion. So important it was, that when Our Lord referred to Himself as 'Master

#### 31st of October 2021

of the sabbath', they accounted it as blasphemy – only God can be Master of the sabbath.

Liturgy is a necessity to participate in the plan of the Redemption. We must seek a dignified and refined liturgy. Our Lord's Priestly Royalty must shine in society. But for this to happen, He must first Reign in His Church, and this must happen through the liturgy.

Liturgy is part of the virtue of Religion, and Religion is part of virtue of Justice, or *fairness*. Justice is the virtue where we render to each that which is his due. With a criminal, justice is satisfied with a proportional punishment. A good person receives their reward.

So, what does God deserve? Well, He is our Creator we owe everything to Him. He is the Sovereign Master. He deserves to be glorified. It is our duty and His Divine Right to receive homage. In other words, we must have a sacred gratitude for all the good we have received. This is also our joy and fulfilment. Without worshipping God, we will always be empty. Something will be missing. We will never be fulfilled.

The devil deceives us into thinking we can find our happiness outside of God, in sin, in independence. No. Our happiness is found with God, in virtue, in a loving submission to Him.

The Liturgy is the meaning of the priesthood. The Liturgy is the *raison* d'être of the priesthood. Priests are

meant to be neither Church bureaucrats, nor pen-pushers, nor simple parish coordinators, but men of worship. Our Lord simultaneously instituted, with the words of Consecration at the Last Supper, the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Orders.

The Liturgy in general, and the precept to worship God on Sundays and holy days, is also the heart of the Church. A priest we could say has two duties: to worship God himself and to teach the people to worship God. When the people worship God, all else falls into place. There remains little explaining to do when we know that God is infinitely great, and worthy of all our love.



Our Lord said to Saint Catherine of Siena: I am the One Who IS, you are the one who is not! We must love that liturgy whereby we can worship the Divine Supremacy. And we do this principally through this first precept.

The second element of the precept is to rest from servile works. The sabbath – and since Our Lord's Resurrection the day of Sunday – has always been one of

rest. Servile works may sound old fashioned. By that we mean jobs that would have formerly been done by servants – such as cleaning or gardening. Where possible, we should do these things on another day of the week. Intellectual study is not considered servile work, but should avoid shopping, including internet shopping, on a Sunday.

On Sundays and holy days, we are meant to set aside time just for the Lord. We should avoid the temptation to want to go to a quick Low Mass. Sometimes people complain that a Sung or High Mass is too long, and it takes up too much of the day. That is the point! It's meant to be long. When we pray, we give up or sacrifice our time we could have used for another purpose.

God the Son is the splendour of the Father. He praises His Father eternally in the bosom of the Father. This continues to be the case after the Incarnation. His Sacred Humanity enters into His eternal hymn of praise. In Prison, Our Lord sung His Father's praise. By our two-fold Sunday worship – attendance at Holy Mass and keeping it as a day of rest – we too blend our voices into the Son's eternal praise.

#### **Reception of the Sacraments**

All of the sacraments give sanctifying grace. Baptism initiates it; Confession restores it when it is lost, or increases it if the penitent's sins are not mortal; the other sacraments all increase it. Each has its own special grace as well.

Confirmation brings us to maturity in the life of grace. By Baptism, St Thomas says, we receive powers to do things which pertain to our own salvation; but in Confirmation we receive power to do



those things which belong to spiritual combat against the enemies of the Faith. We receive the power of confessing our faith publicly and by words, as it were ex officio—that is, we have now not only the powers but an abiding right and duty to exercise them. We are not only members of the Church but soldiers.

The sacraments of the New Law are directed toward the Eucharist as their crowing achievement. The sacramental grace they confer is an anticipation and pledge, as it were, of the grace that the Eucharist bestows, namely, perfect charity, from which results the unity of Christ's Mystical Body. "First of all, because Baptism is the beginning of the spiritual life, and the door of the sacraments; whereas the Eucharist is, as it were, the consummation of the spiritual life, and the end of all the sacraments, as was observed above (III:63:6): for by the hallowings of all the sacraments preparation is made for receiving or consecrating the Eucharist. Consequently, the reception of Baptism is necessary for starting the spiritual life, while the receiving of the Eucharist is requisite for its consummation; by partaking not indeed actually, but in

desire, as an end is possessed in desire and intention. Another difference is because by Baptism a man is ordained to the Eucharist, and therefore from the fact of children being baptized, they are destined by the Church to the Eucharist; and just as they believe through the Church's faith, so they desire the Eucharist through the Church's intention, and, as a result, receive its reality." (ST. Thomas, ST III, q. 73, a. 3)

Do you desire to receive Baptism, Confirmation or Holy Communion? Do your children desire these Sacraments? If so please contact Canon Tanner or Canon Smith.

## Schedule for the Feast of All Saints and the Commemoration of All Holy Souls

### Lanherne (St Mawgan):

All Saints 8 am Sung Mass 6.15 pm Low Mass.

All Holy Souls 8 am Mass and Procession 6.15 pm Low Mass.

### **Holy Angels (Torquay):**

All Saints 8.30am Mass

All Holy Souls 4.30pm Vespers 5pm Adoration 6pm Mass

## **St Edward (Plymouth):**

All Saints
5pm Vespers
6pm Mass (with Confessions between)

First Saturday 11.30 am Mass The Sisters of Lanherne are grateful to the Providence of God who supplies their needs through the generous support of the faithful.

**Lanherne Nuns** 

Sort code: 30-98-76 Account: 45742568

**Holy Angels:** Collection from last Sunday 24th of October: £66.00

Torquay

Account Name: ICKSP Account Details: 40-03-33 Account Number: 12333902

Account: 45/42500		
Date	Canon Smith	Canon Tanner
	Mass Offered For:	
31	Anna Buscombe <b>Benefactors</b>	David Jones RIP Holy Souls
I	For the Conversion of John Reed David & Sara Buscombe & family	Declan, Fionna, and family
		Donor's Intentions
2	Holy Souls	Deceased of the O'Neill Family
	Holy Father's Intentions	
3	Holy Souls (ICKSP)	Deceased of ICKSP
4	For the Conversion of John Reed	Poor Souls
	Mgr Wach	
5	Holy Souls	Poor Souls
6	Holy Souls	Novena for Holy Souls
7	Holy Souls	Michael Dirkson
	Benefactors	Novena for Holy Souls

Rev. Canon Scott Smith Chaplain of Lanherne Convent St Mawgan TR8 4ER Chaplain's House: 01637 861752

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#### **At Lanherne Convent**

Sundays:

8.30am Low Mass 10am Sung Mass

Monday through Saturday:

8am Mass

Thursdays:

8am and 6.15pm Mass

Confession: Saturdays at 3pm

Rev. Canon Scott Tanner, Prior House of Saint-Richard-Reynolds Holy Angels Church, Queensway, Torquay TQ2 6BP

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### At Holy Angels

Sundays:

9.45 -10.15am Confessions 10.30am Mass

6pm Vespers & Benediction

Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays:

4.30pm Vespers

5pm Adoration (with Confession available)

6pm Mass

Tuesdays & Saturdays:

8.30am Mass

Plymouth: Sundays at 3pm