



INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

Dear Faithful,

World history is not a perpetual circle of itself repeating events, neither is it the mere result of human idealistic concepts, nor a development which is determined by the material conditions of a society's mode of production as the Marxist theory of history tells us. Christ is King and Lord of history, from the beginning to this day and the end of the world, He is the center and finality of all that happened in the past or will happen in the future.

On the first Sunday of Advent, Holy Mother Church prepares us for the celebrations of the first coming of Christ by presenting to us Our Lord's words about His second coming (Luke 21:25–33). As last Sunday when the gospel of St. Matthew was proclaimed with the Lord's judgement and the destruction of the world, so also today's liturgy speaks of the end of the world and of the second coming of the Lord.

Both historic events, the Nativity of Christ in the past and His second coming in the future, are inter-connected and depend on each other:

St. Paul writes to the Galatians (Gal. 4:4): *"When the fullness of the time was come, God sent His Son, made of a woman, made under the law."*

Pope Pius IX teaches at the beginning of the Bull *Ineffabilis Deus* (December 8th, 1854) by which he declared the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin to be a dogma of faith: *"From the beginning and before all ages God selected and prepared for His only Son the Mother from whom, having taken flesh, He would be born in the blessed fullness of time ..."*

And St. Thomas teaches in his *Summa* about the Incarnation of God in Christ: *"Whereas [other men] are born subject to the restrictions of time, Christ, as Lord and Maker of all time, chose a time in which to be born, just as He chose a mother and a birthplace."*

The first coming of Christ and in what manner we welcome Him in our lives, our families and our societies determines how and even when we will have to face the second coming of Christ.

"See the fig tree, and all the trees: when they now shoot forth their fruit, you know that summer is nigh ..." When the fruit is green on all the trees, and when the fig tree branch is in full bloom, we know the summer is close. When sin and apostasy abound, the Lord is coming again to reward faith and to make an end of wrong doing.

But the fig tree indicates also a second reality: speaking of the blossoming fig tree with its fruits that grow tender, Our Lord teaches of the fruitfulness of faith and the glory of God in His new order of salvation of man.

There are five signs which indicate, according to the Church's teaching all together, that the second coming of Christ is near:

First, Jesus Himself says: *"The Gospel and the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world, for a testimony to all nations, and then shall the consummation come."* Without doubt, this condition is fulfilled, the Church preaches the gospel in the whole world, or, where the Church is no longer allowed to preach, she had already in the past, for example in parts of Africa, Syria, or Asia.

Secondly, a moral majority of all Jews will convert to Christ and believe in the God-man as the Messiahs.

Thirdly, before the end false prophets will appear who will lead many astray. St. Paul says that before the coming-again of the Lord "the schism" must come, that is, the falling away from the Christian Faith.



The fourth sign of the second coming of Christ is the appearance of the Antichrist, which will be caused by the falling away from the faith. St. Paul says, the Antichrist the *"Son of perdition ... who opposes and is lifted up above all that is called God or that is worshipped, so that he sits in the temple of God, behaving as if he were God."* He appears in the power of Satan, works apparent miracles, in order to lead man astray and to fall away from the truth. The Antichrist is not Satan but will present himself as a specific human personality who is the instrument of Satan.

And the fifth sign of the end of the world will be severe tribulations, famines, earthquakes and bitter persecutions for all those who are faithful to Christ.

The apostle calls us to the service of God with great urgency (Romans 13:11–14): *"Brethren, knowing that it is now the hour for us to rise from sleep. For now our salvation is nearer than when we believed. The night is passed and the day is at hand. Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light."*

And the collect of today's Mass contains a similarly urgent request to God: *"Stir up Thy power, we beseech Thee, O Lord and come ..."* *Excita, quaesumus Domine, potentiam tuam, et veni ...*

The holy season of Advent is granted to us again, so that we may prepare ourselves for the birth of Our Lord, His coming into this world. Mercifully and patiently, God prepares us for this first coming, since Christ Jesus has to be welcomed and received into our world first, before we will be able to recognize Him as Our Lord at the end of time. Only in Him, with Him and through Him we will be able to form our lives according to the designs God has revealed to us. Only in free cooperation with His graces which He merited on the Cross for us, we are able to come closer to Christ Jesus in the time of our lives on earth. The day is at hand now, but night will fall again on the earth when no man is able any longer to work and to merit.

This first Sunday of Advent, dear faithful, should mark therefore the beginning of a time of serious preparation and of generous work for the Lord and His Church. It is in and through the Church that Christ is born again every day on the altar in the celebrations of the sacred mysteries of Mass. In the Church Christ is always present and in the Church the everlasting kingdom, that will never pass away, has come to us already today.

I wish you and your dear ones may find peace and strength to come closer to Our Lord and His Blessed Mother and that you may receive the many graces our Lord offers to all who are of good will and expect the coming of Christ.

Please be assured of my prayers for all of you and your families,

Canon Michael K. Wiener



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MASS INTENTIONS AND SUPPORT OF THE PRIESTS OF THE INSTITUTE DURING THE LOCKDOWN

To request Masses to be celebrated in your intentions, please do one of the following: Post your requests to: **Canon Michael Wiener, St Winefride's Presbytery, Mynd Close, Shrewsbury SY2 5R**. Alternatively, you may either deliver your request by hand to the presbytery or hand in your envelope - *clearly addressed to Canon Wiener* - at the sacristy in the Cathedral.

If you are able to support the Institute's apostolate in Shrewsbury, please consider to send us a cheque to the address indicated above, or donate directly via bank transfer:

HSBC UK Sort Code: 40-45-14 Account Number: 61855832 For the credit of: ICKSP/St. Winefride

OPENING TIMES FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

During the coming days the Cathedral will be open for private prayer only on Sundays 12 noon - 3 pm and on weekdays 11 am - 2 pm. Masses will be streamed online.

STREAMING ONLINE

Our Masses will be streamed online live at the times indicated on the weekly schedule below.

Go to <https://icksp.org.uk/shrewsbury/streaming-service/> on the **Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest website**.

KEEP INFORMED BY VISITING THE ICKSP WEBSITE

This newsletter and all new announcements and information will be published on the Shrewsbury pages of the ICKSP website. The website address is: <https://icksp.org.uk/shrewsbury/>

LATIN MASS SOCIETY

The Winter 2020 issue of Mass of Ages, the magazine of the Latin Mass Society is now available in both print and online.

For further information, go to <https://lms.org.uk/magazine>

Your local Latin Mass Society representative is Victoria Keens, who can be contacted by email at: shrewsbury@lms.org.uk



SHREWSBURY WEEKLY SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	TIME	MASS OF THE DAY	INTENTIONS	
				CANON WIENER	FATHER GRIBBIN
SUN	29 Nov	9.30	First Sunday in Advent	Thanksgiving for birth of Lucy Smith	Private Intention
MON	30 Nov	10.00	St. Andrew, Apostle	Oliver Philpott	Private Intention
TUE	1 Dec	10.00	Mass of First Sunday in Advent	Deceased members of Rayment family	Private Intention
WED	2 Dec	10.00	St. Bibiana, Virgin & Martyr	Deceased members of Moe family	Private Intention
THU	3 Dec	10.00	St. Francis Xavier, Confessor	Deceased members of Arousseau family	Private Intention
FRI	4 DEC	10.00	St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop, Confessor & Doctor	Canon Wiener	Private Intention
SAT	5 DEC	10.00	Mass of First Sunday in Advent	Father Gribbin	Private Intention
SUN	6 DEC	9.30	Second Sunday in Advent	Forgotten Holy Souls	Private Intention

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Rev. Canon Michael Wiener, Prior of the House of Saint Chad

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ICKSP website: <https://icksp.org.uk/shrewsbury/>