

A Call to Conversion

In his first Apostolic Exhortation in October 2025, *Dilexi Te*, Pope Leo XIV calls on all Christians to reflect on the centrality of love for the poor. What is special about this document is that Pope Francis had been working on it just before he died. Pope Leo honours this by completing what his immediate predecessor had begun. This is indeed an inspiring example of apostolic succession. Quoting extensively from the Bible, especially the Gospel of Luke (acknowledged as the gospel of the poor), the Holy Father spells out God's special love for the most vulnerable and marginalized. This calls us all to conversion. During the five Sundays of Lent, *Catholic Link* will provide summaries of the five chapters of *Dilexi Te* with the pope's call in mind. Lent is the season of conversion.

The exhortation's title is taken from Jesus' words in The Book of Revelation 3:9, "I have loved you". These words remind us of God's immense love for humanity, particularly those who are weak, poor, abandoned and forgotten. The revelation of God's love is a recurring theme in the Bible, crystallised in the immortal words of St John, "God is Love", and celebrated in the Magnificat, Mary's song of praise, "God fills the hungry with good things and raises the lowly.... His mercy is from age to age."

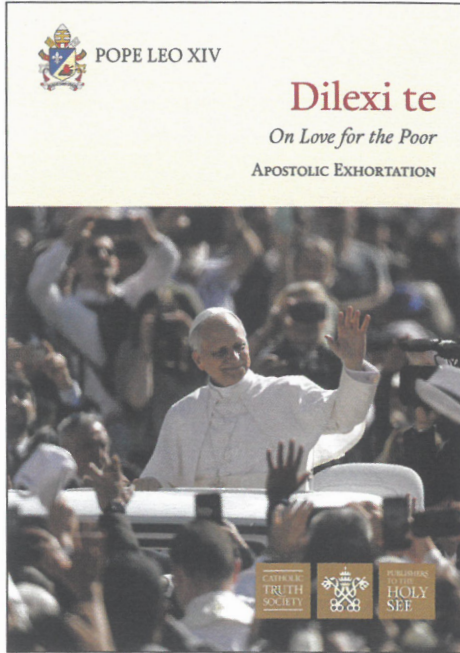
The first scripture that Pope Leo refers to is the story of the woman who anointed Jesus' head with perfume. Jesus defended this as a gesture of love and affection. True, he did say that we would always have the poor with us, but what the woman did illustrates the value

of small acts of kindness, especially towards those who are suffering. It certainly does not negate the importance of caring for the poor.

Saint Francis of Assisi has special mention in the exhortation. Pope Leo recounts how St Francis was transformed by his encounter with a leper and dedicated his life to serving the poor. Pope Francis' encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti* – *Brothers and Sisters All*, leans heavily on the example of Saint Francis as the type of good Samaritan that all Christians are called to be. Jesus was responding to the question, who is my neighbour? Pope Francis insisted that the poor are not just statistics but individuals with faces and stories – our true neighbours. The continuity between Pope Francis and Pope Leo shines brightly in *Dilexi Te*.

Dilexi Te critiques the growing gap between the rich and the poor,

highlighting the need for a change in mentality and a commitment to caring for the poor. This is a Lenten call to conversion that we can certainly reflect on, beginning with attitudes and prejudices. Pope Leo laments the ideological prejudices that dismiss the poor or blame them for their circumstances. He notes that poverty is not just a matter of individual failure but also a result of systemic injustices and structural problems. We can easily fall prey to ideologies that blind us to the real circumstances of the poor. As theologian Henri de Lubac SJ once said: "When I choose an ideology, I can never be certain that I am right. But when I choose the poor, I choose *like* Jesus... and I *choose* Jesus."



Dilexi te, as published by Redemptorist Publications, UK.



SUNDAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 51.

RESPONSE:

Have mercy, O Lord, for we have sinned.

1. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your merciful love; according to your great compassion, blot out my transgressions. Wash me completely from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. **R**
2. My transgressions, truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. **R**
3. Create a pure heart for me, O God; renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence; take not your holy spirit from me. **R**
4. Restore in me the joy of your salvation; sustain in me a willing spirit. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. **R**

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory and praise to you, O Christ. Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Live the Word

Mon 23 Feb (St Polycarp, BM)

Leviticus 19:1-2.11-18; Psalm 19; Matthew 25:31-46
St Polycarp's witness inspires us to cultivate our own faith and courage, and to see our daily struggles as opportunities for a "martyrdom in spirit" – a call to strengthen our resolve, striving for a deeper resemblance to Christ.

Tue 24 Feb Liturgy of the Day

Isaiah 55:10-11; Psalm 34; Matthew 6:7-15
Prayer is not primarily saying words or thinking thoughts. It is, rather, a stance – an intimate awareness, a living in (and enjoying) of God's presence. It is an intimate trusting, allowing and delighting in God.

Wed 25 Feb Liturgy of the Day

Jonah 3:1-10; Psalm 51; Luke 11:29-32
God does not always give us what we ask for. There are times when our prayers seem unanswered. In this, God asks us to learn to trust that, no matter what we ask for, we will always receive life.

Thu 26 Feb (St Alexander of Alexandria, B)

Esther 14:1.3-4.11.13-14; Psalm 138; Matthew 7:7-12
St Alexander is known for his stand against the Arian heresy. But he also had a reputation for kindness and generosity towards the poor. This serves as a reminder for us to live out our faith through practical action.

Fri 27 Feb (St Gregory of Narek, AbD)

Ezekiel 18:21-28; Psalm 130; Matthew 5:20-26
St Gregory emphasized the importance of a constant, intimate dialogue with God. His prayers show a soul in love with God, and they reflect a soul wrestling with its sinfulness while trusting in God's mercy.

Sat 28 Feb Liturgy of the Day

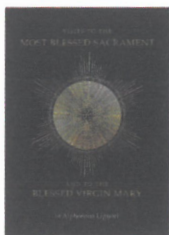
Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Psalm 119; Matthew 5:43-48
Throughout history, God has chosen to use very ordinary people, and then uses them in ways that surprise everyone. God does not call those who are qualified for the job, but qualifies the called.

Sun 1 Mar 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

Genesis 12:1-4; Psalm 33; Matthew 17:1-9
"God's plan" can leave many of us unhappy with the results, because we don't always get what we want. True justice is always fundamentally based on love – and where there is love, there we will find God.

KEY: SOLEMNITY; FEAST; Memorial; (Optional Memorial)
B=Bishop; M=Martyr; Ab=Abbot; D=Doctor

Fr Larry Kaufmann, has adapted the ever-popular **Visits to the Blessed Sacrament** by St Alphonsus Liguori. Every age needs a translation of this ever-popular and spiritually enriching devotion. With a brief but beautiful visit for each day of the month this book will guide you in your journey to the Blessed Sacrament and enrich your relationship through this ancient practice. Deepen your relationship with God through renewing your love of the Blessed Sacrament.



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CHRIST THE KING PARISH

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0186

www.christking.org.za

MASS INTENTIONS FEBRUARY 2026

21	Sat	18h00	RIP Adrienne Steyn RIP Eunice Botha 11yr anniversary
22	Sun	08h00	RIP Augusta & Fernando Moutinho & Palmira Dias RIP Maria Dos Reis Ferreira Happy eternal birthday Musa Mdlalose
		10h00	RIP Clementina de Nobrega New beginnings and thanksgiving to God
		18h00	
23	Mon	06H00 18h00	COMMUNION SERVICE
24	Tues	06H00 18h00	
25	Wed	06H00 18h00	
26	Thu	06H00 18h00	
27	Fri	06H00 18h00	

SICK LIST

We pray for the sick, housebound and their caregivers.



Helouise Steenkamp, Gordon Milburn, Lyn Bogle, Andrea Strydom, Veronica Wheater, Leonardo, Ken Walters, Wendy Elliott, Genevieve van der Merwe, Gideon Wathen, Nadine Botha, Moira Lottering, Enita Davies, Michael Serrao, Vincent S, Leo Vest and Miriam Marais, Harold de Jongh.

I would appreciate an update every 2nd month as to whether they stay on the list or to add a loved one to our sick list please send their details to secretary@christking.org.za

PARISH NOTICES

THANK YOU:

To all who contributed to make Shrove Sunday the success it was. The pancake sale raised an amount of R6600.00. Sincerest appreciation from the PPC Social committee, PPC Executive and Fr. Daniel.

BOARD OPERATORS TRAINING:

Training for new and existing Board operators will take place in the church on the 7 March 2026 at 09h00. Requirements are Knowledge of the order of the Mass, A working Laptop and availability to arrive 30mins before Mass. Please contact Celine 0844487972 if you are interested in joining the team.

MUSICIANS:

The 08h00 music ministry will begin practise in the church on the 28th February at 09h00. We invite all who are interested to join us.

NGOME TRIP FEBRUARY 2026:

The Ngome trip is on the weekend of the 18th of September 2026. We are inviting all interested parishioners to contact the parish office for further details and booking arrangements. The cost will be R2200.00 per person. Please forward all proof of payment to secretary@christking.org.za. All payments must be received by the end of July 2026 for the accommodation and bus to be booked. Please keep proof of all payments made for reconciliation purposes. Please use the main account STD Bank 011564733 referencing your name and Ngome.

BAPTISMS:

Our next baptism will be on the 12th of April. We do baptisms on the First Sunday of every month except during Lent. Please contact the office to make an appointment with Fr. Daniel. The parents along with the Godparents must attend a class then the baptism date can be set.

WEDDINGS:

All those wishing to get religiously married must please contact the parish office before booking your **wedding venue** as there are matters of importance that must be considered.

REPOSITORY NEWS:

The Book, In Your Arms Lord by Fr Gabriel Kwedho IMC is available for purchase in the repository. The hours are every Sunday between 7.15am and 9.45am and for 30mins after the 10am Mass. 50% off books and leaflets until all are sold !!!!

PARISH FINANCES

TITHING:

All those who are tithing can find the record of payments made on the notice board. Please check. **Please continue to support our Parish via the banking details or the attached Snapscan code**
Email details: Finance@christking.org.za

Banking details:

Christ the King Catholic Church
Standard Bank Branch 051001
Main Account No. 011564733
Tithing Account No. 011181230
Snapscan

+

Scan the SnapCode to complete the payment.



Queenswood Catholic Church

PARISH OFFICE

Parish Priest:

Fr. Daniel Kivuw'a IMC
Tel: 012 333 4738 / 071 306 3769
Email: dankbwa@yahoo.fr

Parish Office Administrator:

Angela Solomons
secretary@christking.org.za

Office Hours:

Mon to Fri 07h30 - 15h30
Tel: 012 3334738

For any appointments with Fr. Daniel, please contact Angela, she manages Fr. Daniel's calendar.

University Chaplain:

Fr Charles Mundaia 071 364 0150
Email: cmundaia@gmail.com

CARITAS

CTK OUTREACH:

We provide food parcels, baby and adult clothing, all household items and toys to the less fortunate. We support various homes for both adults and children. Should you have items that you wish to donate these can be dropped off at the parish office during the week or left in the baskets at the back of the church over the weekends. We continue to assist many families in our parish with everyday necessities thanks to your generous donations. Should you wish to donate to this worthy cause our banking details are:

Christ the King Catholic Church Queenswood; Standard bank, cheque account, account number 011182709, branch code 000145.

LENTEN NEWS

PASCHAL MEAL: The Paschal meal will be held on the 1st of April in the Adami Hall at 18h00. Tickets will be R200 per person.

MASSES DURING THE WEEK FROM 19TH OF FEB UNTIL 31 MARCH 2026:

06H00 AND 18H00

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

FRIDAYS AFTER 18H00 MASS DURING LENT



RCIA COURSE - 2026

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

✠ Beginning 21 April 2026 ✠

Have you ever felt a pull to learn more about the Catholic faith? Are you curious about Jesus Christ, the Church, or the Sacraments? Or are you seeking Baptism, Confirmation, or to be received into the Catholic Church? You are warmly invited to join our RCIA journey.

What is RCIA?

- Become Catholic through Baptism
- Be received into the Catholic Church
- Complete the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion
- Deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith in a supportive environment

No prior knowledge is required—just an open heart.

Course Details

Start Date: 21 April 2026
Duration: Ongoing weekly sessions
Time: 18:00
Venue: Denis Adimi Centre

Who Should Attend?

- Adults interested in the Catholic faith
- Baptized Christians considering becoming Catholic
- Catholics who have not yet received all their Sacraments
- Anyone wanting to explore faith and meaning in a safe, respectful space.

For More Information or to Register
Contact the church Office Or Luchas or Felicity