

Christ the King Catholic Church East Greenmount

Serviced by the Priests of the
Society of St. Pius X

January Newsletter



Month of the Holy Name of Jesus



The feast of the Holy Name of Jesus has been celebrated in the Roman Catholic Church, at least at local levels, since the end of the fifteenth century. The celebration has been held on different dates, usually in January, because 1st January, eight days after Christmas, commemorates the naming of the child Jesus; as recounted in the Gospel read on that day, "at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb."

Month of the Holy Name of Jesus

In Philippians 2, Saint Paul tells us that

"At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord."

From the earliest days of Christianity, Christians have known the great power of Jesus' Holy Name. As the once-popular hymn commanded:

*All hail the pow'r of Jesus' Name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all.*

Small wonder, then, that the Church sets aside the first month of the year in honour of the Holy Name of Jesus. Through this devotion, the Church reminds us of the power of Christ's Name and encourages us to pray in His Name.

Highlights of the Month

In the first part of January we continue to rejoice and celebrate Christ's coming at Bethlehem and in our hearts. We have the wonderful feasts of Mary, Mother of God, where we honor Mary's highest title, and then we follow the Magi to the crib as they bring their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh on Epiphany. Finally we reach the culmination of this season with the Baptism of Our Lord by St. John the Baptist. With a touch of sadness we take down our decorations and enter into the liturgical period known as Ordinary Time where we will devote ourselves to the mystery of Christ in its entirety.

Christ the King Fundraiser

A second collection is being taken at every Mass to enable the Church to be repainted.

Please give generously



Monogram for the Holy Name

According to the ancient mind, a person's name was the expression of his nature, work, or mission. Early Christians accordingly used our Savior's Name to bring to mind His adorable Person; and in their art they gave it the following shortened or symbolic forms:

The Chi-Rho Symbol. The oldest monuments bearing this symbol date to the third century, the first being found on a burial inscription of a consul from the year 369. From the third century we have the following authentic forms: (1) the separate letters; (2) the superimposed letters; (3) the monogram cross.



After the triumph of Christianity, the Chi-Rho monogram spread into all countries and found manifold use. It no longer served as a mere abbreviation of the sacred Name, but stood as a symbol for Christ the King. Artists often surrounded it with a laurel wreath or a circle. This signified Christ's dominion over the world, or His triumph over all enemies of His kingdom.

The IHS Symbol. The familiar abbreviation IHS is a symbol of the Name Jesus which has retained its popularity down through the centuries. It owes its spread to St. Bernardine of Siena, who had it placed on his banner, surrounded with twelve rays of the sun and surmounted by a cross. It soon became the most popular monogram for the holy Name of Jesus. By his fervent words St. Bernardine persuaded many priests to place the letters on altars or on the interior and exterior walls of churches. Many Italian cities responded to his efforts and put the monogram in large letters on the outer walls of their town halls, as may still be seen in Siena.

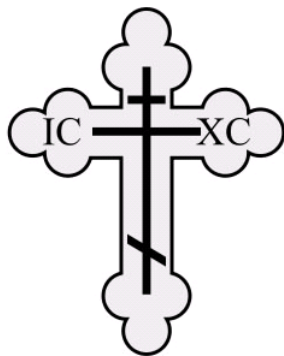


What is its derivation? IHC is the abbreviation of the Greek ΙΗΣΟΥΣ, i.e., Jesus (the first three letters of the word). The older form for the Greek sigma, S, resembled our capital C. In Christian antiquity this monogram does not occur too frequently and may not be older than the fifth century. In recent centuries the IHS has been falsely interpreted as *Jesus Hominum Salvator*, or even *Jesu humilis societas* (and regarded as a colophon for the Society of Jesus). Another interpretation that is sometimes made is *In Hoc Signo (vinces)*, and out of the added v (for *vinces*) three nails are formed.

Ichthys. The early Church loved another monogram for our Savior's name, the widely-used ICHTHYS. Christ's full title was (in Greek): *Iesus Christos Theou Yos Soter*, Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior. The initial letters of these five words form the Greek word ICHTHYS, which means fish. For this reason Christ is often pictured as a fish. Thus both the abbreviation and the picture became for the early Christians a secret symbol for the Redeemer. Yes, they even call our Lord "the great and pure Fish" (Aberkios tomb inscription, about 180). Tertullian presupposed popular familiarity with the fish symbol when he wrote about 200: "We (Christians) are born as little fishes in water after the model of our *Ichthys* Jesus Christ" (*On Baptism*, ch. 1).



The Cross as a Symbol for the Divine Name. The similarity between the Chi-Rho symbol and the Cross is so apparent that it was not long before the two became related artistically. The Cross and the divine Name serve as symbols of redemption, and as a means of protection against the attacks of the demons. Thus it became customary to put the cruciform monogram on doors and houses. One of the more common methods for the cruciform arrangement involved the use of the two words Φως and ζωη (light and life), terms which Christ applied to Himself in John 8:12; 11:25. Jesus is our Light and Life, for He gives us divine faith and grace. The liturgy desires, prays for, and obtains light and life for the living and the dead. Here we have the reason why the combination of the two concepts, light and life, in the form of a cross became such a popular word symbol in the early Church and is frequently found on doors of houses (Syria), on tombs, and also on ampullas, terracotta lamps, and other articles.



Christ the King Church East Greenmount

2 Hodgson Street, East Greenmount

Mass times for January 2018

(Month of the Holy Name of Jesus)

Date	Time	Details
Sunday 7th January Feast of the Holy Family	9:00am	Low Mass
Sunday 14th January 2nd Sunday after Epiphany	9:00am	Low Mass
Sunday 21st January 3rd Sunday after Epiphany	9:00am	Low Mass
Sunday 28th January Septuagesima Sunday	9:00am	Low Mass

PERMANENT NOTICES

Subscriptions/Newsletters/Downloads

Remnant Newspaper	http://remnantnewspaper.com
St Anne's Mothers Group	http://ssp.com.au/samg.html
Toowoomba Newsletter	www.ssp.com.au/weekly_parish_bulletins.html Select Toowoomba
Brisbane Parish E-mail List	To become a subscriber complete your details at http://eepurl.com/bzd64f
SSPX Website	ssp.com.au/queensland.html

Banking Details

Church Account	Society of St Pius X, ANZ Mt Ommaney BSB 014 295 Account No 2597-10714 (For donations)
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Contact Details

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