

“Every day, as long as this ‘today’ lasts,
keep encouraging one another” (Heb 3:13)

Sunday 20th Of November 2022
Solemnity of
Our Lord Jesus Christ Universal King
Prayers. 167

2nd Samuel 5:1 - 3

David is chosen and anointed as king of Israel.

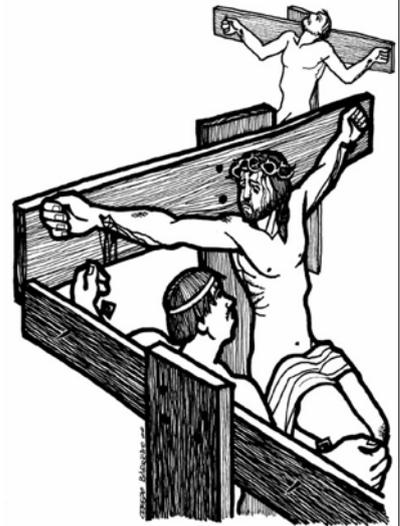
Colossians 1:12 - 20

This famous hymn from St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians proclaims Christ as 'image of the invisible God and firstborn of all creation'.

St. Luke 23:35 - 43

The gospel presents a Calvary scene, where kingship of Jesus is proclaimed.

“ ‘Jesus,’
he said,
‘remember me
when you come
into your
kingdom.’
‘Indeed I promise
you, today you
will be with me
in paradise.’”



This is the final Sunday of Year C and as we draw to a close our reading of Luke's Gospel we hear the account of Jesus' crucifixion. It is the Feast of Christ the King and this Gospel certainly gives us an opportunity to lay aside a lot of cultural baggage we may have about kings, leaders and kingdoms. Jesus' kingdom is unlike the one that Pilate, or many other earthly leaders know. It is a kingdom built on love, service, justice, reconciliation and peace. Few 'kings' can measure up to this: responding to violence with forgiveness, giving those with no hope a reason to hope, putting the crisis of the world before financial gain or power. Who do you know in our world today who is the more living example of this type of kingship, making daily sacrifices in endless service to those around them?

We hear much about the climate crisis in our world today, the loss of bio-diversity, the breakdown of our ecosystems and the lack of political will to embrace the solutions that are available. This is due to greed and the powerful influence of so called leaders. Once again many have gathered in Egypt recently at the 27th UN Conference on Climate Change. We must pray for them, that they will be courageous and put the future of our environment above financial gain and lead for the best interests of our world and for the generations to come.

Today's Gospel gives a powerful image of Jesus as servant King, shining like a beacon of light for society in today's world.

'The power of truth, of honesty, of forgiveness – with no frills! How different the world would be if it was governed by this kind of power. Jane Mellett

Today's Psalm
Psalm 121

Today's psalm celebrated the end of the pilgrims' journey. The aching muscles were soon forgotten in the joy that their feet were at last standing within the gates of Jerusalem. Pilgrims from rural areas stood in admiration of the well fortified city. *Jerusalem is built as a city strongly compact.*

This was the place chosen by David as a centre of unity for the diverse tribes, hoping that their rivalries would be healed in celebrating their shared calling as the Chosen People.

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord.

It's name meant the city of shalom, peace. It was a holy city, a place of pilgrimage. It was the supreme joy of any Jew's heart to sing the praises of God's name in the temple.

At the end of the Church's liturgical journey, our thoughts turn the end of life's pilgrimage. The aches and blisters of the road are healed at the glimpse of the city where our king reigns, inviting us, like the repentant thief, to enter eternal paradise.

*I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.*

Fr. Silvester O'Flynn OFMCap.

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Euxton - Tel: (01257) 262665

Mass Intentions for w/c Sunday November 24, 2019

Sun: Our Lord Jesus Christ Universal King

8.30.am. Holy Souls

10.30.am. Parishioners

Mon: Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9.30.am. Holy Souls

Tues: St. Cecilia

9.30.am. JC

Wed: Weekday

9.30.am. Holy Souls

Thurs: St. Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions

9.30.am. Holy Souls

Fri: Weekday

7.00.pm. Holy Souls

Sun: 1st Sunday of Advent

8.30.am. Parishioners

10.30.am. Holy Souls

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Confessions

At your request

St. Richard's Prayer
May I know you more clearly
Love you more clearly
And follow you more nearly.

David Loughlin 12/12

John Loughlin 17/12

We pray for the Sick, especially the sick of the parish Ryan Troop; JC; Catherine Thompson; Maureen Beardsworth; Desmond Gorman; Thomas Halligan.

We are deeply indebted to **Jim and Glenys Troop** for looking after the War Memorial outside church during the Year, and especially for cleaning the Memorial itself.

We currently do not have the facility for "Little Church" i.e. opportunity for younger children to have their own sessions in the Parish Centre during Mass Under the supervision of trained adults. If we were to re-start these sessions we would need adults willing to train as volunteer helpers. If we are to start these sessions we would need adults willing to train as volunteers. If you are interested, please give your details to Fr. Gerry.

Church Grounds Tidy Up morning

The next grounds tidy up will be on Saturday 26th November. Any time you can spare between 9am & 12noon will be greatly appreciated, all ages welcome. The usual Refreshments (bacon butties) will be provided for all volunteers in the parish centre

Today – **National Youth Sunday** Pope Francis famously said "Dear young people, please, don't be observers of life, but get involved. Jesus did not remain an observer, but he immersed himself. Don't be observers, but immerse yourself in the reality of life, as Jesus did." What our youth lack in experience, they make up for in imagination, energy, initiative and confidence. It is up to older parishioners to invite, facilitate and encourage the contributions of our youth. Retiring collection at Mass.

Whether we are not turning the heating on because we don't have the money, or not turning the heating on because we are trying to save the planet, this week's tip is the same. The NHS says eating regularly will help keep you warm and says you should have one hot meal a day. It also recommends drinking hot drinks regularly. Non brand cuppa-soups and

microwaveable porridge pots are a good and cheap way to keep warm.

• It sounds obvious but thermal or ski base layers can keep you moving. Once you are chilled it's hard to keep moving. For a small outlay you can get your whole family kitted out with thermal undies.

"Authority without wisdom is like a heavy axe without an edge, fitter to bruise than polish."

(Anne Bradstreet)

PLEASE LEAVE MASS BOOKS TO THE END OF THE BENCH (MIDDLE AISLE) AFTER 1030 MASS.