

PARISH OF ST GEORGE

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OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

26TH NOVEMBER 2023

Readings: Gospel Matthew 25:31-46



The Church's liturgical year concludes with this feast of Christ the King, instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925 to celebrate the Jubilee Year and the 16th centenary of the Council of Nicaea.

Instituting this feast, Pope Pius XI proclaimed: "Pax Christi in regno Christi" ("The peace of Christ in the reign of Christ"). This feast was established and proclaimed by the Pope to reassert the sovereignty of Christ and the Church over all forms of government and to remind Christians of the fidelity and loyalty we owe to Christ, who by his Incarnation and sacrificial death on the cross has made us both adopted children of God and future citizens and heirs of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Today's Gospel describes Christ the King coming in Heavenly glory to judge us, based on how we have shared our love and blessings with others through genuine acts of charity in our lives. Jesus is present to us now, not only as our Good Shepherd leading, feeding, and healing his sheep, but also as dwelling in those for whom we care. In the parable of the separation of the sheep from the goats at the Last Judgment, every person to whom we give ourselves, "whether hungry, thirsty or a stranger, naked, sick or in prison," is revealed to us as been the risen Jesus. Our reward or punishment depends on how we have recognized and treated this risen Jesus in the needy.

Life messages:

- 1) We need to recognize and appreciate Christ's presence within us and surrender our lives to Christ's rule: Since Christ, our King, lives in our hearts with the Holy Spirit and His Heavenly Father and fills our souls with His grace, we need to learn to surrender our lives to Him, to live in His Holy Presence, and to do God's will by sharing His forgiving love with others around us. Aware of His presence in the Bible, in the Sacraments, and in the worshipping community, we need to listen and talk to Him.
- 2) We need to learn to be servers: Since Christ was a Servant-King we are invited to be His loyal citizens by rendering humble service to others and by sharing Christ's mercy and forgiveness with others.
- 3) We need to use our authority to support the rule of Jesus. This feast is an invitation to all those who have power or authority in the public or the private realms to use it for Jesus by bearing witness to Him in the way we live. Parents are expected to use their God-given authority to train their children in Christian ideals and in the ways of committed Christian living.
- 4) We need to accept Jesus Christ as the King of love. Jesus, who came to proclaim to all of us the Good News of God's love and salvation, gave us His new commandment of love: "Love one another as I have loved you," (Jn 13:34), and demonstrated that love by dying for us sinners. We accept Jesus as our King of love when we love others as Jesus already loves us — unconditionally, sacrificially, and with agape love.

ANIMA CHRISTI:

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
 Body of Christ, save me.
 Blood of Christ, embolden me.
 Water from the side of Christ, Wash me.
 Passion of Christ, Strengthen me.
 O Good Jesus, hear me.
 Within your wounds hide me.

Permit me not to be separated from you.
 From the wicked foe, defend me.
 At the hour of my death, call me and bid me come to you.
 That with your saints I may praise you
 For ever and ever.
 Amen



MASS TIMES FOR THIS COMING WEEK

Saturday 25 November St Clement I, pope and martyr St Catherine of Alexandria, virgin and martyr <i>I will rejoice in your saving help, O Lord.</i>	6:30pm	Souls in Purgatory
Sunday 26 November Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe <i>Come, you that are blessed by my Father.</i>	6:30pm	Souls in Purgatory
Monday 27 November St Fergal, bishop and missionary <i>To you glory and praise for evermore.</i>	No Mass	-----
Tuesday 28 November St Catherine Laboure <i>Give glory and eternal praise to him!</i>	No Mass	-----
Wednesday 29 November St Brendan of Birr, abbot <i>You will be hated by all men on account of my name.</i>	No Mass	-----
Thursday 30 November St Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland <i>And they left their nets at once and followed him.</i>	No Mass	-----
Friday 01 December St Eligius, bishop <i>But my words will never pass away.</i>	No Mass	-----
Saturday 02 December St Chromatius, bishop <i>Stand with confidence before the Son of Man.</i>	6:30pm	Souls in Purgatory
Sunday 03 December FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (CYCLE B) <i>Stay awake! Be ready!</i>	9:30am 11:00am	Souls in Purgatory

Prayer on the solemnity of Christ the King

Soverign God, ruler of all creation, you sent Jesus to testify to the truth: that you alone are the Lord of life. Help us to listen always to his voice so that we may proclaim his realm of justice, peace, and endless love; through Christ who reigns forever. Amen

Announcements

There will be Children's Christmas celebrations on Sunday

17th December after second Mass.

Venue is Baguettes Hall.
 The parents will accompany them.

Mass offering

Sunday	
19th November	£332.22
Standing Orders	£118.25
2nd Collection - Clergy education & training	£133.38

Readers: 26th November 2023

Sat 6:30	Roland Young
Sun 9:30	Richard Shrimplin
Sun 11:00	Anne Carr

Confession is before or after Mass or at any convenient time you want.

Arrange with the Parish Priest.