ST BEDE's CHURCH, CROXLEY GREEN

A parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster in the Watford Deanery

Readings: **Year A** Parish Mass Book: **Volume II** **Page 158**	**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE**	**22nd Nov. 2026**

This Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, or more often called 'Christ the King.' Established in the wake of the end of World War 1 and during the collapse of a number of European Monarchies, Pope Pius IX, in 1925, introduced today's Solemnity to celebrated on the last Sunday of October, it served to remind Christians everywhere that Christ reigns eternally, even as earthly governments rise and fall. In 1969, as part of the Liturgical revisions the 2nd Vatican Council, Pope Paul VI moved the Solemnity to the last Sunday of the Church's year, before the start of Advent, thereby promoting Christ's eternal reign at the end of time. It is an opportunity for us today to pray for peace and justice and acknowledge in an ever-changing world, Christ's victory over death has won for us an everlasting promise of unity in the peace of heaven.

Fr David

Sunday Reflection

Today's Gospel passage is the conclusion of Jesus' discourse with his disciples. It is about the end of time, the coming of the Son of Man, and the final judgment. We hear this description of the final judgment at the conclusion of our liturgical year, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. In the context of Matthew's Gospel, this passage might also be read as a conclusion of Matthew's report on Jesus' life and ministry; the remaining chapters report the events of Jesus' Passion and Resurrection.

In today's Gospel, Jesus describes to his disciples the scene of the judgment of the Son of Man. All the nations will be assembled before him, and he will separate them as a shepherd separates sheep and goats upon their return from the pasture. The judgments made by the Son of Man will be based upon the acts of mercy shown to the least ones—the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the ill, and the imprisoned. Indeed, Jesus, who suffered on the Cross, identifies himself with the least ones.

Recall that last week's parable of the talents taught us that the gifts that we have been given are intended to be used for the service of others, especially the least among us. Our judgment before God will be based not only on how we have used these gifts and talents, but also on how we have extended ourselves in service to these least ones. Indeed, Jesus tells us that whenever we have served these least ones, we have served Christ himself.

When we read today's Gospel in the context of the chapters that follow in Matthew's Gospel, we learn the extent to which Jesus identifies with the least ones. In accepting death on the cross, Jesus shows himself to be one of the hungry, the naked, the ill, and the imprisoned. To accept Jesus is to accept him who suffered and died on the Cross as one of the least ones.

Loyola Press

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THIS PARISH IS PART OF THE WESTMINSTER ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE TRUSTEE CHARITY NO. 233699

PARISH NOTICES

We pray for all those who have recently died, praying especially for the soul of Madeline Leech, Mary Robinson and Bridget Clancy **and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time**: **We also pray for all our parishioners who have asked for our prayers:** Joy McCann, Maria Britter, Tom Keogh, Leah Taylor, Peter Artiss, Dawn Yamamura, Elizabeth McAulay, Bridie Gallagher, Ishbel Pepper, and Sylvia Coles. **and for all those in care homes**, **assisted living facilities**, **and hospitals**: Harefield Hospital and Watford General Hospital.

Scripture Readings at Mass:

First Reading:	*Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17*
Responsorial Psalm:	*Psalm 23(22):1-2a. 2b-3. 5.6. R/ 1*
Second Reading:	*1 Cor.15:20-26, 28*
Gospel:	*Matthew 25:31-46*

THANKYOU

Thank you to Frankie and Sally and their team for the lovely coffee and cakes after mass last Sunday. Also to all who have helped decorate the church for this Sunday's Solemnity. I would also like to thank those who have worked to prepare our Parish Quiz night, from the washing down of additional chairs, to setting the questions, laying the tables, cooking the supper and also those who have bought a ticket. Thank you. Fr David

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 22nd November

- **CHILDREN'S LITURGY** continues during our Sunday Mass. Children will leave Mass after the opening prayer, begin their own dedicated catechetical liturgy in the parish hall, and return to Mass for the Offertory. Parents of small children are asked to accompany their child.

WEDNESDAY 25th November

- **LIGHTING OF THE Croxley Parish Council CHRISTMAS TREE** outside Croxley Library at 5.30 pm.

  Michael Hart (St Oswald's Church) will be leading the singing of carols. All are welcome to attend and join in with the singing.

THURSDAY 26th November

- **Thursday Club** Tea and coffees served after 10.00am Mass in the Parish Hall. All are welcome

DIARY DATES

NOVEMBER 2026:

29TH NOVEMBER

- SEASON OF ADVENT BEGINS

DECEMBER 2026:

6th DECEMBER

- **ST. NICHOLAS DAY COFFEE MORNING with something special for the children** after Sunday 10.00 am Mass. Please add your child's name to the list in the porch. All are welcome.

12th December

- **CROXLEY CAROLS** 11.00 am to 12noon – Churches Together event outside the Library.

17th DECEMBER

- **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING** 7.30 pm in the Hall.

20th DECEMBER

PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE 4.00pm

Croxley Community Choir are joining us for this joyful event to help us sing some carols. Mulled wine and mince pies will be available in the hall afterwards.

Additionally, we would like **to invite some of our young people** who have made their First Holy Communion and who are **in year 4 or above** to be a Reader at the Carol Service. If interested, please speak to Fr David or

Contact: Ursula - 07771 578562
croxleygreenadmin@rcdow.org.uk

24th DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS EVE

- **CHILDREN'S NATIVITY VIGIL MASS** 5.00 pm. We hope many of our children will participate in this year's Children's Nativity Mass on Christmas Eve, either as a Nativity Character or as a Reader. Please register your interest by contacting **Ursula** by email:
  croxleygreenadmin@rcdow.org.uk

- **MASS DURING THE NIGHT : THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD** at 11.00 pm

25TH DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS DAY

- **MASS DURING THE DAY: THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD** at 10.00 am

26th December Boxing Day

- **St Stephen**, The First Martyr: Mass at 10.00 am.
- *No Saturday Vigil Mass of Sunday.*

27TH DECEMBER – SUNDAY

- The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph: Mass 10.00 am.

28TH DECEMBER – MONDAY BANK HOLIDAY

- No Mass

SACRAMENTS

CONFESSION: If you wish to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, then please make an appointment directly with Fr. David.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:

If you are going into hospital for an operation or you are suffering from an illness, and wish to receive the strength of the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of the Sick, then please ask Fr. David for the Sacrament of the Sick.

CHARITY

FOOD BANK DONATIONS.

As we approach Christmas, please do think about what you might be able to contribute to the food bank. Each year the Food Bank prepare Christmas Hampers for those in need, so they too can share in the love of Christ's birth with a good meal. If you can help with providing something this would be most appreciated. Please see the food bank page on the parish website, under *Parish Life,* for details on urgently needed items. Thank you for your support.

CROXLEYGREEN PARISH NURSE SERVICE

As part of our Community outreach and with our Church's Together partners, we support the work of the Croxley Parish Nurse Service. If you would also like to support this important community outreach work, then please follow the link:

www.croxleyparishnurse.org/donate

THURSDAY CLUB

Can you help?

We are seeking to expand our team of volunteers to help with hospitality at Thursday Club, a parish activity that provides a cup of tea and a biscuit or a slice of something extra after the 10.00 am Mass on Thursdays for those who want some social time.

If you have a couple of hours to spare on Thursday morning and could help, please contact:

Ursula ☎ 07771 578562 or

croxleygreenadmin@rcdow.org.uk

A GREENER CHRISTMAS??

At the PDC meeting this month, we thought we would offer a ***Common Christmas Card*** as a way to be more environmentally friendly and enable us to reduce the number of Christmas cards we write each year. A display board will be made available in the church where parishioners can pin up their Christmas greetings for everyone in the Parish. Saving the need to buy and write lots of individual cards.

Using one of the special card slips available in the Church, you can write a personal greeting, which will be pinned to the board for all to see! If you would like, you might think about donating what you save to St Bede's in lieu of the money you may have saved. Any donation is gratefully received in support of the parish.

Parish Diary this Week

SUNDAY 22nd November			
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE	6.00 pm (Sat Vigil) 10.00 am	*Michael and Teresa Wylie* *Jones and Steele Family*	Anniv.. Ints.
2nd Collection: Diocesan Youth Service			
Monday 23rd November			
Feria	10.00 am	*Holy Souls*	R.I.P.
Tuesday 24th November			
Saint Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest and **Companions,** Martyrs	*10.00 am*	*Martin McDonagh & Nan McGinley*	R.I.P.
Wednesday 25th November			
Feria			
Thursday 26th November			
Feria	10.00 am	*Lankester & McBride Family* *Deceased Members*	R.I.P.
Friday 27th November			
Feria	10.00 am	*Natalie Tootal 1st Anniversary*	Anniv.
Saturday 28th November			
Feria	*11.00.am*	**Baptism of Chloe Buggee**	
SUNDAY 29th November	**SEASON OF ADVENT BEGINS**		
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00 pm (Sat. Vigil)	*Chris Parker*	Ints.
	10.00 am	*Lisa & Philp Holmes*	Anniv.

PARISH FINANCES

Giving by Standing Order is a great way to support the parish financially. If you are new to the parish or have not yet set up a regular donation, please complete a form available in the parish porch or use the following link on the parish webpage.
https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/croxleygreen/donate/

Parish Bank Details:

Sort Code: 40-05-20;
A/c no:21095560;
A/c name: WRCDT St Bede Croxley Green.

GIFT AID: Thank you to all who are able to Gift Aid their donations, as every little helps to bolster the parish finances. Even the loose change has a way of being generous too. If you are a UK taxpayer and would like to Gift Aid your donations, then the parish is able to claim an additional 25% of your donation from the government.
To donate to the parish by Bank Transfer, please use the above HSBC bank details, using your surname as a reference.

On behalf of the Finance Committee.

Legacy Donations received in 2026:
Philomena Banks £2,000.00

GiftAid received for 2025/2026 Tax Year:
£5,874.00

Second Collections November:
15th November
Sick & Retired Priests Fund: ***£ 87.60***
22nd November
Diocesan Youth Service: ***£***