Parish of Our Lady & St Vincent, Potters Bar

Living in the Light of Christ

22nd November 2026

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Year A)

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".

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 all in need.

The image of the king in the Bible, suggests power and glory, and yet in the Old Testament vision, a king is meant to be a shepherd to his people, a true shepherd who cares for and who knows and loves his sheep. The New Testament vision shows Jesus our king desires us to live that out, in loving service, humility, and the gift of himself.

Recall last Sunday's reading of the talents which taught us that the gifts we have been given are intended to be used for the service of others. 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.

A few examples of how you might consider using your talents in our parish:

- Each week we have a small team of Eucharist ministers who take Holy Communion and share a few precious moments with over thirty of our parishioners, in their homes, in hospital and in care homes, but we really need help now.
- We have a wonderful group of stewards who welcome people to our church at all our masses. Would you consider helping?
- We also need volunteers to join the readers list to proclaim the word of God at all our masses, and the singers and musicians are always open to new people joining them to enrich all our services.
- Very dedicated families and small groups of people are providing tea and very tasty snacks after our Sunday masses, please consider putting your name on the list.
- We also need a small group of people to help with the opening and closing of the church especially on Saturday evening and Sundays.
- Could you add your name to any of these volunteer lists?

We all journey together, supporting and encouraging each other. Training and support will be provided to all who volunteer to these and all the other groups in our parish. Please contact, Fr Shaun, Deacon Don, or the office if you can help.

Deacon Don

☎ 01707 654359 https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/pottersbar/ pottersbar@rcdow.org.uk

All services are live streamed – www.churchservices.tv/pottersbar

Parish Priest: Canon Shaun Lennard – shaunlennard@rcdow.org.uk

Presbytery: 243, Mutton Lane, Potters Bar, EN6 2AT

Youth & Children's Worker: Amandha Senanayake – pottersbaryouth@rcdow.org.uk / 07864 707687

Parish Administrator: Nicola Thrussell – pottersbar@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Sue McLellen – pottersbarsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Parish Office open Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 9.30am – 12.30pm (not Bank Holidays)

To contact a priest in case of emergency 07854 866860

COLLECTIONS

8th Nov: Envelopes £277; Loose £462.
Thank you for your generosity.

FR SHAUN

Fr Shaun returns from annual leave later this week. We are grateful to the priests who have celebrated Mass in his absence.

COME AND SEE

The course for people who are interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church will resume on Monday 30th November, 7.30pm in the hall.

LIGHT UP A LIFE

In Advent we raise funds for Noah's Ark Children's Hospice, our local children's hospice. This year the pupils of Pope Paul School, as part of their community outreach, will be running this fundraiser. They are currently preparing plastic 'candles' which will be available, in return for a donation, in Advent. You are invited to write the names of departed loved-ones on the candles and they will then be placed on the tree in the Garden of Remembrance throughout the Christmas season.

MINISTERS of the EUCHARIST

Next weekend on 29th November we will be commissioning new Ministers of the Eucharist and recommissioning existing ministers. All ministers should have received an email to confirm which Mass they will be attending. If you are a minister and have not receive an email, please contact the office.

LITTLE LAMBS MASS

The next Mass is next Sunday 29th November at 3pm in the hall. It is aimed at children from 0 - 6yrs and children with additional needs. There is music, crafts, a Gospel story and Eucharist with refreshments afterwards. All are welcome.

IRISH EVENING – 28th NOVEMBER AT 7.00pm - COME FOR THE CRAIC!!

In support of the Church's charity, 'Christmas for Someone Else', the Social Committee will be hosting a traditional three course Irish meal (full menu details are listed in the Narthex)

The cost of the meal will be £25.00 per person. **The last opportunity to purchase tickets is this weekend after each Mass.**

A licenced bar will be open selling wine, Guinness, and Irish tipples! There will also be a raffle.

This is a ticket only event limited to no more than 80 people and tickets need to be purchased in advance for catering purposes. Book early to avoid disappointment! Come and join us for a night to remember of good food, drink, music and fun!

FRIDAY CLUB CHRISTMAS

The next Friday Club will be a Christmas lunch and celebration on Friday 4th December after Mass at 12 noon. This year the lunch will be professionally catered. Tickets are very limited, are £25 per person and must be booked and paid for in advance. Sign up forms are available in the Narthex. Donations for raffle prizes welcome to the Parish Office.

THANK YOU FROM THE BETHLEHEM NATIVITY GROUP

Thank you for allowing our group to come to your church and sell religious articles, the result of which was very beneficial and rewarding for our needy Christian families, raising £1900. Your help is a great support for us, and for our Christian families in the Holy Land. If anyone has missed the carvings display, you can place an order online directly by visiting www.tbng.co.uk
God bless you all. Love and blessings from The Bethlehem Nativity Group.

FIRE WARDEN TRAINING

Volunteers needed. For major occasions we need people in the congregation who are trained to help evacuation in case of a fire. You just need 2 hours training and then, when there are big occasions, we will ask if you are available to assist. There is a training session for Fire Wardens here on Saturday 5th December at 10.30am. The course will last 2 hours. If you can help as a Fire Warden and would like to attend the training, please contact the Parish Office today.

FIRST AID TRAINING

We also need trained first aiders and are in the process of booking a training course. If you can help as a first aider for the parish and are interested in completing the training, please contact the Parish Office. More information will be shared once a training date has been confirmed.

YOUNG ADULTS DAY RETREAT

Saturday 28th November, 10.30am – 5.30pm, Mass at 5.30pm. Christ the King, 29 Bramley Road, Cockfosters. For more information please contact Amandha or visit the QR code.

URGENT SAFEGUARDING NOTICE

PARENTS – if you arrive late but want your child to join Children's Liturgy, please make sure that you drop them off INTO THE ROOM and hand them over to the adult in charge. Children's Liturgy is for Primary School aged children. Please do not send younger children as it makes it really difficult to engage all the children.

Young children (up to 11 yrs old) must be escorted by an adult to the toilet. The church is a public building and we cannot regulate people coming to use the toilets.

TRAVELLING NATIVITY

Advent begins next weekend on Sunday 29th November. The Travelling Nativity will be available to pass from house to house during Advent. The hamper contains knitted crib figures, a candle, payers, activities and biscuits for families with young children to do together in the evening in Advent. If you would like to host the Nativity for one night please sign up on the white board and write your contact details on a card. You will be put in touch with the family each side of you so that you can arrange transfer of the hamper. Do it today!

HEALTH & SAFETY

Thanks to Martin Connolly and Nicola, our Adminstrator, for working with the diocesan inspectors for a successful annual H&S visit last week. Thanks to Mick, Henry and Ken who do the weekly checks, we scored 100% in all areas. H&S is everybody's responsibility. Please observe signs and report anything that seems dangerous (including blocked toilets!) Do not assume that somebody else will do it. We need a safe building for everybody.

NICHOLAS BREAKSPEAR SCHOOL CHRISTMAS TEA PARTY

NBS warmly invites you to their Senior Citizens Christmas Tea Party, hosted by 6th Form Students on Friday 4th December 12.15pm - 2.30pm. An afternoon of festive activities and entertainment. To book or for further information, please contact 01727 860079 or email admin@nbs.herts.sch.uk by Wednesday 25th November.

LOURDES DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

Our parish group had a wonderful pilgrimage in July and bookings will soon open for next year's pilgrimage from 16 – 23 July. You can get up-to-date information as soon as booking opens by registering at *https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes* don't forget to name our parish.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Please remember in your prayers the sick, including: Lissy Paulose, George Yong, Ann O'Neill, Jackie Mylonas, Gemma Carey, Ray Corry, Herbert Cox, Jeremy Dunlop, Rachel Walsh, Lindsey Huntley, Linda Solter, Luigi Merlo.

Recently dead: Margaret Shea, Mary Benson, Kochuthresiamma John Adhikari, Monica Newton and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

1st Sunday of Advent (Year B)
Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:33-37

NEXT CHURCH CLEANING

Monday 7th December at 10.30am
Please come and help

TIMES OF MASS & OTHER LITURGIES

Sunday 22nd Nov	**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Year A)** *Sat 5.15 – 5.45pm Sacrament of Reconciliation* **6pm Mass (Sat)** *Jacque Leonard RIP* **9am Mass** *Bill & Raynah Watson RIP* **11am Mass** *Seamus Maguire RIP*
Mon 23rd November	**10am Mass** *November Dead* *11am Funeral Service of Raymond Ahearne RIP*
Tues 24th November	*9.30am Rosary* **10am Mass** *Deceased Members of the Quinlivan & McLoughlin Families*
Weds 25th November	**10am Mass** *Anthony Glavin RIP* *10.30 – 11.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*
Thurs 26th November	*No Mass*
Friday 27th November	**10am Mass** *Pepe Ruiz-Guerrero RIP (2nd Anniversary)*
Sat 28th November	**10am Mass** *Michael Myatt RIP (Anniversary)* *5.15 – 5.45pm Sacrament of Reconciliation* **6pm Mass** *Monica Newton RIP*
Sunday 29th Nov	**First Sunday of Advent (Year B)** **9am Mass** *Irene & Robert Cooke RIP* **11am Mass** *Maria Pilar Iannelli & Maria Teresa Iannelli RIP* **3pm Little Lambs Mass** *People of the Parish*