Our Faith on Sunday

Liturgy
Christ the King (C)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Rv 5:12; 1:6

**How worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
to receive power and divinity,
and wisdom and strength and honour.
To him belong glory and power for ever
and ever.**

FIRST READING: II Samuel 5:1-3

They anointed David king of Israel.

PSALM: Ps 121:1-5. R.cf.v2

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

I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **(R)**

Jerusalem is built as a city
strongly compact.
It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord. **(R)**

For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David. **(R)**

SECOND READING:
Colossians 1:12-20

He has created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

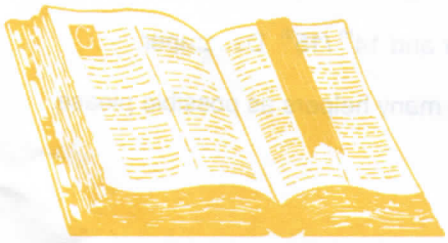
Alleluia, alleluia! Mk 11:9.10
**Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: Luke 23:35-43

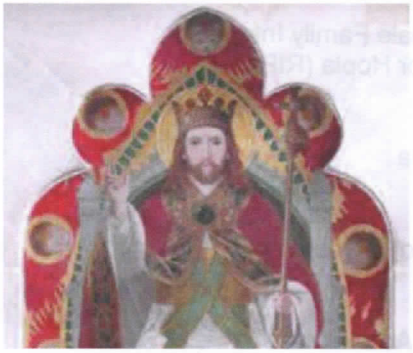
Lord remember me when you come into your kingdom.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Ps 28:10-11

**The Lord sits as King for ever.
The Lord will bless his people with peace.**



GOSPEL REFLECTION



The thief did indeed show great Faith: *"Remember me when you come into your kingdom."* When we hear this Gospel read: Jesus hanging on the cross, mocked and taunted by the religious leaders and the soldiers, even by the man dying beside him; Jesus helpless, apparently, to help himself; we might well wonder at the promises he made in last week's Gospel, or at the Last Supper, or about his 'kingship'. Even about his promise to the "good thief". But as we know, in that very suffering and death and humiliation that we witness, is found the source and explanation of the help he can give us, the glory he has. *"God did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all."* Christ is the "new Adam" St. Paul tells us. Christ's obedience to his father, *"even unto death,"* reverses, so to speak, Adam's disobedience. Jesus, a man like Adam, obeys on behalf of us all; and because he is the sinless Son of God his obedience has an eternal, immeasurable value in the sight of God. We can be filled with joyful trust that God is with us; that *"nothing can come between us and the love of Christ".*

EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



The Social Dimension of Evangelization
Concern for the vulnerable

211. I have always been distressed at the lot of those who are victims of various kinds of human trafficking. How I wish that all of us would hear God's cry: "Where is your brother?" (Gen 4:9). Where is your brother or sister who is enslaved? Where is the brother and sister whom you are killing each day in clandestine warehouses, in rings of prostitution, in children used for begging, in exploiting undocumented labour? Let us not look the other way. There is greater complicity than we think. The issue involves everyone! This infamous network of crime is now well established in our cities, and many people have blood on their hands as a result of their comfortable and silent complicity.

212. Doubly poor are those women who endure situations of exclusion, mistreatment and violence, since they are frequently less able to defend their rights. Even so, we constantly witness among them impressive examples of daily heroism in defending and protecting their vulnerable families.

GOSPEL CHILDHOOD
The 'Little Way' of St Therese of Lisieux for everyone*

A CALL TO BE LOVE IN THE HEART OF THE CHURCH

I used to wonder whether God was pleased with me, whether my Little Way was really sufficient. But God has reassured me that I am on the right path. I desire to serve God with all my heart, and God looks at what I really want. God sees what I am, not just what I am able to do.

The life I lead is that of a Carmelite nun. This means that I am vowed to Jesus, and that I am called to be a spiritual mother through prayer and sacrifice. But that in itself is not enough for me. I desire so many other callings as well.

I'd like to be a fighter, a priest, an apostle, a teacher, a martyr. I long to travel to distant lands to preach the gospel.

I'd like to shed my blood for Jesus...

My goodness, one thing and then another, some contradictory, others totally outside my scope of achievement.

But I realise that these desires exist only in my imagination.

They aren't the reality of my life which is so limited and routine on a day-to-day basis.

In fact, when it comes down to it, dreams and imaginings don't really count for anything. In the end only love counts. It is only love that makes us what God wants us to be. And love is shown in how we go about living our lives on a practical level here and now, not about dreams of great deeds that may never materialise.

* Simplified and illustrated by Elizabeth Ruth Obbard. First published in 2005 in Great Britain by:
New City Unit 1 Polaris Centre 41 Brownfields Welwyn Garden City AL7 1AN https://www.newcity.co.uk/book-tag/focolare/ ISBN: 13:978-0904287-94-3

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S. JOHN FISHER, REDBOURN with FLAMSTEAD AND MARKYATE.

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CHRIST THE KING – 24th NOVEMBER 2019

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sunday (Saturday)	5.30pm	Seale Family Intentions
Sunday	9.00am	Ivor Hopla (RIP)
Monday 25th November	11.45am	feria
Friday 29th November	11.45 am	Bridget Ward (RIP)
Sunday 1st December	**1st Sunday of Advent**	
(Saturday)	5.30pm	Mary and Family Intentions
Sunday	9.00am	Gill Taylor (RIP)

November is the month when we remember those of our family and friends who have died.
The November Deceased List is at the back of the Church. At all Masses the Holy Souls will be remembered.

Feast Days This Week: 30th November – St. Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland

Please remember in your prayers: Sick; Nigel Clark, Judy Atkins, Sofia Mayorga, Una Hewitt, Mary Jones, David Ruth, Maria Maynard, Liz Mevin and Diane Boba.

Please remember in you prayers this week in The Churches Together List the residents of:
St. Mary's Close, Waterend Lane, Holts Meadow, Brache Close, Crown Street, Pipers Close, Cavendish Road, Dammersley Close, High Street, Old Watling Street, Summer Walk, Chequers Hill, Linnis Pond and River Hill.

Confessions are available after Saturday evening Mass and on request.

Favourite Hymn to sing at Mass. Maggy has left a list on the table at the back of the Church for anyone to write their favourite hymn to be sung at Mass on Sundays.

First Holy Communion Preparation for our children will begin after Christmas. Communion date to be arranged. Forms available at the back of the Church must be returned by the end of November.

Mission Red Boxes: Those who have the red collection boxes should please return them now.

Christmas Hampers: Luxury food and drink items are requested please. Place your contributions in the box to be found in the porch. The hampers will be raffled on Sunday 1st December after Mass.
This year the proceeds will go to **CAFOD.**
To make things easier and go smoothly for the draw each ticket will be £1 each instead on £1 per strip.
If you are able to sell tickets before or after Mass, please add your name to the list in the porch.

Catholic Newspapers; As the newspapers have not been purchased for some time, from December they will no longer be available. If you wish to receive a paper you can contact: michelle.jones @thecatholicuniverse.com

Christmas Flower Collection will take place the weekends of 7th /8th December and 14th /15th December.

Church Cleaning will take place on **Saturday 14th December from 9.00am.** As many helpers as possible please.