

## Our Lord Jesus Christ The King - Year C - 20th November 2022



### Take Your Pick

He doesn't exactly come across as much of a king. Beaten, abused, nailed to a tree and mocked by just about everyone around him. He is even given abuse by a thief crucified alongside him. It really does not feel as if he has any power at all. What kind of a king is Jesus Christ?

When we think of a king we might have a vision in our head of someone with power and influence, who is spoken to respectfully, wears good clothes. Way back when, if anyone spoke out of turn in their presence the consequences could be, to say the least, detrimental to their well-being. Definitely not the Jesus we meet on the cross, not by a long way.

Why not? If he is a king, what kind of a king? It comes down to choice. The rulers of this world, however they get there, impose themselves upon us. It may be by the relatively benign ways of political persuasion or hereditary succession all the way through to violently imposing themselves. What is certain is that as good (or bad) as they might be they are not everyone's first choice.

That is where the difference lies. Jesus is a king that each of us has to choose for themselves. That is the choice the penitent thief made. He recognised that the power that Jesus has is greater than anything the world has to offer. It is a power that reaches out beyond the "great and the good" to touch any who are ready to accept it in their lives.

*Fr Tom McHale*  
(except Monday)  
01207-502320

*Fr John Bagnall*  
(except Wednesday)  
01207-502196

*Deacon David Westgarth*

*Deacon Shaun McGee*

*Deacon Chris Callan*

## **General Notices Around the Partnership**

**Obligation to Attend Sunday Mass:** We understand that there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It has always been the understanding of the church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation.

**Partnership - Sacrament of Reconciliation:** St Patrick's, Consett; Saturday after 10am Mass. Our Lady and St Joseph's Brooms on Saturday's before the 5.30pm Vigil Mass 4.45pm-5.15pm.

**Hospital Chaplain:** Fr Paul Tully, tel: 01388 818544/ 0191 3332183. Please telephone the chaplain if you have someone in hospital who would like a visit.

**Mass Intentions:** Please be aware that up to Christmas we are currently fully booked for Masses in all five parishes. If a Requiem Mass is held we often need to cancel the Mass Intention booked for that day and transfer it to the nearest vacant date. Please allow plenty of time to book in a Mass to save disappointment. If you have a query about a Mass intention please contact Margaret at St Mary's on 01207-502320.

**Love Christmas 2022:** Envelopes for donations are available at the back of our Churches. Once again we will be reaching out to show love to those at the margins of our community.

**St Mary's Convent Ebchester:** Christmas Fayre on Saturday December 3rd at 2.00pm. All are welcome.

**Aid To The Church In Need:** ask us to join them during this month of November to 'Break the Silence' on the persecution of Christians and of all faiths globally. We can do so by attending Mass and praying the Rosary in solidarity. Please go to [WWW.acnuk.org/redwednesday](http://WWW.acnuk.org/redwednesday). Leaflets at the back of church.

**A Celebration for Christmas:** We are delighted to announce that St Joseph's Church in Stanley will be hosting the Ushaw Chapel Choir on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December from 7-8pm for A Celebration For Christmas. Tickets available to purchase from St Joseph's Parish Office. Adults £5 and Children (6-16 years) £2. The retiring collection will be for Father Dermott Donnelly's charity Significance.

## **Around the Diocese**

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023:** Can you help the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes next year? We need nurses, healthcare assistants, doctors and volunteers to provide care to the assisted pilgrims who travel with us. Previous helpers have found it is a rewarding and spiritually uplifting week. We plan to travel on Friday 28th July. If you would like to find out more information please email or look at our website.

<https://www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk/> or email [lourdes@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@rcdhn.org.uk)

**SPUC Holy Hour:** To pray for an end to abortion in the uk and in reparation for the 10,000,000 lives lost since the passing of the Uk abortion act. St Joseph's Church, Gateshead on Saturday November 26th at 2.00pm.

**Priestly Vocations Discernment Evening:** The next Discernment evening will take place at the Cathedral on Tuesday 6th December at 6.00pm. Bishop Robert will be our guest for the evening and this is the last evening before the Christmas holiday. If you would like to come along, or for more information, please contact the Vocations Promoter, Father Shaun Purdy, by Monday 28th November, so catering arrangements can be made. Please either call 01670 812 200 or email [vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk) The evening will finish at 8.00pm

HOLY ISLAND VINNIES CAMP 2022-23 URGENT APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS: Have you got some time spare to help out our Term Time Camp? We urgently need volunteers to work in the kitchen or do a bit of cleaning/ caretaking at Holy Island Camp, washing dishes, serving food and clearing /cleaning the dining hall. Commitment involves training, a DBS check and the choice of anything from a few days to a week helping on the beautiful island itself. We also need volunteers to work as part of a team of helpers to supervise and look after children, All roles can be applied for, on line at <https://www.svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island/>

Vacancies: The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following permanent vacancies: Cleaner, St Peter, Low fell, Gateshead – 8 hours per week Closing date for applications: 1 December. Cleaner, St Cuthbert, North Shields - 3 hours per week. Closing date for applications: 24 November. Parish Secretary, St Charles, Gosforth – 12 hours per week. Closing date for applications: 30 November. Please visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) for full details or contact us 0191 243 3301

First Friday For Life: Bishop John Keenan, St Mary's Cathedral, Paisley is asking us to join him in fasting and prayer on every First Friday for the next 9 months, to protect the unborn child, to help promote the pro-life movement and to build a society with an authentic culture of life.

Prayer Vigils at Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre: A short monthly prayer vigil has been held on the first Sunday of each month at 3 pm outside the barrier to Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre since August 2021 co-ordinated by the Justice and Peace Co-ordinating Council. This is an opportunity to give witness and pray for the women detained there. You are very welcome to join us there or to pray with us from home. The address of the centre is Corbridge Road, Medomsley DH8 6QY. Future dates planned are December 4th, February 5th, March 5<sup>th</sup> (there will not be an in person vigil in January). For more details including a copy of the prepared liturgy please contact Liz Archibald at [lizarchibald.justiceandpeace@gmail.com](mailto:lizarchibald.justiceandpeace@gmail.com)

Caritas: Social Action Network, have launched a service to bring together Ukrainian people displaced by the war in their country with people in the Catholic community willing to host them in their homes for six months. Please visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more information.

Advent Alms: This Advent, we once again hope to call upon your generosity to help us to raise funds to purchase a newer vehicle for our two nursing homes. Your support will allow us to offer more regular outings throughout the year, ensuring our residents' lives remain as varied as possible, with the fresh air and change of scenery offering no end of benefits for good mental health. We appreciate this winter will be difficult for many and urge you only support us if you are able to do so. Thank you.

### **St. Mary's News**

Collections: This week – Catholic Youth                      Next week – Marist Mission Appeal

Legion of Mary: Will say the Rosary and Legion Prayers on Tuesday Evenings at 6pm.

Communion Visits: If anyone is aware of someone who is housebound since the lockdown, and who would like to receive Communion at home, please contact Fr. Tom to arrange this.

Sanctuary Candle: this week the candle will burn In Loving Memory of John and Nell McGough and Deceased Members of McGough and Smith Families.

St Mary's and OLOR: Parish Council: Tuesday 29th November at 7.15pm.

Thank You: to Neil Waby and the Lions Club for a cheque of £686 received as our share in the town raffle.

Light A Light On The Christmas Tree: If you would like a light in memory of a loved one 'cost £2'

please put the name of the person and the donation into an envelope and hand into office or contact Joan Devanney.

JFK Centre - St Marys Church Hall: presents Declan Thomas on Saturday 3rd December 2022. Bar, Raffle and Bingo. Doors open at 7.00pm Tickets £5.

### **St Patrick's News**

Collections: This week: Catholic Youth      Next Week: Advent Alms

Recently Deceased: Elizabeth (Betty) Mitcheson. Please pray for her and her family at this sad time.

Christmas Fayre Thank You: Thank you to everyone that helped, donated and came along to support the Christmas Fayre held last Saturday. It was a great success and we made £882.51 for Church Funds. Some Door and Bottle Draw Raffle Prizes are still to be claimed; the numbers are at the back of the church on the noticeboard. Prizes can be picked up from the presbytery.

Our Lady of Fatima Devotion: In connection with the Fatima Visitation, the Devotion will continue on the following date December 3rd after 10am Mass, in church with Rosary and prayers. All are welcome to join us and any help on the day would be greatly appreciated.

Advent Quiz: To be held on Saturday 10th December from 7.30pm at St Patrick's Church Hall: Over 16's only. 6 Players per team £2.50 a head. Please note only drinks bought at the bar may be consumed. Email: ted\_young27@hotmail.com (underscore between 'd' and 'y') to book a team. Teams from all Partnership Parishes are Welcome.

People's Kitchen: The People's Kitchen supports homeless and vulnerable people and helps fight hunger and loneliness for locals in need. They might be at risk of homelessness, unemployed, lonely or living in poverty. For people who experience these difficulties. Your donations can be deposited in the cream urn at the back of the church.

Calling all Knitters: This year we hope to distribute knitted/stuffed stars to parishioners for them to hang on a Christmas Tree Mantlepiece via an attached ribbon. Two patterns are available at the back of the church please be as creative as you like!.

### **Our Lady and St Joseph's News**

Collections: This Week: Catholic Youth      Next Week: Advent Alms

The Priest Clergy Training Fund will continue until November 27th.

People's Kitchen: Thank you for your continued donations of coppers and small change which is forwarded to the People's Kitchen in Newcastle. Your donations can be deposited in the named tin at the back of the church.

Reception Children - September 2023: If you or anyone you know has a child due to start school in September 2023, we would love to show our lovely new Early Years environment. Please contact the school on 01207 503979 or email ourladystjoseph@durhamlearning.net to make an appointment.

### **St Pius X News**

Collections: This week: Catholic Youth      Next Week: Advent Alms

Benediction and Evening Prayer: Wednesday evenings 5.45 - 6.45pm

Holy Rosary Hour: Last Monday of the month. The next one is to be held on 28th November at 6.00pm. All are welcome. The Rosary will be said in Church every Wednesday at 10am.

### **Our Lady of the Rosary News**

Collections: This week – Catholic Youth      Next week – Marist Mission Appeal

St Mary's and OLOR: Parish Council: Tuesday 29th November at 7.15pm.

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

St Mary's: John Batey, (Baby) Shannon Cassidy, Mary Davison, John Toner, Shaun McElhatton, J.J. Welsh, James Donaghue, Annie McKenna, Dennis Rowan, Peter Walls, Susan Boyle, Ellen Kierman, Thomas Page, Philomena Jackson, Roseann Lavin, Ellen Willis, Joseph McKie, Margaret Higham, Mary Margaret Loughran, Jean Eva Hunter, John McGough, Sadie Seaton, Teresa Georgina McNally, Betty McArdle, John Corr, Rose Hodson, Elizabeth Joyce Gibson, Edward Ryans, Sheila Patricia Hoy, Martha Grimes.

St. Patrick's: Dominic McGurk, Mary Theresa Stevens, Sheila Elder, John O'Neill, Catherine Rafferty, Catherine Connelly, Hugh Malone, Catherine Donaghy, Richard Forbes, Terry Burns, Mary Burnage, Mary Theresa Hughes, Joseph Raw, Flora Nimmons, Tommy O'Neill, Mary Donaghy, Alan Foley, Gerard Slavin, Moira Reed, Brian Rogan, James Fail, Thomas Kerr, Ellen Parker, Nancy Collins, John Harpin, Stephen Fenwick, John Haggon, Bill Kennedy.

St Pius: Alfred Bennett, Susan Boyle, Richard Forbes, Mary Hicks, Marie Matthews,  
Gerry McArdle, Ella Willis.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Ged Doughan, Sydney Fountain, Norman Henderson, Laura Mallon.

Our Lady of the Rosary: John Wilfred Smith, David Bradley, Neil McKie (snr), Desmond McNally, Alice Bell, Bill Storey, Jenny Clark, John Jack Walker

## **THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN OUR PARISHES**

*We keep in our prayers*

St Mary's: Paul Wass, Ryan McBeath, Kieran Richard Atkinson, Amelia Burns, Ethan White, James Thomas English, David Sizmy, Eileen Fannon, Mary Barnes, Arron Armstrong, Freya Simpson, Maddy Kennedy, Mark Adams, Jack Nugent, Donna Philips, Tom Slane, Julianne Kennedy, Eileen Haughey, David Oliver, Jimmy McGuigan, Catherine Hester, Sarah June Quinn, Thomas Eccles, John Ross, Simon Quinn, Philip Robinson, Audrey Johnson, Adrian Hepplewhite, Ged Hester, Terry Curran, Peter Doherty, Jakob English, Catelyn Howe.

Our Lady of the Rosary: James Baker.

St. Patrick's: Eileen Fish, Margaret Heslop, Anna Bradley, Martin Rogan, Cheryl Reilly, Judith Hindmarsh, Nora Robson, Geraldine Donnelly, Michael Shaw, Andrew Bates, Patrick Lynch, Jean Walls, Seamus Doran.

St Pius: Ivy Agnew, Joseph Agnew, Gerry Akers, Marie Atherton, Martin Daly, Rita Daly, Derek Hicks, Paul Hunt, Joan McGee, Danny Morton, Robert Nixon Jr., Charlie O'Donnell, Jade Telford.

Our Lady and St Joseph's: Sue Robertson, Elizabeth Foreman.

**Pope Francis – For The Ukraine**

O God, In this time of violence. We call on you to draw near.  
Draw near to the people of Ukraine.  
Draw near to the terrified children.  
Draw near to the terrified parents.  
Draw near to those who have nowhere to go.  
Draw near to the elderly, the infirm,  
the disabled, the displaced, the orphans.  
Draw near to the caregivers and aid workers  
Draw near to the helpers.  
*Draw near. Draw near. Draw near.*  
In this time of violence-Draw near.  
Jesus taught us that the diabolical evil of violence  
is answered with the weapons of God, with prayer and fasting.  
May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.

**Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus I believe that you are present in the most Holy Sacrament, I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you, never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.'

**Partnership Prayer**

Risen Christ, from your abundant grace,  
pour out afresh your Holy Spirit upon our Diocese.  
As we build on the deep foundations of faith  
laid by the countless saints of these Northern lands,  
by Aidan and Cuthbert, Hilda and Bede  
may our Partnerships continue the mission  
of building your Kingdom on the earth: to give living witness to your love,  
and to your compassion and hope for our world.  
We pray in trustful confidence that your power working in us  
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.  
Who live and reign forever and ever.  
Amen