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21 NOVEMBER 2021
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Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Yes, I am a king. I was born for this; I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voices.

This is the unequivocal statement Jesus gives to Pilate's question, "So you are a king then?" as he stood before his interrogator in those final moments before his sentence.

Some of us may struggle with the image, or rather the reality of Jesus as a king, particularly as we are more readily inclined to identify him as the humble shepherd caring for his sheep and ready to lay down his life for them, the suffering servant, the Lamb of God. Most of us, I think, would be more comfortable as friends, brothers and sisters, disciples of Jesus Christ and children of God, rather than the more remote, less intimate relationship that being a subject, a subordinate entails. It doesn't help of course, when the example of many kings and queens throughout history has been one of power, wealth, privilege and pageantry.

But of course, what we need to remember is that Jesus Christ is a king totally different from any other; who came into the world to bear witness to the truth and as 'the faithful witness', the First-born from the dead, to wash away our sins with his blood. Here we have the reality of the servant king bringing us the truth that will set us free.

It has been said that when Pope Pius XI instituted the feast of 'Our Lord Jesus Christ, the King' in 1925, he did so as an antidote to secularism which is the belief that God should be omitted from everyday life, that the state, morals, education etc should be independent of religion. This feast day instituted by Pope Pius proclaims Christ's sovereignty over individuals, families, societies, governments and nations. After the Second Vatican Council, Pope Paul VI went further renaming the feast 'Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe'. He is the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, the King of the entire creation, and we as his loyal subjects, not remote but abiding in his love, should proclaim that truth.

Fr Steve

Make your voice heard



Thank you to everyone who has completed the survey that was emailed to all recipients of the newsletter. The response has not been huge, but the replies so far contain a wealth of information. Please try to find at least 5 minutes to share your thoughts. The survey can be found at <https://forms.office.com/r/PwS4T4p2SA>

The dates of the meetings have been set for 19.30 on 7 December and 14.30 on 11 December, both in the hall and 19.30 on 9 December on Zoom. Please hold one of these dates; booking details will be in next week's newsletter.

However, these events will only take place if we have help with facilitating a table discussion, enabling the less vocal to participate. A full briefing will be given, and a scribe allocated. Many of you will have done this before, so please give a little time to enable us to really gather the views of our parish. Please email beckenhamsynod@rcaos.org.uk for more information.



ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

A number of you have submitted to me SIF forms for signing to support your application to St Mary's Primary School (and in a small number of cases, other Catholic primary schools). The practice in the parish is that, as for secondary school applications, I deal with all of these, even if you know another priest or deacon better. It is also the system that I deal with them all in January, well before the deadline; so this is why if you have emailed forms to me or left hard copies for me these have not been acknowledged. If there are any problems or issues you will be contacted - you don't need to do anything else at this stage. These forms are not dealt with by the parish office so please don't ring the office!



The Beckenham St. Vincent de Paul group (SVP) is holding a Christmas lunch on Monday 6 December (1-3.30pm) in St. Edmund's Hall on Village Way. Organised for parishioners who may otherwise feel left out at Christmas, the lunch will be a warm, welcoming and festive experience and parishioners who have not had contact with the SVP are also welcome. For those on a low income there will be no charge but otherwise, the lunch will cost £15 per person. Covid-related health and safety guidelines will apply. To reserve your place, please contact Fiona Ross on 07956 516279 or fiona@businessjunction.co.uk

During the last week I have put up a number of posts on the parish Facebook page about the American social activist, the Servant of God Dorothy Day, who died just over forty years ago. We have for many years supported the *Catholic Worker* house in North London inspired by her witness and teachings, and as announced a few weeks ago we have a collection **the weekend of 27/28 November**, the first for nearly two years. Details of what is needed can be found in the latest issue of the *London Catholic Worker* on the group's website:

<https://www.londoncatholicworker.org>

PROPERTY FOR SALE IN BURGUNDY

Property comprising some land and two houses in an exceptionally beautiful part of Burgundy. Offers in the region of 380,000 euros. Would suit joint purchase or consortium. Contact Fr Ashley (who is not the vendor!) for more details.

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE Saturday 11 December at 7.15pm in the Church and online at www.saintedmunds.net

Join us to enjoy carols and readings in preparation for Christmas.

For those participating online a programme will be on the website from 8 December.

We usually raise money at this annual event to support St. Christopher's Hospice, and so we will have a collection after the Service. Should you wish to donate to this charity you can also do so online:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stedmundsbeckenhamadventservice

or you can post a donation through the office door marked 'for St. Christopher's Hospice'.

Whichever way you join us, you are most welcome.

A student in the middle of writing her thesis has had a total laptop crisis. It cannot be repaired, so if anyone has one that is no longer being used and they could let go, would they please call the Office.

Many thanks, Fr Victor

The Requiem Mass for the late Teresa Lobo will be at 12.30 pm on Monday 29 November.

The **Charity of the Southwark Brethren** was started in 1921 and has always focused on helping sick, or Priests who are in need. We thank you for your continuous generosity in the past and ask for your help again this year.

Please send donations to:- Fr Paul Hough, 3 Birch Way Waringham CR6 9DA, so that we can continue to support Priests in the Diocese of Southwark and Arundel and Brighton, and also help working Priests who have a serious sickness.

In addition, we have a Gift Aid Scheme for those who pay tax and we thank you, the lay people who have joined by applying for a Gift aid form. Please feel free to contact us for more information if needed.

9.30 CHILDREN'S MASS IN THE HALL



This Sunday, 21 November, we will be celebrating the Feast of Christ the King. The children are invited to wear a crown to Mass.

Next Sunday, 28 November is the First Sunday of Advent, and we invite the children, and their parents to wear something purple.



Coloma Convent School is looking to fill some posts:

Break supervisor
Part time receptionist
Teacher of Design & Technology
Teacher of Physics

There is a poster in the church porch or further details can be found at www.coloma.croydon.sch.uk/



BISHOP CHALLONER SCHOOL

Tuesday 7 December

Bishop Challoner School would be delighted to welcome parishioners to an evening learning to make a Christmas wreath.

Details & booking pta@bcsweb.co.uk

FIVE BIBLE STUDIES ON THE ADVENT SUNDAY GOSPELS

Mauro Iannicelli will break-open the Advent Sunday Gospels each Wednesday night to prepare you for Sunday Mass!

Five Wednesdays: 24 Nov, 1, 8, 15, 22 December (7-8pm UK Time)
Free and live streamed

Info & Registration: comeandsee.org/advent

MY DAY BY DAY - ADVENT 2021

The first Sunday in Advent is nearly upon us.

We have just received some booklets to help you in your preparation for Christmas. They contain the readings and the psalm of the day.

We also have a supply of the infant and junior versions which have prayers, puzzles and activities for children to enjoy during Advent.

THE PASSAGE

to ending homelessness

The Passage, a Christian Charity working with homeless people, is holding a fundraising concert at the Royal Festival Hall on Thursday 25 November on the theme *Bohemian Rhapsody*, featuring popular works by Dvořák, Mahler and Smetana. The performers include Andrei Ioniță, cello; Anush Kovhannisyan, soprano; Streetwise Opera; Toby Purser, conductor; and the Orion Orchestra. Full details and booking at <https://passage.org.uk/night-under-the-stars-2021/> or telephone 020 75921856 or see the poster in the porch.

LIGHT OF CHRIST CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

We invite you to join us on
Wednesday 24 November in the church hall
7.45 pm Praise & Worship
8.00 pm Holy Mass
Celebrant tbc
followed by prayer for healing
10.00 pm conclusion

If you have any questions please call
Anna 07794 202 106 or Tom 07982 999 319



WHY BUY A MISSION CALENDAR FROM THE CLAVER SISTERS?

The Sisters are selling these calendars as a way to raise funds to repair the convent building lived in by their missionary sisters in Angola. During the rainy season the nuns put buckets and bowls in every room to catch the water. Their beds and wardrobes are moved to avoid the rain but the walls are saturated.

The poor people with whom they work have nothing to give them to alleviate this situation so the nuns have turned to the Claver Sisters and to you for help. The Sisters will be selling copies of their 2022 calendar outside the church next weekend so please buy one if you are able to or call the Sisters on 020 8313 3915 to order a copy.

IN THE CHURCH

Sunday 21 November

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

6.00 pm	VIGIL Church	Richard and Mabel Graves RIP
8.00 am	Church	Rosemary McWilliams RIP
9.30 am	Church	Anne O'Hallorn RIP
9.30 am	Hall	For the people
	Children's Mass	
11.00 am	Church	Nadia Ghawi RIP
5.30 pm	Church	Dec'd members of the Kolakowski family.

Monday 22 November

St Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr

9.30 am	Church	Rosary
10.00 am	Church	Paulo & Armando Cogoni RIP
6.00 pm	Church	Nyree Turner
7.00 pm	25 VW	Adoration

Tuesday 23 November

Feria (St Clement 1, Pope & Martyr)

10.00 am	Church	Delisa Panetta RIP
6.00 pm	Church	Fr Gerrit Vervenne RIP

Wednesday 24 November

Saint Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest & Companions, Martyrs

9.30 am	Church	Rosary
10.00 am	Church	Josie Healy RIP
6.00 pm	Church	Monica Jones RIP

Thursday 25 November

Feria (St Catherine of Alexandria)

10.00 am	Church	Gretta Colonnese RIP
6.00 pm	Church	Crescenzo Panetta RIP
8.00 pm	Claver	Adoration

Friday 26 November

Feria

9.10 am	St Mary's	For the ints of the Handmaids
9.30 am	Church	Rosary
10.00 am	Church	Anne O'Shea RIP
Followed by Adoration & Benediction		
6.00 pm	Church	Ints of Nicole Scott

Saturday 27 November

Feria (The Blessed Virgin Mary)

10.00 am	Church	Ints of Frances Reynolds
<i>Confessions after 10.00 am Mass and from 5.00 pm to 5.50 pm</i>		
6.00 pm	VIGIL Church	Alek Pasiniewicz

Sunday 28 November

First Sunday of Advent

8.00 am	Church	Fr Mario Sanderson RIP
9.30 am	Church	Ints of Deidre, Paul & Joseph
9.30 am	Hall	Maureen & Jack Foster RIP
	Children's Mass	
11.00 am	Church	Giovanni Campanaro RIP (anniv)
5.30 pm	Church	Edward Piatek RIP



Thank you for raising donations for St Edmunds with #easyfundraising! If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE. 5,900 shops and sites will donate to us when you use [easyfundraising](#) to do your everyday online shopping - at no extra cost to you! Every donation you raise makes a difference to us, so please sign up & share today.

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/steceb/?invite=U95BCP%26referral-campaign=c2s%26utm_campaign=admin-trigger%26utm_content=srt

ELECTRONIC DONATIONS

Your online offerings last week came to £2451.15. Thank you very much. This week's second collection is for Catholic Youth Services.

ONLINE GIVING

To make your regular donations electronically, please click here: <http://saintedmunds.net/index.php/donations/>

Donations can also be given through ChurchSuite on our website, using the DONATE option or if you wish to set up a Standing Order our bank details are:

RCAS St Edmund's Church
Sort Code: 60-02-12
a/c no: 14282887

DIARY DATES

November

Every Monday, Meditation, Hall, 5.30 - 6.20 pm prompt

27/28, collection of food for the Catholic Workers House.

Monday 29th, 12.30, Requiem Mass for Teresa Lobo.

December

Friday 3rd, noon, Requiem Mass of Monica Jones
Saturday 11th, 7.15 pm, Annual Christmas Concert

We pray for those who have died recently: Domenico Pisani, Monica Jones, Fr John Slater, Machu Braganza, Teresa Lobo, Pat Palmer, Mary Odok, Vittorio Di Serio, John O'Sullivan and Roberto Pascalis.

We pray for those whose anniversaries are this week: Andrew McNally, Aurora Matella, Edmund Paton Walsh, Rosa Saminatar, Raymond Gregory, Penelope Wood, Maureen Bentley, Crescenzo Panetta, Gretta Colonnese, John Doyle, Pauline May Tolhurst, Martin Wallis, Sally O'Shea,

We pray for the sick: Okwui Agbim, Angela, Evelina Armani, Daniel Asapokhai, Sandy Baron, Siobhan Basquill, Boudicca, Fr Ray Brennan, Patsy Brown, Rob Burns, Niamh Byrne, Mary Byrne, Caroline, Carmel Cardiff, Chant, Zenaido Cinco, Mark Clapson, Catherine Cook, John Crouch, Malcolm Cusack, Niamh Dawson, Antonia Difato, Giacomo Dillon, Domenico, Helga and Ralph D'Souza, Alex Dufort, Joshua Dunford, Nicholas Dunford, Sarah Dunmore, Cecil Dutton, Daniel Ebrahimi, Suzanne Eilbeck, Yvonne Fairlamb, Jessica Feron, Antonio Ferrara, Felicity, Ann Fleming, Mary Flood, Flora, Sarah Gallagher, Erika Geddes, Gaetan Goa, Patsy Grey, Tony Hallett, Hans Halpin, Margaret Halpin, Amelia Handy, Patricia Hanson, Michael Harper, John Harrow, Pauline Hatfield, Anita Hennigan, Lesley Hill, Maureen Hitchens, Rosemary Horsley, Glen Jack, Catherine Kelly, Eileen Kelly, Keith Kench, Antony & Richard Kirin, Pierre Laine, Rosy Lobo, Lizzy Loftus, Barbara Love, Annick Lynch, Baby Marius and his parents, Mark, Vicky Mariadas, Rose McDonnell, Mary McGrath, Patrick McHugh, Paul McIndoe, Eddie Mitchell, Salvador Moreno, Baby Hendrix Morgan, Barbara Moyce, Robert Moyle, Anna O'Hara, Grace Okezie, Shirley Oakley, Eva Perjesi, John Quaife, Helen Quarshie, Katie Richardson, Pru Root, Brian Russell, Brigitte Savreux-O'Driscoll, Coleen Schroeder, David Silk, Siobhan, Veronica Somare, Vidya Sookram, Colleen Swan, Pauline Ullisak, Vanessa, Deborah Walcott-Grappie, Joan, Susan & Wendy Waller, Jimmy Walters, Patricia Weal, Paul Williams, Susan Wingfield, Terry Woollard and Charlie Wynn.