

FR CHRIS'S THOUGHTS FOR SUNDAY:

Today we celebrate the great solemnity of Christ the King. The Feast that marks the end of our church's year as the culmination of all that we have celebrated for the 12 months past. That at the end of time, Jesus will be fully revealed as the king of the universe, the Lord of all and that his reign will have no end. We see this in the reading of the book of Daniel. The figure of the son of man is given all power and sovereignty over all creation for all eternity. Jesus often referred to himself as the son of man both in reference to his glory to come and the power of judgement as King, but also to his humanity and weakness.

In our democratic world the concept of kingship is somewhat foreign to us and can present a negative image of domination and oppression though there have been a few great saints who were kings and queens, and we should not forget our own Queen Elizabeth who has seen her life as a vocation to service inspired by her deep faith.

People can see the concept of God and indeed Christ himself as a threat. The Jewish leaders did so. They perceived a threat to their position and power. For this reason, they plotted and had him arrested and accused him before Pilate of being a King seeking political power and thus a threat. Pilate knows they are scheming and initially seeks to release Jesus touched somewhere in the depths of his soul but when the name of the emperor is brought up, he is worried about his own position and power and gives way with that phrase echoing: what is truth?

Jesus, however has been clear all along. Yes, he is a king but his Kingdom is not of this world or from this world. He is not a rival in that sense. His life and coming death shine out with that message: he has proclaimed a kingdom of love and mercy for all who desire a new way of life, imposing nothing only inviting people to believe. He does not wish to be defended by arms, but to accomplish the Father's will to the end, and to establish his kingdom not by armed conflict, but by the apparent weakness of life-giving love. The kingdom of God is a kingdom utterly different from any earthly kingdom.

He defines the kingdom as truth, his authority come from the truth and he is the Truth. His only means of exercising his authority is to witness to the truth manifesting the God who is love. The truth of his words is seen as he stands there with the crown of thorns beaten and mocked and then all the way to the cross dying for this truth.

The only submission he asks is to love and whoever is open to love hears this testimony and accepts it with faith, to enter the kingdom of God. We are called to be witnesses to Christ evangelisers of our World and the way is that of Christ. We need no earthly power only to speak the truth with love bringing into the world the light of Christ. We have to shine with the truth who is Christ. We must live as he lived. The truth is not just a truth to be believed but above all to be lived each day. It is not an abstract truth but an Incarnate Truth which must be made flesh in our lives each day with a love that is sacrificial seeking the good and true asking nothing in return. Just desiring that Christ should reign that little bit more in our world. This is the way to freedom. How can we make that Kingdom a little bit more present for those with whom we live? Where is God asking us to make present his "kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace." What concrete service can we do or what sacrifice can we make for someone? This is not abstract but about who is near to us. For we too by Christ's will and our Baptism are a *line of kings, priests to serve his God and Father.*



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris O'Connor
Tel: House: 01858 462359
Email: parishpriest@olvic.com
Convent: Presentation Sisters 01858-462432
Parish Website: www.olvic.com
Safeguarding: safeguarding@olvic.com

Diocese of Nottingham: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449
Registered Address: Wilson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AW

Schools:
Parish Primary: St. Joseph's Academy 01858-465359.
Deanery Comprehensive: St. Paul's 0116 241 4057
Parish Accountant: finance@olv.com
Parish Gift Aid Organiser: giftaid@olvic.com
Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

21st November 2021
34th of Ordinary Time
Psalter Week 2

Times of Services

Sunday: OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am: Mass: Dominic Stewart (Family)

Monday: St Cecilia

9.00am Mass: November Dead List

Tuesday: Feria

10.00am Mass: Ellen Thomas (Ann) (Jopling)

Wednesday: St Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions

10.00 Mass: November Dead List

Thursday: Feria

10.00am Mass: November Dead List

Friday: Feria

7.00pm Mass: Minnie McCann RIP (Sisters)

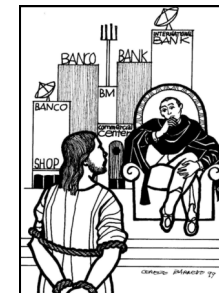
Saturday: Feria

6.00pm: First Mass of Sunday 28th: William Murphy RIP (Anniv) Crocker

Sunday: 34th: 1st of Advent

9.00am Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am Mass: Minnie McCann RIP



*It is you who
say that I am a
King.*

CONFESSIONS
11am Saturdays

PLEASE NOTE: YOU MUST PRE BOOK FOR OUR WEEKEND MASSES:

Also it would be helpful to book for weekdays too, though not necessary at the moment as we are not full.

Booking is now online: www.Massbooking.uk You can sign up there and then book. If you do not have the internet you can ask someone else to book for you, a child or grandchild or ring or email Fr. Chris on 01858 462359 giving your name and phone number. Please see instructions on our website: www.olvic.com/news.htm

FR CHRIS WRITES:

I want to say thank you to all who have taken part in the Synod process so far and sent in responses either from groups who have met or individuals or from people indeed who are not parishioners. Also we had good meetings this last week. There is still an opportunity to respond by Monday this week. We will be gathering the responses together and making a summary to send to the diocese which will be discussed on 1st December PPC meeting. We will then also need to present a summary of responses to the Parish and discern our way forward. Pray to the Holy Spirit!



Synod 2021-2023: Final responses by Monday!!

We have prepared a simple handout to help This will help us as a Parish as continue our mission in the Post Covid era. **Please pick one up from Church or down load from the website.** The Bishop hopes that as many will participate as possible. You can reflect individually or as part of a Parish group or a group of friends. YOU can also send in emails letters and so on. Above all we must pray for the Holy Spirit to speak and that we listen. **Please see the Synod page on our Website www.olvic.com/synod.htm.** What is our vision for the Parish. How do we reach out to others in our mission given to us by Christ: Go, make disciples of all.... **Please pray the Synod prayer card available) or whatever prayer asking for a new vision for our Church both local and all love the world. This is Key.**

Advance Notice: **PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE on Sunday 19th December 3.00pm.** Supported by the Catenians. Parishioners family and friends are very welcome.

THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: The PPC now has a notice board in the cloister where minutes and notices etc. will be put up.. Please contact one of the members or Fr. Chris if there is any particular subject to be raised, we will try to keep people informed.

SALE OF KNITTED GARMENTS: after all Masses in the weekends of 27/28th November & 4/5 December.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR 2022. We are now looking forward to First Holy Communion in 2022. Applications forms are now available from Fr Chris after any of the Masses. Please return the form by **Friday 17th December 2022.** It is for children in year 3 and above, The first meeting for **parents** will take place on **Wednesday 12th January 2022 at 7.30pm** in the Octagonal Hall when we will introduce the course and give out the plan. The first session **for children** will take place **on Friday 14th January 2022 from 3.30-4.30pm** in the same place and then the 21st & 28th January. Depending on the numbers & COVID there will be two first communion days: 18th June 2022 & 2nd July 2022



VOCATION DISCERNMENT EVENING: 'When a person is conquered by the Fire of His gaze, no sacrifice seems too great to follow Him 'If you feel called to the Priesthood and want to know more, join us at the Vocation Centre, Our Lady & St Edward's, 247 Gordon Road, Nottingham, NG3 2LG on Friday 26th November at 7 pm for a time of prayer, informal discussion and social time. For more information email: vocations@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Also could People bring in their **Red Mission Boxes** for emptying. If anyone would like a box please let myself or Christine Shepherd know



YOUNG ADULT PILGRIMAGE: on Saturday 27th November, our Vocation Directors Father Neil and Father Liam will lead a pilgrimage in honour of Venerable Mary Potter. Meet at 10 am outside St Barnabas Cathedral to visit the Mary Potter Heritage Centre followed by prayers at her tomb and then Mass with Bishop Patrick. Please do join them if you can or pass the message on to other 18-35's.

ST JOSEPH from the twitter account: *Foundation have also been remembering this armistice day last week... Beautiful work children; See school website and twitter feed:*
www.stjosephs.leics.sch.uk



'FROM DAILY TO DAILY GLORY' - Encountering Jesus in your Daily Work is four week online course to help you discover how God is calling you to be his disciple through your daily work. Each session will involve a Video input exploring the theme of the week and interviews with people from around the diocese, this is then followed by group discussion and a time of prayer. The sessions will run from 7pm-8:15pm. The dates and themes are: Wednesday 12th January 2022 - A Catholic View of Work and Holiness; Wednesday 19th January 2022 - Making your work holy; Wednesday 26th January 2022 - Work makes you holy; Wednesday 2nd February 2022 - Your work can make others holy: [SIGN UP HERE.](#)

Also listen to the Podcast series for **CATHOLIC DADS: THE FATHER'S HEART SERIES.** This new podcast series from the Diocese of Nottingham for the Year of St Joseph explores what does it mean to be a Catholic Dad , taking St Joseph as our model. Each month a section of the Apostolic Letter [Patris Corde](#) will be explored through conversation with two dads from the Diocese of Nottingham sharing their thoughts and experiences. .See <https://dioceseofnottingham.podbean.com/>

WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS are available at church. They have a meditation for each day based on the readings for Mass each day including the Christmas period. They are a great resource to help us pray in this special season.

PRISON FELLOWSHIP ANGEL TREE PROJECT: The local Prison Fellowship group will be running the Angel Tree Project this year at HMP Gartree and would like your help. The purpose of this project is to purchase Christmas presents for children of some of the prisoners. The gifts will be sent to the children as from their dad's. The value of each gift will be **approx. £15.** The aim is to alleviate some of the sadness experienced by prisoners and their families at Christmas time. Angel Tree provides a crucial link between innocent children and their imprisoned father. If you would like to help with this project, either with a **monetary donation or a suitable gift** you will be given a gift tag with the first name, age and gender of the child. **The gift can be wrapped by yourself in Christmas paper** if you wish, but we do need to have a photo of the gift for security reasons otherwise a member of Prison Fellowship will wrap the gift. A hand written gift tag from their dad will be attached to make it extra special. **All presents will be posted so please keep them light.** Local bank account details: Prison Fellowship (Gartree Angel Tree) Sort code: 40 32 04 Account: 91564005. For your donation to be **Gift Aided** contact info@prisonfellowship.org.uk Thank you for your kindness this is very much appreciated by prisoners, their families, staff and chaplaincy. Maureen Douglas, Angel Tree Co-ordinator 43 Gardiner St, Market Harborough, LE16 9QN Tel 07966 515115

REPOSITORY: Christmas Cards, dairies and so on are available in the Repository.

The Church is open for Private prayer each day
Please sign in on the list or use the Covid NHS App Q code displayed

