



# St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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## Newsletter for Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

### CHRIST THE KING

Psalter Week 2

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## Christ is King of All Creation

We have already come to the final Sunday of the Liturgical Year with the celebration of the Solemnity of **Christ the King**. Next Sunday we shall enter Advent. But what do we mean when we say Christ is King? Christ is not just King of Heaven or King of Christians. His sovereignty is over every single aspect of creation, both in the supernatural and in the natural order because He is God and He is the Creator who holds all things in being. He said, *“My Kingdom is not of this world”* (John 18:36) but in saying this, Our Lord was referring to the world of sin over which Satan exercises influence, and only because God permits it. But Satan does not own it – God does, and so Christ’s Kingship extends over everything, all peoples and all nations.

This Feast is a relatively new one, instituted by **Pope Pius XI** in 1925 because he became alarmed that nations were claiming that JESUS Christ and His law had *“no place in private affairs or politics.”* The Church and State may be distinct, but they should collaborate to bring about Christ’s reign on earth. As **Pope Benedict XVI** said in Westminster Hall in 2010, *“Religion ... is not a problem for legislators to solve, but a vital contributor to the national conversation.”* For instance, the State does not have a right to pass laws which cause harm to the common good and which corrupt the morals of the population, or which denies the rights of Christ and the Catholic Church. The State has no *right* to prevent the public worship of the Church, because God has the right to be worshipped by every one of us. When the State forbids this God is offended. So it is right that the Bishops and many Catholics have protested to the government against this. If it is absolutely necessary for the temporary cessation of public worship, this is for the Church to decide – not the State. The Church can never be subject to the State because it uncrowns Christ. Although we are obeying the law in this, we do so under duress.

Pope Pius XI when he instituted this Feast said, *“While nations insult the beloved Name of our Redeemer by suppressing all mention of It in their conferences and parliaments, we must all the more loudly proclaim His kingly dignity and power, all the more universally affirm His rights.”*

Our battle song can be the words of the **Laudes Regiae** (The Royal Praises) *“Christus vincit, Christus regnat, Christus imperat!”* (Christ conquers, Christ reigns, Christ commands!).

*Fr Paul Gillham, IC*

**FROM THE SAINTS:** “He shall rule from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth. And all kings of the earth shall adore Him: all nations shall serve Him” (*Psalms 71:8, 11*).

## MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

<b>Sat</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	6.00pm	For the Parish
<b>Sun</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b><u>CHRIST THE KING (Solemnity)</u></b>	
		9.00am	Aislabie Harrison RIP (Anniversary)
		11.15am	Intention for the living
<b>Mon</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	9.15am	Vincenzo Caruso RIP
<b>Tues</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15am	Mario Sepede RIP
<b>Weds</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	6.30pm	Ray Wainwright RIP
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15am	Geraldine Jackson RIP
<b>Fri</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup></b>	6.30pm	Holy Souls
<b>Sat</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15am	Mario Sepede RIP
		<b>10.30am-</b>	<b>Private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.</b>
		<b>12.30pm</b>	<b>Confessions available 10.30am-11.30am</b>
		6.00pm	Michael Smith RIP (Anniversary)
<b>Sun</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>First Sunday of Advent</u></b>	
		9.00am	Alan Tinker RIP (Anniversary)
		11.15am	Chris Dover RIP (Anniversary)

**MASS INTENTIONS:** Although the times of Masses have been left on the weekly calendar, the priests will not necessarily offer them at those specific times. However, the Masses will all be celebrated for the particular intentions on the days advertised.

**NO PUBLIC MASSES UNTIL AT LEAST 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER  
CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES:**

**Sundays:** 3-5pm, **Mondays:** 9.30-10.30am

**Wednesdays:** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 5.30-6.30pm with Confessions

**Fridays:** 5.30-6.30pm

**Saturdays:** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30am-12.30pm  
with Confessions 10.30-11.30am.

**NB: Due to government regulations regarding personal data (GDPR),  
we are only able to publicise the Mass intentions for the deceased  
in the online edition of the newsletter.**

**PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died:** Frances Ebong and Irene (Peggy) Hicks. **May they rest in peace**

**and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Linda Howkins, Jean Woodcock, Tina Cassella, Carmela Giancola, Joyce Gilliver, Pat McLoughlin, Vincenzo Caruso, Albert Barker, Alan Tinker, Rosa Tidy, Claire Kelly, Geraldine Jackson, Lawrence Adkin, Michael Smith, Ester Lewis, Christine Harvey and Aislabie Harrison

**CHRISTMAS APPEAL:** As you know, the **Grub Club team** has not been able to run any sessions this year, although we have supported some families financially during holiday times. Conscious of the increasing pressures on families, we are starting a **Christmas Cheer Appeal to try to raise £2000** to support as many disadvantaged families as we can to provide some small extras this Christmas. (This amount will supplement the small amount that remains in the Grub Club account). This appeal will run in St Mary's and Sacred Heart parishes. We have contacted eight local primary schools to ask head teachers how many families they believe would benefit. **We hope to reach at least 65 families.**

If you would like to help, please send your donation in an envelope marked 'Grub Club' to the church office at St Mary's or at the presbytery at Sacred Heart. For online donations: Grub Club account at Lloyds Bank. Sort code - 30-96-26. Account - 38441468.

**Thank you for your support.** *Catherine Brady (Grub Club chair) and Frank Fay (treasurer)*

**SATURDAY 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 10.30-11.00am:** Our Christmas food bank collection for John Storer House will be at this time in the car park. **Staff at JSH have suggested if possible that we contribute 'Christmas Goodies'**, which could include chocolates, sweets, chocolate biscuits, tins or sachets of cocoa, jars of coffee, tea, long life milk, selection boxes, Christmas crackers, boxes of toiletries, tinned meat. If you have the time an idea is to present your donations in a gift-wrapped box, however donations in the usual way are very greatly appreciated. This year many families will be dependent on the food bank for all the little extras that make the Christmas table special. **St Mary's School are joining us in this collection**, each class is donating an item and these will be added to our contributions. A big thank you to the school. Kindly note items for the collection must not be left in the church buildings. Parishioners from St Mary's continue to give marvellous support to this venture. With grateful thanks to all.

*Jane Monaghan*

**SISTERS FROM ST ELIZABETH'S CONVENT, BELARUS:** You may remember the visit of two Sisters from St Elizabeth's Convent in Belarus a couple of years ago. They send their prayers. Due to Covid-19, this year they are launching their very first Online Christmas Market, so that people from all over the world can purchase Christmas presents and souvenirs made with love and continuous prayer. Please, click here for the catalogue: <https://catalog.obitel-minsk.com/christmas-market>. Through purchasing beautiful Christmas gifts we will be able to serve the poor, sick, homeless and the lonely. Every item purchased at the Online Market is a donation towards one of the Convent's ministries.

**THE SECULAR ORDER OF DISCALCED CARMELITES, St Elizabeth of the Trinity Group, Nottingham** is delighted to share that during Lockdown it has (via Zoom) continued to meet and grow. On **14<sup>th</sup> November** we welcomed 3 more individuals into Formation. The Zoom service was officiated by Deacon James Hunter OCDS. *Sheila Leaf OCDS*

<b>LAST WEEK'S FINANCE:</b>	
Collection: <b>£0</b>	Cash Donations: <b>£233</b>
Kwediboma: <b>£160</b>	Grub Club Donations: <b>£40</b>
Standing orders: <b>£776</b> of which <b>£679</b> is gift-aided	<b>Thank you</b>

## PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

**LEADER:** Please kneel for our prayer for vocations. Let us ask God to give worthy Priests to His Holy Church and Brothers and Sisters to Religious Orders.

**ALL:** O God, we earnestly beseech You to bless this diocese with many priests, brothers and sisters, who will gladly spend their entire lives serving Your Church and making You known and loved.

**LEADER:** Bless our families. Bless our children.

**ALL:** Choose from our homes those who are needed for Your work.

**LEADER:** Mary, Queen of the Clergy!

**ALL:** Pray for us. Pray for our priests and religious. Obtain for us many more. *Amen.*

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**PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL:** Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God thrust down to hell Satan and all the wicked spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. *Amen.*

**A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION:** My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to possess You within my soul. Since I am unable at this moment to receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

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**CHANGES TO NOVEMBER INDULGENCES FOR THE HOLY SOULS:** Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Apostolic Penitentiary in Rome has made some changes regarding the November Indulgences for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. This is to help avoid large gatherings.

1. The plenary indulgence for those who visit a cemetery and pray for the dead, even if only mentally, normally established only on the individual days from 1st to 8th November, can now be transferred **to any other day of the month of November.**

2. The plenary indulgence of 2<sup>nd</sup> November, for those who piously visit a church or an oratory and pray for the dead and recite the "Our Father" and the "Creed" there, may now be transferred not only to the Sunday preceding or following, but also **on any other day of the month of November.**

In all instances make a good confession within the week before or after and be free from all attachment to sin. Also say one Our Father and Hail Mary for the Pope's monthly intentions and receive Holy Communion worthily on the same day or soon after. If you don't manage to fulfil all these conditions, the indulgence is partial.

The elderly, sick or housebound can obtain the plenary indulgence provided that they are completely detached from sin and have the intention of fulfilling as soon as possible the three usual condition of sacramental confession, Holy Communion and prayer for the Pope's Intentions. They obtain the plenary indulgence by saying prayers for the dead before an image of Our Lord or Our Lady such as the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, or other prayers for the dead, or meditate on a Gospel passage proposed by the Liturgy for the Dead, or do a work of mercy by offering their pain and discomfort to God.

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