

FIRST READING

Ezekiel: 34:11-12.15-17

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest - it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy I shall be a true shepherd to them. As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 22

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

- 1. The Lord is my shepherd:
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.
- 2. He guides me along the right path:
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff:
with these you give me comfort.
- 3 You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
my head you have anointed with oil,
my cup is overflowing.
- 4. Surely goodness and kindness
shall follow me, all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:20-26.28

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ: but all of them in their proper order. Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty authority and power For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, 'Come you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome: naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me. Then the virtuous will say to him in reply 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you: or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome: naked and clothed you: sick or in prison and go to see you?' And the King will answer, 'I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.' Next he will say to those on his left hand, 'Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food: I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink: I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me.' Then it will be their turn to ask, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?' Then he will answer 'I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me.' And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life".

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St Anthony of Padua



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Deacons: Rev. John Kilshaw (07759 943667)

Rev. Tom Butler (retired - 07853777957)

Sunday Masses: 6.00 (Vigil - Saturday Evening) 9.30am, 5.00pm (Sunday Morning)

Weekday Mass: Mon-Wed, Fri: 9.15am. (Thurs 9.15am at Holy Family)

Confessions: on request

Annexe: 725544

Social Centre: 735963

Primary school: 726621

Playgroup/Preschool 07963 700591

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Christ, King of the Universe

This Sunday is the last Sunday in the liturgical year, 2020, a year that we will never forget, a year when life as we once knew it has been abruptly shattered. It has been a year when we have had no alternative but to acknowledge our inter-connectedness, our oneness with all creation and with the vastness of the universe.

'The universe is not a place where evolution happens; it is evolution happening. It is not a stage on which dramas unfold; it is the unfolding drama itself. This great cosmological story shows us in the deepest possible sense that we are all sisters and brothers—fashioned from the same stellar dust, energised by the same star, nourished by the same planet, endowed with the same genetic code, and threatened by the same evils. This story humbles us before the magnitude and complexity of creation. It astonishes us with the interdependence of all things, and makes us feel grateful for the lives we have. And not the least of all, it inspires us to express our gratitude to the past by accepting a solemn and collective responsibility for the future.' (Loyal Rue. Philosopher) 'When we stress the magnificence of the universe as revealed by modern science we might be able to draw forth untapped reserves of reverence and awe.' (Carl Sagan. Astrophysicist)

It is in Christ, King of the Universe, that 'all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible. In him all things hold together.' (Col:1,16) 'When we experience the universe as Christ-soaked, when we know that the universe is both the hiding place and the revelation of God, when we grow in awareness that in Christ all things were made, our lives will reflect our oneness with every thing.' (Richard Rohr. Adapted) We will then respond to Christ in the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger and those who are naked. And we will have confidence in the One who 'spares us from nothing, but unexplainably sustains us in all things.' (James Finley)

Christ the King (34th)

Year A

22nd November 2020

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DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 21st November 2020

Sat		For our parish	
Sun		Julie Butler For our parish	<i>Christ the King (34th of the Year)</i> <i>Youth Services Collection</i>
Mon		Joe Holmes	<i>Feast: St. Andrew Dung-Lac & Comp</i>
Tue		Anthony Riley	
Wed		Colin Chadwick	
Thur		Private Intention	
Fri		Jim Barnes	
Sat		For our parish	
Sun		Dec. members S.V.P. For our parish	<i>First Sunday of Advent (Year B)</i> <i>Poor Parishes Collection</i>

BIDDING PRAYERS

We pray for all who hold positions of authority in the Church and in society: may they always exercise that authority and power wisely and justly, for the common good and for the spiritual, moral and temporal well-being of those in their care.

We pray for the leaders of the nations of the world, especially those most severely affected by the COVID19 pandemic, that they may always act with wisdom, compassion, foresight and justice in their efforts to bring relief and healing to the communities they serve.

We pray for our Parish community and especially for our young people. May they become worthy witnesses to the Kingdom of God. We pray also for the work of the Youth Service of Lancaster Diocese and for all involved in the care and guidance of young people.

We pray for the sick and the housebound of our parish and for those who care for them, particularly: Bill Embery, Lawrence Dunnagan, Betty Murphy, John Myerscough, Alice Myerscough, Chris Goldsmith, Frank Stanton, Marie Gardner, Brendan Gardner, Joan Green, Carole Adnitt, Jo Counsell, Les Farrer.

Pray for those who have died recently: Patrick Bolger, Jim Bashall, Frances Farrer;

... and for those whose anniversaries are around now: Leslie Bashall, Jim Barnes, Edward Nightingale, Christine Bolger, Victoria Makishti, Jack Fitzgerald, Kathleen Machin, Frederick Langdell, Teresa Whelan, Barbara Strettle, Evelyn Eccles, Joe Holmes, Patricia Pilkington. May they rest in peace.

We remember in our prayers those who have been injured or lost their lives in conflict, especially those from our parish.

Lockdown. Sadly public Services have again been suspended. However St. Anthony's church will be open for private prayer (with Exposition) as follows:

Mon & Wed: 10am-11am; Fri 5pm-6pm; Sat & Sun: 11am-12noon.

We are grateful to those who volunteer as Stewards for making this possible.

- Fr. Peter and Fr. John will offer Mass every morning but this has to be in private.
- There will a Newsletter every weekend as usual. Copies will be in church and on the notice board but if you would like one by e-mail send your e-mail address to parish.priest2@btinternet.com
- our parish volunteers continue to do a great job keeping in touch with housebound and lockdown parishioners. Let's continue to look out for one another, especially for those who are isolated or have particular needs. If you need help, or know someone who does, please contact us -there are many parishioners who are willing to help out. Don't be stuck and don't suffer in silence. Please ring: 724576 and leave your number.
- Funerals are restricted to 30 people, Baptisms to 6 people. Weddings are suspended.

Advent begins next week

A group of parishioners have been busy producing two linked resources for our parish:

1. Advent Jesse Tree

- telling the Biblical story from Creation to the first Christmas in 25 colourful 'decorations' to be hung on our tree in church. Members of the parish are invited to colour these decorations or add a message. Return it to us and it will be displayed on the Jesse Tree. If you would like to take part please contact us no later than Tuesday 24 Nov Please phone Peter on 724576 or email pjnewsham@aol.com.

2. Advent video reflections

Tied in with this, members of the parish have recorded a series of 24 short YouTube Advent readings, again featuring the 'Jesse Tree bauble', followed by a brief time of reflection. The lighting of the Advent wreath candles each Sunday will be shown as a separate film, probably on facebook.

Christmas Raffle - Tickets for the Parish Raffle are now on sale, in church and by phone. (724576). The raffle prizes will be on display in church.

Donations of food & toys are welcomed by the Salvation Army

These can be taken direct to the Salvation Army (Harrington St (01772 555425), or left by the SVP bucket at the back of church.

Acknowledgements Thanks to those who are leaving Offertory envelopes in church during the Exposition. Thanks also for the regular envelopes containing donations to the Food Bank and to Cafod.

Today's Virtual 'Coffee Morning' Same log in details: on Zoom at 11.00am. Log in: Meeting ID: 819 8015 2432 Passcode: 879577

Masses received this week: Colin Chadwick, deceased members Fitzgerald & Williams families, deceased members of SVP, Anthony Riley, Jim Bashall.

Mass At Christmas We are still hopeful of celebrating Mass at Christmas as planned but we will obviously have to take things as they come.