



**MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY**

**Sunday, November 24, 2019**  
**Our Lord Jesus Christ,**  
**King Of The Universe**

**4:00 PM**  
**8:00 AM**

Gathering: To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King  
BB 733

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 97)

***The Lord is King, the Lord is King, the  
most high over all the earth.***

Preparation What Wondrous Love Is This BB 480

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion Eat This Bread BB 336  
Unless A Grain Of Wheat BB 506

Recessional: Crown Him With Many Crowns BB 732

**10:00 AM**

Gathering: To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King  
BB 733

Dismissal Rite: You Have Called Us BB 646

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 97)

***The Lord is King, the Lord is King, the  
most high over all the earth.***

Preparation I Know That My Redeemer Lives  
BB 678  
Now We Remain BB 507

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion Behold The Lamb BB 338  
I Am The Bread Of Life BB 370

Recessional: Alleluia! Sing To Jesus BB 731



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**facebook®**

St. Luke the Evangelist is now on Facebook! Go to  
[www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/](http://www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/) or **St. Luke the  
Evangelist Parish – Newton/Plaistow** and give us a  
Like! Please invite fellow parishioners & friends to do the  
same.

**✠ PARISH TITHING ✠**

Our Parish needs to take in \$7,000.00 each week in order to make ends meet. Thank you for your generosity to our parish! Your weekly contribution helps ensure that the parish remains a vibrant community. Please remember to submit your weekly gift even if you will be away. We depend upon your support!

**November 10, 2019**

**Offertory \$6,495.58**  
**Catholic Camp./Human Dev \$1,282.25**

**November 17, 2019**

**Offertory \$5,941.11**  
**Fuel \$1,740.00**

**PARISH GIVING**

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish has engaged *Parish Giving* to provide parishioners with an opportunity to make your offertory and other contributions through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Parish Giving is a simple, secure, and convenient way to manage your stewardship without weekly envelopes and without worries. It allows you to select contribution amounts and special collections right from your own computer or smart phone. You can be a good steward for the Parish even when you are away from the area on a weekend. Parish Giving allows you to print out a report detailing your contributions for the year. This program is available to parishioners at no cost. Log on to the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish website at <http://stlukenh.org>, click on the Parish Giving logo, and follow the easy registration instructions.

**UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

November 24, 2019 Christmas Flowers  
December 1, 2019 Property Management

**Out of respect, please remember to  
silence or turn off  
your cell phones during Mass.  
Thank you!**



**Suggested Weekly Contribution  
Based on Income**

Annual Income	5% Commitment annually/weekly	3% Commitment annually/weekly
\$100,000	\$5,000/\$100	\$3,000/\$60
\$75,000	\$3,750/\$75	\$2,250/\$45
\$60,000	\$3,000/\$60	\$1,800/\$36
\$50,000	\$2,500/\$50	\$1,500/\$30
\$40,000	\$2,000/\$40	\$1,200/\$24
\$30,000	\$1,500/\$30	\$900/\$18
\$25,000	\$1,250/\$25	\$750/\$15
\$15,000	\$750/\$15	\$450/\$9

**Suggested Weekly Contribution  
Based on a Percentage Increase**

Your Current Offertory Contribution	25% Increase	30% Increase	40% Increase
\$75.00	\$93.75	\$97.50	\$105.00
\$50.00	\$62.50	\$65.00	\$70.00
\$40.00	\$50.00	\$52.00	\$56.00
\$35.00	\$43.75	\$45.50	\$49.00
\$30.00	\$37.50	\$39.00	\$42.00
\$25.00	\$31.25	\$32.50	\$35.00
\$20.00	\$25.00	\$26.00	\$28.00
\$15.00	\$18.75	\$19.50	\$21.00
\$10.00	\$12.50	\$13.00	\$14.00
\$5.00	\$6.25	\$6.50	\$7.00

## ✠ PARISH NEWS ✠

### PAINT THE TOWN!

Our Parish community continues with our Capital Campaign. Our next projects include exterior painting for the church and Parish house in Newton. We'd also like to paint the interior sanctuary of the church in Newton and complete some electrical upgrades to the church.

Other possible projects include work on our Plaistow and Newton parking lots, and ramp access to the church in Plaistow.

#### *Can you help?*

Any contribution is welcome. Make checks payable to  
**Saint Luke the Evangelist – Capital Campaign.**

#### PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will close at 12:00 Noon on **Wednesday, November 27, 2019**, and will remain closed on **Thursday, November 28, 2019** in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. The Office will reopen at 8:30 AM on Monday, December 2.



ST. LUKE'S WEBSITE! <http://stlukenh.org>

#### MASS OF THANKSGIVING

A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated in Plaistow at **6:30 PM on Wednesday, November 27**. There will be **NO Mass** and **NO Adoration** on Thanksgiving Day, November 28.

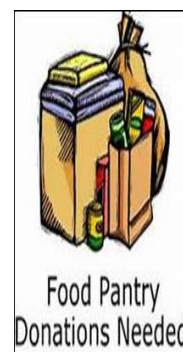


#### THE BOOK OF THE NAMES OF THE DEAD

Throughout **November**, a special *Book of the Names of the Dead* will be open near the Baptismal Font & Paschal Candle for parishioners to record the names of the faithful departed. It is a visible sign that the faithful departed remain with us as part of the Church. You are welcome to record names of loved ones and the dates of their death.

#### ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST FOOD PANTRY

Food or care items are always needed – donations can be dropped off at Church or are welcome at the Parish Office during regular business hours. Cash donations for food are always welcome – make checks payable to **St. Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry**. All donations to the Food Pantry go toward helping the needy of our communities.



#### FOOD PANTRY HOURS

**Wednesday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon**

**Thursday from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM**

**Friday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon**

For more information, call the St. Luke Food Pantry at **603-819-4949**.

#### WHILE AWAY THIS FALL...

We appreciate all of you who remember to send in your Parish Offertory during the Fall even when on vacation or visiting other parishes. Thank you for remembering that our expenses also continue through the Fall months. We invite others to consider doing the same before or even after you return home.

## OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

### ✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

**Sunday, November 24**

**PREPARE CHURCH FOR ADVENT**

<b>11:00 AM</b>	Religious Ed – PreK to 8	<i>Plaistow</i>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	RCIA	<i>Plaistow</i>
<b>6:00 PM</b>	Vespers and Benediction	<i>Newton</i>

**Wednesday, November 27**

**HOLY ANGELS CHURCH OPEN**

**ALL DAY FOR PRAYER**

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSSES AT 12:00 NOON**

**Thursday, November 28**

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

**NO ADORATION**

**Saturday, November 30**

<b>3:00 PM</b>	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Plaistow</i>
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**Sunday, December 1**

<b>10:00 AM</b>	Religious Ed – PreK to 8	<i>Plaistow</i>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	RCIA	<i>Plaistow</i>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	Family Advent Activity	<i>Plaistow</i>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	Baptism Catechesis	<i>Plaistow</i>
<b>6:00 PM</b>	Vespers	<i>Newton</i>
<b>6:30 PM</b>	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Newton</i>

**St. Vincent  
de Paul  
Society**



Thanks, everyone, for supporting us at the Christmas Craft Fair!

Don't forget to "Drop Your Dollar" the next time you're at Mass. It may not seem like much to you, but to those we help, it makes a huge difference in their lives.

Keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we head into the colder months and food and fuel may become an issue with neighbors and friends.

Our next meeting on **Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00 PM**. We meet downstairs in the Church Hall in Plaistow. **New members are always welcome!**

If you seek assistance or need information about the St. Vincent de Paul Society, call 603-382-8324 x315.

**Hear, OH LORD, and answer me  
for I am poor and needy.**

### ✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

**Saturday, November 23 ~ Vigil / Christ the King**

**2 Sm 5:1-3; Col 1:12-20; Lk 23:35-43**

<b>4:00 PM</b>	Mary Coltin by Colleen and Mark Hammond <i>Plaistow</i>
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**Sunday, November 24 ~ Christ the King**

<b>8:00 AM</b>	Laurie Irvine Stevens (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary) by Meg Thurnquist <i>Newton</i>
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<b>10:00 AM</b>	Bill Lueders (Birthday & Wedding Anniversary) by his wife, Carole Lueders <i>Plaistow</i>
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**Monday, November 25 ~ Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr**

**Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Lk 21:1-4**

<b>8:00 AM</b>	Deceased Members of the Metcalf Family by Barbara Metcalf <i>Newton</i>
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**Tuesday, November 26 ~ Weekday**

**Dn 2:31-45; Lk 21:5-11**

<b>8:00 AM</b>	Trudy Pratt by James Pratt <i>Plaistow</i>
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**Wednesday, November 27 ~ Weekday**

**Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Lk 21:12-19**

<b>6:30 PM</b>	Mass of Thanksgiving <i>Plaistow</i>
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**Thursday, November 28 ~ Weekday**

**Dn 6:12-28; Lk 21:20-28**

**No Mass**

**Friday, November 29 ~ Weekday**

**Dn 7:2-14; Lk 21:29-33**

**No Mass**

**Saturday, November 30 ~ Andrew, Apostle**

**Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22 (Day)**

**Is 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44 (Vigil)**

<b>4:00 PM</b>	Bertha Boben by Pat Zakiewicz <i>Plaistow</i>
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**Sunday, December 1 ~ First Sunday of Advent**

**Is 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44**

<b>8:00 AM</b>	Esther and Robert Cote by Wayne and Christine Cote <i>Newton</i>
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<b>10:00 AM</b>	Thomas Verducci, Sr. (Birthday Remembrance) by his family <i>Plaistow</i>
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### PRAYER LINE

St. Luke's offers a prayer line as a resource for those seeking prayer assistance. To submit your prayer request please call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 314 or email her at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).

## ❖ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ❖

### MEN'S RETREAT

**35<sup>th</sup> Annual Vita Nova Men's Retreat 2020**  
**January 3-5, 2020**

The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Vita Nova Men's Retreat, led by Fr. Jeff Pavaglio, will be held at the Barbara C. Harris Center in Greenfield, NH on the weekend of **January 3-5, 2020**. Register at [www.vitanova.org](http://www.vitanova.org).

### RCIA

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is the process by which people become members of the Roman Catholic Church. If you or someone you know is interested in inquiring about becoming a member of the Roman Catholic Church, call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).

### ADULT CONFIRMATION

Are you an adult who has been Baptized and received Eucharist, but has not celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation? The adult Confirmation process is an opportunity to complete the Sacraments of Initiation. If you would like to prepare for Confirmation, or if you have questions, call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).

### PARENTS BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The monthly preparation session for infant Baptism will be held after the 10:00 AM Liturgy on **Sunday, December 1, 2019** in the Parish Office living room. All parents planning to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism are welcome. Families wishing to celebrate Baptism in the Church must be registered (according to Church Canon Law) and practicing (attending Sunday Mass) for 3 full months before a Baptism can be scheduled. The use of the envelope system is always optional; however, it does guarantee a manner of accountability. For most families, the Pastor or staff can easily verify attendance during these three months. Church Canon Law also regulates baptismal sponsors (godparents). Sponsors must be at least 16, fully initiated (having received Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation), and be practicing Catholics living Christian lives consistent with the Church's teaching. Please see Fr. Albert with questions.

### CREIGHTON FERTILITYCARE SYSTEM

The Creighton FertilityCare System is a highly effective and morally acceptable natural method of family planning. It is healthy and strengthens marriage. It is used to achieve a pregnancy or avoid a pregnancy and can be useful in the diagnosis and treatment of reproductive disease. Online introductory classes will be held on the first Wednesday and third Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. For more information, contact Mary Menendez, CFCP, St. Gerard Majella FertilityCare Services, at 603-642-8050 or [CreightonFertility@yahoo.com](mailto:CreightonFertility@yahoo.com).



The Sanctuary Candle in Mary, Mother of the Church will burn this week in loving memory of **Frank J. Bukowski** by his wife, Grace

### ADORATION

We are truly blessed to have times for Adoration of Our Lord in our Parish. This time of prayer and intercession is not only a source of great grace for the individual, but it is a great source of grace for us as a parish family, as well.

We have many who have made the commitment to spend an hour each week with our Eucharistic Lord, **but** we need more people so there will be at least two people at each hour. We are also looking for people who would be able to substitute.

**Newton – Thursday**  
**8:30 AM – 8:30 PM**

If you can commit to one hour a week in Adoration of our Lord, or if you can be a substitute, please contact Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).

**The Church in Plaistow is open all day on Wednesdays for people to stop by and pray before the presence of Jesus in the tabernacle.**

## ❖ PARISH DIRECTORY ❖

Parish Office	382-8324
Parish Prayer Line	382-8324 x 314
St. Vincent de Paul Society	382-8324 x 315
St. Luke's Food Pantry	819-4949
Preschool	382-9783
Presentation of Mary Convent	382-2744

Fr. Albert Tremblay	<a href="mailto:fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net">fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Cathy Smith	<a href="mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net">csmith@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Joyce Szapa	<a href="mailto:jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net">jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Jackie Tremblay	<a href="mailto:jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net">jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Thomas Kondel	<a href="mailto:tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net">tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Val Barczak	<a href="mailto:mvmbarczak@comcast.net">mvmbarczak@comcast.net</a>
Youth Ministry	<a href="mailto:youth@stluketheevangelist.net">youth@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Parish Council	<a href="mailto:parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net">parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net</a>



✠ **Parish News ~ Youth News ~ Around The Diocese** ✠

**HELP WANTED – ADVENT PREPARATIONS**

Volunteers are invited to help do some rearranging and decorating this **Sunday, November 24 following the 10:00 AM Liturgy in Plaistow**. Our tasks include Advent decorating, pew missalette change-overs and some light clean up of the churches in preparation for the Advent season. All are welcome to lend a hand – our work usually lasts just over an hour if we have all the help we can muster! Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

**EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES**

With the holiday season upon us, we also have several early bulletin deadlines:

Deadline for the December 22 bulletin is **Monday, December 9 at 12:00 Noon**

Deadline for the December 29 bulletin is **Monday, December 16 at 12:00 Noon**

Deadline for the January 5 bulletin is **Monday, December 16 at 12:00 Noon**.

**AMAZON SMILE**

**AmazonSmile.com** is the same market platform as Amazon.com, but with the added benefit of allowing customers to donate 0.5% of the price of items purchased to a charitable organization. Please register today to start shopping and donating at [www.amazonsmile.com](http://www.amazonsmile.com). For questions, please call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. Be sure to choose:

**St Luke the Evangelist Parish, Plaistow.**

**From the  
Pastor's Desk**



**HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSING**

With the end of the Fall season and the coming of the Winter months, **Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow will be closed from December 1, 2019 until Spring 2020**. This decision comes as result of the real dangers of snow and ice in the Cemetery and the costs to Parishioners to inter during the winter months. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.



**GIVING TREES**

Giving Trees will be located in the back of both churches on the weekend of **December 1**. Please take an ornament, buy the item(s) listed, and return it - **with the ornament attached** - to the church or the parish office **no later than December 14-15** (the Third Sunday of Advent).

Thank you for your generosity in helping those in need!

**FOR OUR RECORDS**

We need your help to keep our records current. If there are any births, deaths, marriages, moves, or address changes in your family, please notify the Parish Office at 603-382-8324 or by email at [jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net). If you are new to our parish, registration forms are available at the entrances of both churches. You can also find a registration form on our website at <http://stlukenh.org>.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
ST JUDE COUNCIL # 6617  
GIVE YOUR PARISH COMMUNITY  
1 HOUR A MONTH**

The Knights of Columbus are a vital and vibrant part of the St Luke the Evangelist Parish. We welcome any practicing Catholic man 18 or older to join the Knights, whose main purpose is charitable works in support of our parish and community. Joining is simple – talk to a brother Knight or you can now join on-line. Go to [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus). Your Council is involved in many activities from collecting money for people with intellectual disabilities through the Tootsie Roll Drive to the annual St Jude Golf Open which raises money for parish families in need. The list is as long as you want it to be. Do you have a certain passion you would like to get involved in? Come join us and make it a reality! We are Catholic men. We live by principles informed by faith. We are sons, fathers, husbands, and grandfathers. Join us on life's greatest adventure to discover the man God calls you to be. Feel free to call Dan Sullivan at 603-770-4803, email him at [dans49@comcast.net](mailto:dans49@comcast.net), or catch him at the 8:00 AM Sunday Mass in Newton. For more information about the Knights, go to [www.kofc.org/un/en/todays-knights/what-we-do.html](http://www.kofc.org/un/en/todays-knights/what-we-do.html)

The Solemnity of Christ the King is a relative latecomer to the liturgical calendar of the Roman Church. The Solemnity was instituted in 1925 by Pope Pius XI, and was specifically designated to be a “spiritual weapon” against what the Pope saw as two forces destructive of that time: secularism and atheism. The early 1900’s were a time where industrial development saw people living in tenement housing and other inhuman conditions without hope (remember the Child Labor Laws of the U.S. and other social reforms are all products of the post-depression years). The Church also recognized that the world was still reeling from the awful reality of the “war to end all wars,” (!) and the consequences of the rise of national and political movements such as communism, nazism, and fascism which were gaining popularity in Europe. The Church saw a great need to point to another reality - the reality and power of Christ as King and Savior of the world.



The notion of Christ as King refers to Jesus’ human royalty as a Son of David and to his royalty as the divine Son of God. Matthew, who’s Gospel we have heard all this year, implicitly unfolds Jesus’ Kingship as he describes the Kingdom of God and those faithful disciples who act in the world to bring that Kingdom to fulfillment.

This day also marks the end of the liturgical year in the Church. The Solemnity of Christ the King, capping the whole year, encourages us to look back to find signs of God’s grace and power, while looking forward to his coming again in glory, while at the same time looking around to see where Christ’s Kingship shows itself in the world today.

***Join us at 6 PM tonight, Sunday, November 24 in Newton  
For Evening Prayer and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament  
as we honor Christ our King.***



## **GUIDELINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**For Catholics:** As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (Canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

**For our fellow Christians:** We welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions that separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (JN 17:21).

Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily NOT admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of canon law (canon 844 § 4). Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own Churches. According to Roman Catholic discipline, the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of communion by Christians of these Churches (canon 844 § 3).

**For those not receiving Holy Communion:** All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

**For non-Christians:** We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family.



# The Gospel at Home

## This Week's Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

For the Solemnity of Christ the King, the *Lectionary* chooses a short passage from Luke's account of Jesus' Passion. The Passion depicts Jesus without physical or military power, yet he is dangerous enough to be put to death. As his opponents tease and taunt him, Jesus shows his divine power in forgiving a criminal on a cross near him. This man recognizes his own wrongdoing and truly believes that Jesus can help him get to Heaven. By this action of faith, Jesus transforms the Cross from a place of death to a place of life and forgiveness.

## Exploring the Gospel Message

**Seeds (Preschool):** This week your child's class learned to identify ways they lead and follow. They celebrated being followers of Jesus. Have your child tell you the story of the man that Jesus forgave. Ask your child to share what he or she learned and to show you the Follower-of-Jesus crown made in class. Remind your child that followers of Jesus forgave one another.

**Promise (Grades K-1):** The Gospel lesson this week is about forgiveness. Your child learned that Jesus is a leader—a king—who loves and forgives. Ask your child to tell you the story of the good thief. The class also learned that there are times when everyone needs to forgive and to be forgiven. Ask your child to show you the chain and medallion he or she made in class, and to share the loving words with you.

**Good News (Grades 2-3):** The short Gospel for this Sunday shows that forgiveness is a cornerstone of Jesus' Kingdom. Children of this age can be deeply hurt by teasing. Ask your child to share Mari's story with you, and discuss whether your child would be able to forgive

those who tease him or her as Mari did. Invite your child to tell you the Gospel story in his or her own words. Talk about ways your family can show forgiveness to one another.

**Venture (Grades 4-6):** This week's lesson focuses on forgiveness. Ask your child to tell you how we can recognize the need for forgiveness, and how we know that forgiveness has been given. Remind one another of the ways you ask for forgiveness every time you go to Mass. Discuss times when you needed both words and actions to show sorrow or forgiveness within your family. Encourage your child to tell you what he or she has learned about the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Make plans as a family to receive this Sacrament during Advent.

**Visions (Grades 7-9):** In class this week, your young person explored the human experience of suffering and forgiveness. Ask him or her to share with the family what he or she learned about suffering and forgiveness in the world. Talk about how Jesus showed what kind of a king he is when he forgave the thief on the cross. Talk together about how easy or how hard it is for each of you to show love and forgiveness.

## Pray Together

Every family experiences the need for forgiveness. Spend a few moments together sharing things that each member of the family is sorry for. Then ask God for forgiveness and ask one another for forgiveness as well. In your family prayer, remember all those who suffer injustice throughout the world. End by praying the Our Father together.



## **BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY LUNCHEON**

Our Parish has formed two groups of volunteers who help in providing lunch following a Funeral Liturgy.

**Bereavement Ministry Volunteers** contribute food items, and other helpers get things ready, serve, and clean up when everyone goes on their way.

We all work as a team, so helpers will be called on to serve in a particular sequence that spreads out the work and time commitment. This is an ideal ministry for retirees or stay-at-home Moms or Dads who have kids at school. Also, it is an opportunity for anyone, if they are able, to bring food items the night before or early in the morning on the day of the funeral on their way to work.

To assist grieving families, when requested (and based on hall availability) we will provide a luncheon after the funeral service. A standard menu has been developed to simplify this operation. Although there will be no formal charge for this service, families who are able are encouraged to make a donation.

If you are interested, and not already signed up in helping with this ministry, please complete the form below and put it in the collection basket or bring it to the parish office. Any questions, please contact Cathy Smith at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net) or call 382-8324.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to assist with memorial meals on a rotating basis: **(please circle all that apply)**

Make phone calls to volunteers

### **Food Donations:**

Salads (garden, potato, cole slaw, or pasta)

Desserts (bar cookies, cakes, brownies)

Finger Roll Sandwiches ( 2 doz.) (tuna, egg, chicken, or ham)

Soup (winter only)

### **Serving/Clean up:**

Food Serving (at meal)

Clean up (hall & kitchen)



# Bringing Home the Word

*Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (C)*

November 24, 2019

## A Different Kind of King

By Mary Katharine Deeley

The readings for the solemnity of Christ the King in each of the three Sunday cycles help us to see how different Jesus' kingship is from that of earthly rulers. The reign of Jesus is not tied to judgment or authority, for he subjects himself to the judgment and authority of others. His reign is not tied to an ability to make and defend laws, for he submits to the existing law, which condemns him to death on a cross. His reign is not tied to the power to conquer nations or to lead great armies against oppressors. Christ the King comes to save, to conquer "death and the devil"

(*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 636, 1019).

Rather, the kingdom of God is about comfort, peace, redemption, truth, real justice, and mercy. Even from the cross, Jesus forgave his enemies and held on to no anger or hate. He welcomed repentant sinners into the kingdom. He resisted the temptation to impress others with the power that came from who he was and who he knew. In the great contradiction of our faith, the power of Christ the King is manifest in his willingness to become powerless for love of us.

What does that mean for us, his disciples? We, too, must let go of power, reject destruction, and turn toward God. As we make our way, we are called to practice forgiveness, hospitality, and humility in loving all of God's children. As we close this year and enter another Advent, this may be the best gift we can give to Christ our King. +

## Sunday Readings

### 2 Samuel 5:1-3

The LORD said to [David]: "You shall shepherd my people Israel; you shall be ruler over Israel."

### Colossians 1:12-20

In him were created all things in heaven and on earth, / the visible and the invisible.

### Luke 23:35-43

Above him there was an inscription that read, "This is the King of the Jews."

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is about comfort, peace,  
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real justice, and mercy.*

## A Word from Pope Francis

[Jesus] shows us that he enjoys dominion because he is a servant, glory because he is capable of abasement, kingship because he is fully prepared to lay down his life. By his passion and death, he takes the lowest place, attains the heights of grandeur in service, and bestows this upon his Church.

—Homily,  
October 18,  
2015



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- How often do I catch myself trying to impress others?
- Like Jesus, am I willing to reject power and prestige and, instead, turn toward God?

# Finding God's Kingdom

By Fr. William H. Shannon

You don't hear much about kings these days. They seldom make the news. Perhaps this is the reason you may find it difficult to get excited when Jesus tells us, "The kingdom of God is at hand" (Mark 1:15). Yet that kingdom must have meant something exciting to Jesus. He was continually speaking about it. So it's fair to ask: Just what made Jesus so enthusiastic about the kingdom of God?

Perhaps I should begin by asking readers, "What do you think Jesus meant by the kingdom?" I put the question to a friend who is ninety-three years old. "I think Jesus meant that the kingdom is the way God wants the world to be," she said. "The world is partially there (there are lots of good people), but it is not yet fully there." An excellent answer to a difficult question.

Jesus himself never offers one simple answer to that question. He gives lots of hints, but we shouldn't be surprised that he never defines it. Jesus was not a philosopher proclaiming abstract truths. He was a storyteller. He describes the kingdom in stories taken from real-life situations his hearers would understand.

Perhaps you've noticed his parables tell us not what the kingdom is, but



what it is like. It's like the sower who puts seed in the ground and waits for it to grow. It's like a pearl merchant who gives up all his pearls to have one special gem. It's like a lowly mustard seed that grows into a big tree, a fishnet that catches good and bad fish, a banquet for which some show up and others do not.

## Making the Kingdom Come

Each story gives us insights into what the kingdom meant to Jesus. It is a multifaceted reality that can never be fully captured in words or any single story. Perhaps the clearest way I can sum up what I think Jesus meant is to repeat the words of my wise friend: "The kingdom is what God wants the world to be."

But God is not content just to let this happen. God challenges us to bring it about. Do you know what God's greatest challenge to us was? It was Jesus. A Christian writer called Jesus the "one-man kingdom of God." This writer meant that Jesus was the first person totally human—and he was also divine—who fully accepted the kingdom of God. God says to us: Look to Jesus and in him you will see what the kingdom is. Listen to Jesus. He will tell you what it means to enter the kingdom.

## The Church, the Kingdom

Jesus' preaching invites all to accept the kingdom and God's rule. He gathers followers, then sends them out to proclaim the kingdom. After his resurrection he gave this task of proclaiming the kingdom to the Church. So could we say that the Church is the kingdom? Not exactly. The Church is the instrument of the kingdom, calling people to accept God's loving reign over them. The Church is also the sign of the kingdom. People should be able to look to the Church and see in it—to some degree—God's loving family.

When we celebrate the Eucharist we are reminded of the difference between the Church and the kingdom when we ask for Jesus' peace: "Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom, where you live forever and ever." Only in the kingdom, where the fullness of God's reign is achieved, do we find true peace and unity. +



*Lord, I am grateful for your gentle presence. Remember me even when I forget you.*

—From *Grateful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time*, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

## WEEKDAY READINGS

November 25–30

**Monday, Weekday:**

Dn 1:1–6, 8–20 / Lk 21:1–4

**Tuesday, Weekday:**

Dn 2:31–45 / Lk 21:5–11

**Wednesday, Weekday:** Dn 5:1–6, 13–14, 16–17, 23–28 / Lk 21:12–19

**Thursday, Weekday:**


Dn 6:12–28 / Lk 21:20–28

**Friday, Weekday:**

Dn 7:2–14 / Lk 21:29–33

**Saturday, St. Andrew:**

Rom 10:9–18 / Mt 4:18–22

Bringing Home  
the Word   
November 24, 2019

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