



**MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY**

**Sunday, November 20, 2022**

**Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
King Of The Universe**

**4:00 PM  
8:00 AM  
10:00 AM**

Gathering: To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King  
BB 736

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 481

Mass Parts Mass Of Creation

Communion I Received The Living God BB 324  
Unless A Grain Of Wheat BB 498

Recessional: Crown Him With Many Crowns BB 733

**✠ PARISH TITHING ✠**

Our Parish needs to take in **\$9700.00** each week in order to make ends meet. This amount represents an adjusted budget offertory of \$8500.00 per week plus the combination of budgeted Property and Fuel second collections (\$4800.00 per month divided into 4 weeks or \$1200.00 weekly). 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. Consider signing up for electronic giving (see below). Especially in these trying times, your Parish depends on your responsible stewardship and support!

**November 13, 2022**

**Offertory \$6,413.25  
Campaign for Human Dev. \$1,212.00**



Out of respect for the Lord and in consideration of fellow parishioners, please remember to silence or turn off your cell phones during Mass. Thank you!

**UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS**

November 20	Fuel
November 27	Christmas Flowers
December 4	Property Management
December 8	Immaculate Conception
December 11	Retired Religious
December 18	Fuel
December 25	Christmas & Needs of Parish

**PLEASE HELP US!**

As you leave church, kindly take your Bulletin with you - or return it to the basket at the entrance of the Church, return your music book and Mass card to their proper place, and pick up after yourself as you leave.

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish uses **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. 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.

**HURRICANE RELIEF**

All Catholics in the US are invited to help in the aftermath of the destruction caused by Hurricane Fiona and Hurricane Ian in the US Territory of Puerto Rico and the State of Florida. Visit [www.catholiccharitiesusa.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org) to learn how to help. Local Catholic Charities in the various Dioceses affected by the storms are already assisting people to rebuild their lives. Thank you for your prayers and concern for the people of Puerto Rico and Florida.

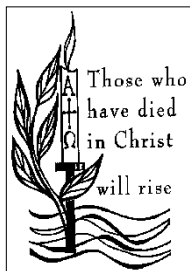
**Suggested Weekly Contribution Based on Income**

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 ✠



**ALL SOULS INTENTIONS**

The month of November is a time when the Church traditionally prays in a special way for the faithful departed. The celebration of All Souls Day on November 2 is a joyful and poignant reminder that we worship and live in communion with those who have gone before us in faith.

All Souls envelopes are available at the entrance of both Churches. Any intentions listed on the envelopes will be remembered at Liturgies offered as "All Souls Intentions" throughout the coming liturgical year. All Souls envelopes can be deposited in the regular collection basket at your convenience.

The Holy Liturgy can be offered for any deceased Catholic person. Please contact the Parish Office at 603-382-8324 to inquire about scheduling. Exact dates cannot always be accommodated, so calling early for the coming year is advised. The suggested donation for an announced commemoration is \$10.00 payable to Saint Luke Parish.

**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.



**HELP WANTED – ADVENT PREPARATIONS**

Volunteers are invited to help do some rearranging and decorating on **Sunday, November 20 following the 8:00 AM Liturgy in Newton and the 10:00 AM Liturgy in Plaistow**. Our tasks include Advent decorating 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.

**END OF LIFE PLANNING**

*Three Beliefs* is a document from the Diocese of Manchester that gives valuable assistance to Catholics and others on end-of-life issues. *Three Beliefs* explains Catholic teaching on life-sustaining treatment and care and includes the New Hampshire Advance Directive form modified in such a way to make it consistent with both Catholic teaching and New Hampshire law. *Three Beliefs* contains a helpful FAQ section and wallet cards that include important information for healthcare providers.

The New Hampshire Advance Directive form was revised by a law that is consistent with Catholic teaching and the changes to the New Hampshire form. If you completed an advance directive before 2021 and your intentions for your end-of-life care have not changed, you do not need to complete a new form as long as your advance directive was valid when it was executed. For example, if you completed the October 2007 version of *Three Beliefs* and signed the document before two witnesses or a notary public or justice of the peace, you do not need to complete a new advance directive form.

Copies of *Three Beliefs* are available at the church entrance.

All are invited to a presentation on *Three Beliefs* at Cotter Hall at St. Michael Parish in Exeter on **Tuesday, November 15 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM**.

**MEN OF ST. JOSEPH**

Our ministry aims to emulate St. Joseph and become better husbands, fathers, sons and brothers. There are no dues and the Men of St. Joseph do not participate in projects or other volunteer efforts as a group, but instead, gather together for sharing among men to help them be a better person, a better family man, and a better member of the Church. Join us on Saturday morning, **December 17, 2022 from 8:00 to 9:00 AM** in the parish hall on the Plaistow campus.

**AMAZONSMILE FOUNDATION**

**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.amazonmile.com](http://www.amazonmile.com). For questions, please call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. Be sure to choose:

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

**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.

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, November 20

DECORATE CHURCHES FOR ADVENT

10:00 AM Religious Ed – Grades K-6 *Plaistow*  
 6:00 PM Vespers *Newton*

Tuesday, November 22

6:30 PM The Cultural World of the *Plaistow*  
 Old Testament

Wednesday, November 23

PARISH OFFICE CLOSING  
 AT 12:00 NOON

Thursday, November 24

NO DAILY MASS  
 NO ADORATION  
 PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, November 26

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

Sunday, November 27

10:00 AM Religious Ed – Grades K-6 *Plaistow*  
 6:00 PM Vespers *Newton*  
 6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Newton*

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES

With the holiday season approaching, we have several early bulletin deadlines:

Deadline for the December 18 bulletin is **Monday, December 5 at 12:00 Noon**

Deadline for the December 25 bulletin is **Monday, December 12 at 12:00 Noon**

Deadline for the January 1 bulletin is **Monday, December 19 at 12:00 Noon.**

Deadline for the January 8 bulletin is **Thursday, December 29 at 12:00 Noon.**

RESTROOM BREAKS DURING MASS

**Attention Parents**

Please be sure to accompany your young children when they need to use the restroom during Mass. This is for their safety and your peace of mind!

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).

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, November 19 ~ Our Lord Jesus Christ, King Of The Universe

2 Sm 5:1-3; Col 1:12-20; Lk 23:35-43 (Vigil)  
 4:00 PM Mark Hammond by Colleen Hammond  
*Plaistow*

Sunday, November 20 ~ 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Sm 5:1-3; Col 1:12-20; Lk 23:35-43  
 8:00 AM Deceased Members of the Hudgens and Bedell Families by Charlie and Lisa Angwin  
*Newton*  
 10:00 AM Raymond and Stephen Huberdeau by Linda Huberdeau  
*Plaistow*

Monday, November 21 ~ Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5; Lk 21:1-4  
 8:00 AM Walter and Gladys Metcalf by Barbara Metcalf  
*Newton*

Tuesday, November 22 ~ Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

Rv 14:14-19; Lk 21:5-11  
 8:00 AM Tom May by Kathy Doran  
*Plaistow*

Wednesday, November 23 ~ Clement I, Pope and Martyr; Columban, Abbot; Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest & Martyr

Rv 15:1-4; Lk 21:12-19  
 6:30 PM Mass of Thanksgiving  
*Plaistow*

Thursday, November 24 ~ Andrew Dūng-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs

Rv 18:1-2, 21-23, 19:1-3, 9a; Lk 21:20-28  
 NO MASS

Friday, November 25 ~ Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr

Rv 20:1-4, 11—21:2; Lk 21:29-33  
 NO MASS

Saturday, November 26 ~ Weekday

Rv 22:1-7; Lk 21:34-36 (Day)  
 Is 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44 (Vigil)  
 4:00 PM Geraldine and Dennis Miele by their family  
*Plaistow*

Sunday, November 27 ~ First Sunday in Advent

Is 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44  
 8:00 AM Karen Hoppler by Rachel Lanseigne  
*Newton*  
 10:00 AM Jesselyn Driscoll by her family  
*Plaistow*



**WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS**

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Office, Holy Angels Cemetery Office, Saint Luke Food Pantry, and the Parish Liturgical schedule complies with the longstanding inclement weather policy of Saint Luke Religious Education Program and Holy Angels Pre-School-Kindergarten: **If the Timberlane and/or Sanborn regional school districts close because of inclement weather, ALL Parish Offices and Parish programs will be closed or suspended. All activities by any Parish or non-Parish groups will be cancelled for that day/evening on both campuses.**

In the event of a weather related closing, the scheduled weekday Liturgy will not be held and the intention (if any) will be moved to a conveniently available date. **Sunday (or Saturday evening) liturgies can never be cancelled, but all are advised to use prudence when deciding to travel to Church during winter storms.**

**SPIRITUAL DIRECTION**

Among believers and spiritual seekers from many religious traditions, there is a growing awareness of the importance of spirituality. To respond to this growing awareness, there is need for qualified, compassionate spiritual experts who can accompany and help others explore their faith. Merrimack College's graduate programs in spirituality prepare you for a life of spiritual exploration, engagement, and service. You will acquire the theological knowledge and ministerial experience you need to enrich your own faith and to support others in their spiritual journey. Designed to fit your schedule and meet your needs, our spirituality programs offer evening classes as well as five tracks based on your professional goals and interests. You must choose one of the master's tracks or certificate programs by the time you have completed two of the core courses and/or the year-long seminar or practicum.

The application deadline for the Spring 2023 course is **January 5, 2023**. For more information, go to [www.merrimack.edu/spirit](http://www.merrimack.edu/spirit).



**GIVING TREES**

Giving Trees are located in the back of both churches. 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 10-11** (the Third Sunday of Advent).

**EUCCHARISTIC 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.**

**THE GOD MINUTE**

Every morning a small group of priests, religious, and lay people start their day in prayer. Soft music, sacred scripture, and a thoughtful reflection are weaved into a 10-minute prayer called "The God Minute." It's then uploaded for you to access and pray along with us on your own time. And it's free. Listen with your coffee in the morning, while driving to work, or taking a walk. See how easy and beautiful prayer can be! [www.thegodminute.org](http://www.thegodminute.org)

**✕ PARISH DIRECTORY ✕**

Parish Office	603-382-8324
Parish Prayer Line	603-382-8324 x 314
St. Vincent de Paul Society	603-382-8324 x 315
St. Luke's Food Pantry	603-819-4949
Preschool	603-382-9783
Presentation of Mary Convent	603-382-2744

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 Szczapa	<a href="mailto:jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net">jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Jackie Tremblay	<a href="mailto:jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net">jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Val Barczak	<a href="mailto:mvmbarczak@comcast.net">mvmbarczak@comcast.net</a>
Parish Council	<a href="mailto:parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net">parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net</a>

❖ Community News ❖



**SAINT JUDE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE**

The Knights of Columbus of our Parish are sponsoring a monthly food drive to support the Saint Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry. A list of items needed, along with a paper shopping bag, will be distributed at the end of Masses on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of each month to those who wish to participate. We ask that you bring back the non-perishable food items the following weekend (4<sup>th</sup> weekend of the month). You are also welcome to drop off donations at the Parish Office during normal business hours or at one our Parish churches. Monetary donations are also welcome (make checks payable to Saint Luke Food Pantry), or gift cards to local supermarkets. Thank you for reaching out to help families in our community who need assistance. The Knights and the Food Pantry appreciate your generosity and support.

**FALL OPEN HOUSE**

You are invited to join us on **Sunday, November 20 at 11:30 AM** to learn about St. Thomas Aquinas High School! From presentations from faculty, demonstrations, and information about all things STA, this is a great opportunity to develop an understanding of Saints Pride from the inside out! Bring your questions, your curiosity, and all family members. Please register online at <https://www.stalux.org/admissions/admissions-calendar>.

**CURSILLO**

If you have a desire to know Jesus more closely, a Cursillo is for you. The Cursillo weekend is a short course in Christianity. The purpose of the weekend is to facilitate a meaningful personal encounter with Christ and his body, the Church. The three day weekend is also the bridge connecting the faithful with the supportive post-Cursillo community, where we live our faith joyfully with our fellow Christians. Cursillo weekends are being offered at the Sato Center in Hookset, NH. To find out more, contact Mark Collopy at 603-833-7341 or explore [www.nhcursillo.org](http://www.nhcursillo.org).



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.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

A Men's AA Step Meeting is being on Sunday mornings from 7:00 to 8:00 AM at the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish Hall in Plaistow, NH (Holy Angels). Bring your own coffee. For more information, call 617-921-9899.

**St. Vincent de Paul Society**



**Your "Dropped Dollar" Hard At Work**

Thank you for your continued support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society! Please know that your "dropped dollars" are being used wisely to help the poor in our area. Your generosity does not go unnoticed.

Drop-a-Dollar in the St. Vincent de Paul box on your way out of church.

Remember ~ 100% of your donation is used to help those who need a hand up, not a hand out.

Our next meeting on **Wednesday, December 21 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.**



**DO SOMETHING GOOD WITH US**

The Knights of Columbus are a vital and vibrant part of St Luke the Evangelist Parish.

We welcome any practicing Catholic man, 18 or older, to join the Knights.

We are sons, fathers, husbands and grandfathers, whose main purpose is charitable works in support of our parish and community.

Where there is a need, there is a Knight.

Joining is simple – talk to a brother Knight, contact Dan Sullivan at 603-770-4803, email him at [dans49@comcast.com](mailto:dans49@comcast.com), or go to:

[www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus).

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
ST. JUDE COUNCIL #6617  
[www.kofc6617.org](http://www.kofc6617.org)**



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 20 in Newton  
For Evening Prayer and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament  
as we honor Christ our King.***

## The Society of St Vincent de Paul

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**The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Luke the Evangelist Parish, invites you to join our Prayer Shawl Ministry!**

Shawls can be made with yarn, quilt fabric, or fleece. They are filled with prayer, care and love. They will be given to anyone in need of comfort, solace or encouragement.

- **If you are interested in prayerful camaraderie and in joining the group or,**
- **If you would like to contribute knitted hats, scarves, shawls or materials to the group, you may make those donations by contacting Barbara Metcalf or Alice Litwinovich. (see below)**
  - **They can also be dropped off at the Parish Office during regular office hours.**
- **If someone you know, is in need of one of our shawls, scarves or crochet crosses contact:**

◆ **Barbara Metcalf**

**603-642-8334**

**[cmbklb.bmk@gmail.com](mailto:cmbklb.bmk@gmail.com)**

**Alice Litwinovich**

**603-819-9578**

**If you would like to join our group but cannot come to the meetings because of time constraints, we are open to additional meeting times, if there is interest.**

### **Meeting Schedule:**

- **First Thursday of each month**
- **10 A.M. – 12 Noon**
- **Parish office building (dining room)**
- **Material can be supplied**

**We are honored to provide this service to anyone in need.**



Once again this year our Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Food Pantry will provide Thanksgiving Food Baskets to needy families in our area. The cost of purchasing items for all of the baskets typically runs to well over \$1500.00, and with hard times facing so many, we anticipate the need to be even greater than previous years.

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of Thanksgiving Baskets, please place your contribution in an envelope marked “**THANKSGIVING BASKETS,**” and place it in the offering basket. You may also visit the Parish Offices and contribute in person.

*Thank you for your support of the poor among us.*



# The Gospel at Home

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

For the Solemnity of Christ the King, the *Lectio* 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 young person 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 young person 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 your youngster 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 for which each member of the family is sorry. 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.





# Bringing Home the Word

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (C)  
November 20, 2022

## The Cross: Altar and Throne

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

In his Gospel, St. Luke, the good doctor, often brings in kingly themes related to Christ's crucifixion. He does this to highlight that Jesus fulfilled the Jewish belief that the Messiah would unite the three important leadership roles—priest, prophet, and king. The inscription the Romans nailed to the cross above Jesus' head inadvertently supports the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy—he was indeed the King of the Jews.

He was also the priest who offered his body as a sacrifice for the Chosen People: "It was Caiaphas who had counseled the Jews that it was better that one man should die rather than

the people" (John 18:14). He is both the priest offering obedience to the Father, and he is also the victim who is offered on the altar of the cross. The cross is altar and throne because, as well as priest and victim, Jesus is also the king reuniting his kingdom under God the Father. In so doing, he undoes the sin of Adam, which had been the cause of this division.

Jesus' prophetic words, "It is finished," means he has fulfilled his mission as priest, prophet, and king from the throne of the cross. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* (1047) sums it up when it says that as king and high priest, his sacrifice is total, universal, and definitive. Now all of God's creatures, man and beast, both natural and in the heavens, can return to the one from whom they came forth and who declared each one good. +

## Sunday Readings

**2 Sm 5:1–3**

You shall shepherd my people Israel; you shall be ruler over Israel.

**Col 1:12–20**

Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

**Lk 23:35–43**

"Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

*The cross is altar and throne  
because, as well as priest  
and victim, Jesus is also the  
king reuniting his kingdom  
under God the Father.*

## A Word from Pope Francis

Jesus' promise to the good thief gives us great hope: it tells us that God's grace is always greater than the prayer which sought it. The Lord...is so generous, he always gives more than what he has been asked: you ask him to remember you, and he brings you into his kingdom!

HOMILY, ROME, NOVEMBER 24, 2013



REFLECTION  
QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS  
REFLECTION

- Do I trust Jesus to forgive all who sincerely seek forgiveness?
- Do I try to forgive others as Jesus forgives?

# Ministers and Priests of God

By Mitch and Kathy Finley

Remember the old TV sitcom *Maude*? That saucy character, portrayed by Bea Arthur, had a standard reply whenever someone insulted her or revealed an unpleasant truth about her. “God’ll get you for that,” she’d snap (cue audience laughter).

As hilarious as that comeback is, it reveals how we sometimes think of God: as a transcendent disciplinarian who watches people closely and punishes them when they do not toe the line. This is not the God Jesus came to reveal, this is not the God Jesus called “Abba.” When he was crucified, did Jesus say to his executioners, “God will get you for this”? On the contrary, from the cross Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34).

Advent, which begins next Sunday, presents us with an opportunity to grow in a spirit of compassion and forgiveness, to remember God’s mercy. If we stop to remember how we have been forgiven, we may find it easier to forgive others. If we remember the undeserved gifts we have received, we may find it easier to be generous. If we remember our failures to love, we might more easily forgive those who don’t love us as we long for them to do. These shifts can culminate in a grace-filled Christmas and a grace-filled life—one where we extend hospitality



to those we find difficult to welcome, embrace those we struggle to love, and open ourselves to the embrace of others.

And isn’t this how believers are called to live? Saint Peter writes to the Christian communities—and to us: “You are ‘a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own...’” (1 Peter 2:9).

Saint Peter doesn’t ask us to change our station in life to be God’s priests and ministers. We are to live out this calling within our families and communities, at school or at work, while shopping or waiting in line.

Just as we prepare what we hope will be the right gift for someone we love, so too, as priests and ministers of the Lord, we prepare to give the gift

of our faith in the way it is needed. Exercising this ministry might mean something as simple as pausing to acknowledge the other person, listening, encouraging, calming, affirming. Whatever we do during our day, we can do it ministerially and in a way that makes people feel attended to when they are with us. As priests and ministers, we are always and everywhere witnesses to the Good News of a merciful and loving God, revealed to the world by Jesus, who was and is “God-with-us.” +

*This article is an excerpt from Daybreaks: Daily Reflections for Advent and Christmas by Mitch and Kathy Finley, available now from Liguori Publications. Visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org) to learn more and review our complete list of Daybreaks authors, including Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Fr. Daniel Horan, and others.*



*Merciful God, we are humbly grateful for your forgiveness and we ask for the grace to forgive those who have hurt us. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.*

The Redemptorists

## WEEKDAY READINGS

November 21–26

**Monday**, Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary:  
Rev 14:1–3, 4b–5 / Lk 21:1–4

**Tuesday**, St. Cecilia:  
Rev 14:14–19 / Lk 21:5–11


**Wednesday**, Weekday:  
Rev 15:1–4 / Lk 21:12–19

**Thursday**, Thanksgiving Day:  
Sir 50:22–24 / 1 Cor 1:3–9 / Lk 17:11–19

or St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc and Companions:  
Rev 18:1–2, 21–23; 19:1–3, 9a / Lk 21:20–28

**Friday**, Weekday: Rev 20:1–4, 11–21:2 / Lk 21:29–33

**Saturday**, Weekday: Rev 22:1–7 / Lk 21:34–36

Bringing Home  
the Word   
November 20, 2022

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