

The annual cycle of the Church's year now ends with the **Feast of Christ the King**. The year that begins with the hope of the coming Messiah ends with the proclamation of his universal sovereignty. The ascension of Christ has revealed him to be Lord of earth and heaven, and final judgement is one of his proper kingly purposes. The Feast of Christ the King returns us to the Advent theme of judgement, with which the cycle once more begins.

Next week, Advent begins the new Liturgical Church Year B.

During this period of Lockdown, we will be joining the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, in their call upon the Church of England to make **November 2020 a month of prayer for our nation**.

"We know that we are in the faithful hands of the risen Christ who knows our weaknesses, tiredness and struggles and whose steadfast love endures forever."

From Thursday 5th November and continuing to Sunday, 6th December, praying daily at 6pm.

Prayer for Week III (23-29 November)

Lord Jesus Christ, in these dark and difficult days, we turn our hearts to you.

In ages past, you have delivered our nation from disaster. Do it again, we pray.

Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to our leaders, Give strength beyond human strength to the NHS and all our frontline workers.

Give comfort beyond human comfort to the elderly and all who grieve.

Lord Jesus Christ, in these dark and difficult days, turn your face towards us,

have mercy upon us, and heal our land, we pray.

Amen.

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort

knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

A prayer for the Second Lockdown

Lord Jesus, who entered the locked room and made yourself known to your friends;
be with us in this lockdown
that we may be aware of your presence
and know your blessing upon us. **Amen.**



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

Welcome to the United Benefice of Holy Innocents & St. Mark, South Norwood

Sharing God's grace and love in our community



22nd November 2020

Parish Priest: Mother Roxanne Hunte
Asst. Priest: Mother Susan Wheeler-Kiley

The Feast of Christ the King

President, Mother Susan; Preacher, Mother Roxanne

8.00am and 10.00am Parish Mass

via:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoyzfpScnrT4W9D8X11RmDQ>

or



This week's diary

During this period of Lockdown, the 8.00am (BCP) and 10.00am (Common Worship) Sunday Masses for both parishes, will be Livestreamed from St. Mark.
Prayers continue for all of you as we continue to give thanks for what God has done for us, in spite of the unprecedented times in which we find ourselves.

CHURCH NOTICES

Pastoral Care: Mother Roxanne is still available on Tel. 020 8916 1830 or Mobile 07723 038215 or mtrroxanne@gmail.com Mtr. Roxanne is not available on Mondays; or Mother Susan (07890 780572) on Fridays.

For your prayers

For Archbishops Justin and Stephen. For the bishops in our link Dioceses of Zimbabwe; and Fr. Dupwa and the people of St. Philip, Mkoba Gweru, our link parish in the Diocese of Central Zimbabwe. **For our bishops in this Diocese,** Christopher and Jonathan, Richard and Karowei. **For those in any kind of need** – Enid, Alec, Una, Ted, Mick, Linda, Helen, Jennifer and Reuben, Marie-Gabrielle, Kay, Vera, Barry and Elizabeth, Sheila, Andrew Scorgie, Rhoma, Joanna Simpson. **The bereaved** – the Wathen and Fuhr families; **The recently departed** - Bob Wathen and David Fuhr. **Years Mind.**

During this period of Lockdown, both of our Parish Churches will be opened for Private Prayer, on:

Sundays, from 4-6pm, Saint Mark

Thursdays, 10am-12noon, Holy Innocents

Do pop in to pray, to light a candle or to sit quietly in the presence of God. Please spread the word to your family, friends and neighbours.

COLLECT

Eternal Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the
throne of heaven that he might rule
over all things as Lord and King:
keep the Church in the unity of the
Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to
worship at his feet;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 34:11-16. 20-24

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

Psalm 95:1-7a

R *The Lord is a great God,
and a great king above all gods.*

Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of
our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with
thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him
with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God,
and a great king above all gods. **R**

In his hand are the depths of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have moulded the
dry land. **R**

Come, let us bow down and bend
the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand. **R**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31-46

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

POST COMMUNION

Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the
fruit of good works,
may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.