



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

A PARISH OF THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH IN THE CARE OF THE SALESIANS OF DON BOSCO

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24th November 2024 - Feast of Christ the King

Dear friends,

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians. Everyone is welcome, no matter who you are or where you are on your faith journey.

The Solemnity of Jesus Christ King of the Universe, which we celebrate today, expresses the all-embracing authority of Christ as King and Lord of All.

In today's Gospel we hear the confrontation between Pilate, the representative of temporal power and authority, and Jesus. When he is asked if he is a king, Jesus responds: 'Yes, I am a king, but my kingdom is not of this world'.

Throughout his ministry, Jesus spoke and proclaimed the Kingdom of God, he was a witness to God's love for us. What is the nature of this kingdom? It is one of service and humility. Jesus invites us to share in that kingdom by loving God and loving our neighbour. He is Love and he rules in our hearts through love. 'For this I came into the world.'

The feast of Christ the King helps us reflect on where we place Jesus in our lives. Christ should be the centre of all that we do and speak, the focus of our community. He is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning, and the end. Without him we have nothing, and without him we are nothing.

In the Creed we proclaim our belief that 'through him all things were made; for our salvation he came from heaven; for our sake he was crucified, suffered death, and was buried, and rose again on the third day. His kingdom will have no end'. How do we make that a reality today in our community and the world around us? It is through compassionate service that God's kingdom or God's reign is made present.

On 23rd November 1927, Blessed Fr Miguel Pro, a Jesuit Priest, was executed at a time when the Church was being persecuted in Mexico. Stretching out his arms, his last words before was execution was 'Viva Cristo Rex!' 'Long live Christ the King!' Far from suppressing the Church, his funeral became a public demonstration of faith.

Together we can pray: 'Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven'

Do join us after the 9.30 am Mass today to celebrate the Feast of Christ the King and mark the last Sunday of the liturgical year.

Today is also **World Youth Sunday**, so let us pray for all our young people that they will grow strong in faith.

Mass Times, Intentions and Events for the Week

Sat 23 rd November	10.00	Grefa & Clifford Fernandez (WA)
Vigil Mass Feast of Christ the King	5.00pm	Henrietta Owen RIP
Sun 24 th November Feast of Christ the King	9.30	People of the Parish
Mon 25 th November	9.30	
Tue 26 th November	9.30	
Wed 27 th November	9.30	
Thu 28 th November	9.30 7.30pm	Adoration
Fri 29 th November	9.30	Julie Humphrey RIP
Sat 30 th November St Andrew, Apostle	10.00	
Vigil Mass 1st Sunday of Advent	5.00pm	Colette Astill RIP
Sun 1 st December 1st Sunday of Advent	9.30	People of the Parish

Confessions: Saturday after 10.00 am Mass

ADORATION - Thursday 7.30-8.30pm A time for silent reflection before the Blessed Sacrament.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS All those who are sick, those who are housebound, those who are unable to join us in person at our celebration of the Eucharist, those who are mentioned in our Parish Book of Prayer Intentions and all who have asked for our prayers.

ANNIVERSARIES ABOUT THIS TIME: Harley Anthony, Fr Thomas O'Flynn SDB, Eileen Westby, Maurice Cockrem, Fr Joseph McVeigh SDB, Maria Marshal-Deane, Maureen Judge, Louise Harding, Sarah Ogden, Joseph Coogan, Fr Brian Jerstice SDB, Kathleen Reid, Fr John Gilhenev SDB, Agnes Devaney, Ciara Dimmick, Theodore Stephan, Raymond Hackett, and Nora O-Connor. May they rest in peace.

REMEMBRANCE BOOK In November we remember in a particular way, deceased family member, friends, members of our Parish community. The Book of Remembrance for you to write their names is available in the Narthex. Those whose names are entered in the Book will be remembered at all Masses celebrated during November.

COLETTE ASTILL RIP Colette's Funeral Mass will take place at Our Lady and St Dominic's Church, Cove at 10.00 on Friday, 6 December.

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL The bill's second reading is scheduled for Friday 29 November 2024. Despite arguments you may see in the media, there is very little time to amend the Bill or allow for consultation if the Bill passes its second reading. It is also very rare for bills to be voted down at third reading. It is important, therefore that our MPs vote against the Bill on 29th November. There is still time to write to your member of Parliament asking them to oppose assisted suicide becoming law.

MY DAY BY DAY The Advent booklets are available in the Narthex.

CHRISTMAS FAIR, Saturday, 7th December from 11.00am. Please help by items for the Tombola, Bottles, Fancy Goods, Christmas Gifts, Toys and Games, Chocolates, Cakes Decorative plant holders and Vases and Raffle Prizes.

We still need volunteers to help man the Bottle Tombola, Raffle, Chocolate Tombola, Toys & Games

If you're free on Friday 6th December, or the morning of Saturday 7th December, please do come along and help to set up the hall - and we'll also need helpers to clear away afterwards.

We would love as many of you as possible to come and join in on the day – as well as the above stalls, there will be Refreshments, Children's Activities, Fr Christmas in his grotto, Craft Stall

If you would like to help in any way, please talk to Helen Priestley, Cathy Munns or David May.

ADVENT GROUPS During Advent do join us on a Friday between 7pm-8pm a Lectio Divina hour led by Brother Martin SDB. The sessions are informal and are based on the traditional practice of scriptural reading, meditation, and prayer. Please speak to Anne-Marie Maher-Williams if you have any questions. Do join us. You would be very welcome.

MINCE PIES AND COFFEE Wednesday, 11th December. The CWL invite you to enjoy a mince Pie and cup of coffee or tea after the morning Mass. Proceeds to Charity.

CHRISTMAS CARDS There is a selection of Christmas Cards, Advent Calendars, Candles, Cribs etc for sale at the Repository counter after Mass on Saturday evening and Sunday morning

CAFOD'S WORLD GIFTS World Gifts are CAFOD's alternative charity gifts that transform lives. Perfect for Christmas, you can choose a unique, virtual gift that will make a real difference to a family living in poverty. Copies of the catalogue are available in the Narthex or visit the World Gifts Website at: worldgifts.cafod.org.uk

SUPPORT YOUR PARISH Financial contributions to the Parish may be made by placing a donation in the collection, by standing Order or BACS transfer. Please use the Parish Sort Code: 30-93-04 and Account Number: 00877868
Name: CDP Our Lady Help of Christians.
Gift Aid Declaration Forms are available in the Narthex, or you can download the form off the Website.

WEEKLY MASS COLLECTIONS 31st October to 20th November

Barmenda	£215.00
CAFOD	£10.00
Envelopes	£40.00
Loose Plate	£258.05
S/O Gift Aid	£1789.00
S/O Non-Gift Aid	£104.00

Total £2416.05
Thank you.

DATES FOR YOUR DARY

24th November	World Youth Sunday
24th November	Parish Brunch - Feast of Christ the King
29th November	Advent 'Lectio Divina' Session
6th December	Advent 'Lectio Divina' Session
7th December	Christmas Fair
11th December	CWL - Mince Pies and Hot Drinks
13th December	Advent 'Lectio Divina' Session
20th December	Advent 'Lectio Divina' Session
28th March 2025	Youth Vigil – 24-Hours for the Lord, Waterlooville

**Next week we begin the Season of Advent,
the start of a new Liturgical Year (Happy New Year!)
and open the new Lectionary**