

St Mary's Newsletter 22nd November 2020

As usual, this is in hard copy, via email & on the church website: <https://www.stmarysacocksgreen.org>

The service for 'Christ The King' is on YouTube via the link

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JjxVc2zqkPs&list=PL0q_5jU3L9SW_fneAALSUrmittOZnY81Y

This is also on the website or by going to 'St Mary's Acocks Green' channel on YouTube and selecting the playlist – it includes two hymns. You may wish to sit down and watch at 10am on Sunday morning.

Service + Collect & Readings on separate sheets

Hymns for the week:

Jesus Lives, Thy Terrors Now

Thy Kingdom Come, O God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GTT7LfQgcT4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oe-Vy5LkYE&t=15s>

The Thought

We end the Church year today with a celebration of Christ the King!

In the midst of current restrictions in life, the nights 'drawing in', and the darkness of life, we need constantly to be reminded of who is truly in charge of everything: the Lord God Almighty, revealed to us earthly human beings most vividly in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. Divine, yet humbled for a short time as the servant for all, then risen and ascended to the right-hand of God the Father. It is so easy to rely on the things and people of the earth. Then we become disheartened when things rust and decay, and people let us down. The alternative is putting faith and trust in the one who will never let us down: Christ our King.

In today's Gospel passage, once again picturing the end times, we find Jesus talking of his true position at one with his Heavenly Father, our awesome judge, there to decide who are the sheep and who are the goats: who has shown in earthly life their love of God, reflected in their care for others as Jesus' example in his earthly shows; or has ignored God, evidenced in their neglect of the needy. The relevant life eliciting inheritance of the Kingdom, or of Fire! This cautionary message is not only for Jesus' disciples, it is to make *us* reflect: are we really following Jesus' way or only paying 'lip-service' to it? Are we 'sheep' or 'goats'?

Christ *is* the King! The one and only ruler of all! He wants this to matter totally, ultimately, completely to you! Affecting your life to its depths! And with the grace of Christ's Spirit within you, making a caring difference to everyone you meet!

Intercessions

Give thanks that Christ is our King. Praise Jesus, now Risen, ascended and glorified as Lord of Creation. Lord, enable us to be part of your salvation, caring for others and leading them to your love. Eternal Shepherd, enable us to be carers and guides especially of the needy.

Pray for our Queen, government and Parliament. Guide our leaders in 'lockdown' decisions. Give thanks for positive changes in relatives being able to make Care Home visits. Pray for the lonely and isolated at this difficult time.

Remember all who research into coronavirus. Give thanks for the latest good-news in Vaccine refinement. Pray for all who are anti-lockdown and anti-vaccine and cannot see the wisdom of restrictions in the midst of this pandemic.

Call to mind the wider world. Pray for America, Peru and Belarus: for stability of government and transfer of power; and for careful withdrawal of troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Pray for the Sick, especially.... **Anthony Page, Pat Mudway, Jeff Seeney, Neville Round, Stella Skillen, Pat Kennedy, Rev John Self, Rev Bill Sands, Christine Law, Irene Storm, Christina Hanson and family, Mary Wood, Susan and Doreen Draper, Susan, Dean Prentice, Waj Murad, Muriel Cook, Roger Peckett, Hazel King, Jean Myers, Maxine Powis, Donna Cockran, Peter, David, Jean & Denis Ward, Mike Kidd-White, Lynn, Evie-May Flowers and others we call to mind.**

And recently Departed..... **Bill Jackson and Jean Endor**

And in our Year's Mind..... **Frank Law, Edith Brainch, James Brainch, Jessie Lewis, John Timperley,**

News of the Sick? *If you have any news of the people above for whom we are praying, please could you pass it on to Fr Andrew.*

Today's Service - You may wish to sit down, light a candle, and watch at 10am on Sunday morning.

Cuppa and Catch Up Zoom Meeting - Aimee has set this up for us at 11.15am on Sunday. Here is the link which Andrew will also email out to you with the service details.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76475180821?pwd=N3lPWFIJQUUpEci9xRkV6K01aODJ1dz09>

St Mary's Family News

Birthdays Bethany Jones 23rd November, Celia Mallinson 24th November

Pat Mudway has been in hospital for a few days but has just returned home. Please include her in your prayers. Michael Brailsford sends his love and is thinking of everyone.

Christingle Service - Next Sunday's St Mary's service will be a Christingle service. We have emailed our families with children asking them to make Christingles at home and to send us their photos for us to show in the service.

Swan Group joint Advent Service - on Zoom next week Fr Alex (new Vicar of St Cyprian's & St Michael's) and Fr Andrew are leading a service on Zoom at 4pm next Sunday 29th November. If you are able to get on Zoom please join us for this new venture. Fr Andrew will be emailing out the link.

Christmas Wreaths – Made by Emma - Last few remaining – see pictures in November magazine. Contact stmarymagazine@yahoo.co.uk to order a wreath.

Church Finances

*****Thank you for your continued generosity!!*****

Stewardship Envelopes - There will be a collection at church on Sunday *or deliver them to the Vicarage.*

Cheques are payable to 'St Mary's PCC' & ***paying online by BACS***, 'St Mary's Parochial Church Council' bank details are: **Barclays Bank, Solihull Branch Sort Code: 20-77-62 Account No: 53215512**

Please continue phone contact with your St Mary's friends and reassure them with your prayers

For further support, please ring Fr Andrew on 0121 706 9764 (answerphone available)