



St. David's Parish
Monastery Road, Pantasaph,
Holywell. CH8 8PE



NOVEMBER 26, 2023, THE SOLEMNITY OF

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

**“O JESUS, OUR ETERNAL KING,
REIGN IN OUR HEARTS. O JESUS, MOST
MERCIFUL KING, REIGN IN OUR HEARTS, *Amen.***

Mass Timings

Saturday Vigil Mass 4.00 Pm
Sunday Mass 10.00am
Weekdays 9.00 am In Denbigh House

READINGS

1st Reading Ez 34:11-12, 15-17

Reading 2 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28

GOSPEL Mt 25:31-46

INTRODUCTION: Scripture lessons summarized: The First reading (Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15:17) explained: The prophet Ezekiel was consoling the Jews exiled in Babylonia, explaining that their exile had been caused by infidelity and disloyalty to God on the part of their Kings and religious leaders who had used their power and authority to exalt themselves. In this passage, Ezekiel prophesies that God will eliminate the “middlemen,” the unfaithful shepherds of His People of Israel, and will Himself become Israel’s Shepherd, leading, feeding, healing, and protecting His sheep. Though the prophet originally was talking about a specific point in Israel’s history in which Yahweh would come to shepherd the Chosen People, Jesus' disciples believed that the risen Jesus was with the early Christians and was fulfilling Ezekiel’s prophecy of God, as the Divine Good Shepherd, rescuing, pasturing, seeking, bringing back, and healing his sheep. No longer limited to His earthly

body, the risen Jesus continues His loving ministry through such saving actions as we, his Mystical Body, perform in Him and with His power. Since King David had originally been a shepherd and, since the coming Messiah was widely believed to be a descendant of David, there was already an association of shepherd images with the Messiah.

The Second Reading (1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28) explained: In his letter to the Corinthian Church, Paul answered the question: "If Jesus is alive among us by his Resurrection, how does he affect our lives?" Many of the Corinthians believed in Plato's doctrine that human beings were originally pure spirits or souls who lived in the presence of God. They sinned and as punishment they had to carry a human body which they shed at death and thus were liberated to return to their state of happiness. So those Corinthians could not understand how Jesus had been raised with his glorified body. Paul explained to the Corinthians that as God the Father had raised Jesus from the dead, Jesus too would raise those who believed in him. In other words, the first mission of the risen Christ as King is to give us eternal life by raising us from death, thus undoing the primary consequence of the first Adam's sin. The final mission of Christ the King is to subject all cosmic powers to himself, and then to God his Father.

Gospel Exegesis: The Gospel of Christ the King's Last Judgment. As John P. Meier (*Matthew*, Michael Glazier, Inc., Wilmington: 1983) has noted, "the scene of Last Judgment described [in Mt 25:31-46] is not a parable but the unveiling of the truth which lay behind all the parables of chapters 24-25." For this reason, readers should recognize the scene as one of *judgment* but also of *revelation*. Here, Jesus is being revealed as *Son of Man in Glory*, as the King who *judges* justly, and the *criterion* of his judgment is given. The Gospel passage teaches us that the main criterion of the Last Judgment will be the works of Christian charity, kindness, and mercy we have done for others, in whom we have actually served Christ, knowingly or unknowingly.

The account tells us that Christ, the Judge, is going to ask us six questions, and all of them are based on how we have cooperated with God's grace in performing acts of charity, kindness, and mercy for others, because Jesus actually dwells in them. The first set of questions: "I was hungry, thirsty, homeless. Did you give me food, drink, accommodation?" The second set of questions: "I was naked, sick,

imprisoned. Did you clothe me? Did you help me by visiting me in my illness or in prison?" If the answers are yes, we will be eternally rewarded because we have cooperated with God's grace by practicing charity. But if the answers are no, we will be eternally punished.

A unique King with a unique Kingdom: Jesus Christ still lives as King in thousands of human hearts all over the world. The cross is his throne and the Sermon on the Mount is his rule of law. His citizens need obey only one law: "*Love others as I have loved you*" (***Jn 15:12***). His love is selfless, sacrificial, kind, compassionate, forgiving, and unconditional. That is why the Preface in today's Mass describes Jesus' Kingdom as "*a Kingdom of truth and life, a Kingdom of holiness and grace, a Kingdom of justice, love, and peace.*" He is a King with a saving and liberating mission: to free mankind from all types of bondage, so that we may live peacefully and happily on earth and inherit Eternal Life in Heaven. His rule consists in seeking the lost, offering salvation to those who call out to him, and making friends of enemies.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS- NOVEMBER 18-19

Loose cash	165.88
Gift Aid	116.00
Total	281.88

Let us Remember the Sick in Prayer

Patrick Ngale, Philip McGreavy, Antony Parry

ANNIVERSARIES (Nov 25-Dec 1)

William Owen Williams: Rose Gatley '99: Fr. Sebastian Holland:, Gertrude Hill '75: Ethel Field '76: Fr. Harold Naylor '88:, Amilia Heron '73:, John Parry '73: Lydia De Haan '03:,

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

**Sacrament of Confession at 11.30 am on Saturday
ON EMERGENCY ANY TIME 0741-749-4277**

MASS INTENTIONS NOVEMBER NOV 25-DEC 1

Date	Offered by	Intention
Nov 25, Saturday	Hazel	Perpetua Machado RIP
Nov 26, Sunday		For the Parishioners
Nov 27, Monday	Baby Eatakal	For Holy Souls
Nov 28, Tuesday	Roselba Roche	For Mam and Dad
Nov 29, Wednesday	Ann Parry	John Wilfred Churchil
Nov30, Thursday	Rosie Mongan	Andrew &Cindya & Baby
Dec 1, Friday	Chrisanti	Regina's special intention

November 26th Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe & National youth Sunday

December 2- First Saturday Devotion- 9.30 am to 2.30 pm. All are welcome to the programme. It will be an immediate preparation for the Advent.

DONATIONS TO THE PARISH

Account Name: Wrexham Diocesan Trust

Account Number: 08190771, Sort Code: 55-81-42

Website: <http://www.pantasaph.org>,

Email: pantasaphstdavids@gmail.com

Phone: 0741-749-4277, 01352 711053,

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