



The Voice

23rd November 2014

Christ the King, Year A

Psalter Week 2

ORDINARY TIME

November and the King

OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF

- **Recently deceased:**
Maxwell Cleary.
- **Anniversaries:**
Fr. Patrick (Paddy) Croke,
Paul Houghton,
Frank Morgan, Peter Groves,
- **And the sick:**
Fr. Bill Meacham, Lola Proctor,
Grace Williams, Alan Harland,
Beryl Allen, Evangeline Cusay,
Brother Michael Knights,
Gada Selim, Olive Brittliff,
Peter Crookes, Sr. Margaret
Wall, R.S.J. Ruth Fuller.

It is a happy coincidence that the Solemnity of Christ the King occurs in November. The feast points to Christ's triumph over sin and death, and is an assurance that our faithful departed, along with us, will one day share in his glory.

Let us look at some of the ways in which we, in this parish, celebrate this hope.

- *The names* of those for whom Mass has been requested are kept on the altar at all Masses during the month.
- *A special Mass* is celebrated on All Souls' Day for those who have died during the previous twelve months. Their relatives and friends are invited. During the General Intercessions, candles are distributed to the mourners present, one for each of the deceased. Like the lights that flicker on graves in Europe in the dark night between All Saints' and All Souls', the candles remind us of the life that survives physical death. In a way this special Mass is part of the contribution of the Parish to the "closure" that is so important to healthy mourning.
- *The Book of the Dead* is placed near the Baptism Font, in which parishioners and visitors can write the names of those for whom we are asked to pray during the month. It reminds us of the "Book of Life" in Apocalypse 11:12, 15.

- *A lamp is lit* near the Book and the Font. The lamp is a (metal) copy of the many ceramic lamps to be found in the catacombs, which were lit near the graves of early Christians (especially the martyrs) by their relatives and fellow-believers. Its very shape reminds us of the faith that we have in common with our predecessors. They, like us, believed in eternal life, and because of that faith they were willing to die for the truth.

- We assemble at Point Clare cemetery to *bless the graves* of deceased parishioners. This very old custom fits in nicely with a graveyard that surrounds a church (as in many parts of Europe): all the priest and people have to do, after Mass, is to process outside for the ceremony. Now that the Catholic sections of Point Clare are booked out, we have to traverse the General Cemetery as well.

St Paul sums it up in today's second reading: *Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ ... For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death.*

FR JOHN HILL, P.P.

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Psalm Response

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The Lord is my Shep-herd, there is no-thing I shall want.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! *Alleluia!*



Around the Parish

Christmas Hampers will be collected the weekend 6/7 December. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

St. Vincent de Paul Gift Appeal: A large bin in our gathering area is for your generous donations of toys for children and gifts for adults. No perishable items please.

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Cash Appeal: A special collection at all Masses the weekend 6/7 December.

Children's Liturgy Roster 30/11/14: Leif Spicer (L) Marina Mondal (L) Rebecca Lalor (H).

Children's Liturgy of the Word require helpers. Contact Christine French 4341 4548.

Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 28/11/14: Gary Martin, Warren Sparrow, Don Anderson, Pam Hickey.

Church Cleaners URGENTLY REQUIRED: In order to make a clean sweep we need some new brooms...can you help? At least six more helpers are required. Our team clean on Friday morning from 8.30am for around 1-1½ hours. The more volunteers we have the less commitment upon all so please consider helping. To volunteer or for further enquiries, please call Christine French on 4342 4548.

Volunteers Party: Parish volunteers are invited to help us to celebrate the way in which parishioners share their time and their gifts for the sake of the Gospel with a party in the Walter Baker Parish Hall from 1.30pm, Friday, 5th December. RSVP for catering purposes to Parish Office.

Bus Trip to Nelson Bay Wednesday, 26th November. Leaving 8.30am. Stopping for morning tea. Cost \$15. Contact: Susie Casey 0403 417 639 or 4344 1743.

Acolytes, Senior Servers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Please take a copy of a Memorandum available in Altar Servers Sacristy.

Readers, Extra-ordinary Ministers of Communion and Wardens: Please write your name on roster sheets provided if you intend to serve at Christmas Masses. Sheets in warden cupboard and readers and communion ministers in Servers Sacristy

'El Shaddai' Prayer Group meetings for December are 6th, 13th and 20th. Enquiries: Mary Owen 4341 7612.

Lectio Divina Prayer Group meet next Thursday, 10.30am in the Chapel. As this will be the last time this year, we will have lunch at the café for those who can stay.

Liturgy Team meeting Thursday, 27th November, 7.30pm in the Parish Office.

Family Ministry meeting Thursday, 27th November, 1pm in the Riley room of the Ethel Cox Centre.

Catechists meeting Thursday 27th November, 9am in the Leo Mahon room..

Baptisms: We welcome into our Faith community and pray for Jameson Fisher and Thomas Spithill baptized last Sunday.

Peninsula News 17th November: No Parking beside church:

An existing No Parking restriction on an unnamed laneway behind the St. John the Baptist in Woy Woy will be extended to the intersection with Victoria Rd.

The decision followed a report by a resident who said people regularly parked in the laneway behind the church whenever there was a service which caused difficulties for residents accessing the laneway.

Currently, there is a section of **No Parking** starting about 50 metres south into the laneway.

The resident requested that the whole laneway be signposted as **No Parking**.

According to council's Local Traffic Committee, investigations found that the laneway was relatively narrow and therefore not a suitable location for several cars to be parked along it.

*Gosford Council agenda
TR/14/05, 11 Nov 2014*

C.W.F. Appeal: Recent collection received \$5,554.60 Thank you for your generosity.

Social Justice

Peace with Justice: The annual Sydney Peace Prize is a nationally and internationally acclaimed award. The jury—comprising seven individuals representing corporate, media, academic and community sector interests—assesses the merits of the nominees and selects a person whose life and work have demonstrated a significant contribution to:

- The achievement of peace with justice locally, nationally or internationally,
- The promotion and attainment of human rights,
- The philosophy, language and

practice of non-violence.

Members of the public are encouraged to make nominations by July in the year prior. Nomination forms and details about the selection process are available on our website.

Julian Burnside AO QC has been awarded the 2014 Sydney Peace Prize "for his brave and principled advocacy for human rights and for those wronged by government, for insisting that we respect our international legal obligations toward those seeking asylum, and for his unflinching defence of the rule of law as a means to achieve a more peaceful and just society".

(Sydney Peace Prize Jury).

Julian Burnside AO QC is a prominent Australian barrister who passionately and persistently defends the rights of vulnerable peoples. He is one of Australia's leading advocates for refugees and asylum seekers. Challenging the conscience of the Australian public and government, he is a speaker of conviction using all forms of media and communication to promote ethical conduct, human rights, the rule of law and peace with justice.

*Sydney Peace Foundation
9351 4468*

From the Diocese and beyond

Mass for Special Needs Sunday, 30th Nov. Pennant Hills as advertised in last week's newsletter. Parishioners are reminded that a bus has been organized to take families to the Mass. Interested? Ph.

Carmel Jackson on 4328 1627.

Palms Australia: Opening our hands to the World: Volunteering in Timor-Leste; Kiribati; Kenya or India? Immerse yourself in a new culture, live simply, share your skills and help develop the capac-

ity of people and community who will show you their appreciation daily.

Information Session: Sunday 30th November, 10.30am. Aquinas Academy, 141 Harrington St. The Rocks. Free to the general public.

“He shall come to rule the earth with justice” (Ps 98:9)

David E. Fedor

Autumn is a time of transition. We have gone from the heat of summer to the cool of autumn, and winter’s chill is just around the corner. All nature enters winter’s sleep while the earth prepares for a new birth.

At this same time, our liturgical year is drawing to a close. During the final weeks of Ordinary Time, the lectionary readings remind us of dying, death, and the limits of this earthly life. We are told to overlook the faults of our neighbour (Sir 27:30–28:9, 24th Sunday A); to forgive 77 times (Mt 18:21–35, 24th Sunday A); and to follow Christ, who is our door to the throne of grace (Heb 4:14–16, 29th Sunday B). The Gospels are full of parables calling the listener to justice, mercy, and love.

In our current liturgical calendar, the celebration of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, is the last Sunday of the liturgical year. At first glance, this solemnity seems to focus on the second coming of Christ at the end of time: all three Gospels (years A, B, and C) speak of Christ as passing judgment, separating the good from the bad, and calling those who live by his example into the kingdom prepared for them. However, this is only part of the message of this solemnity: its real focus is who has power and how that power should be exercised. To understand this, we need to go back to the institution of the feast of Christ the King, as it was originally called.

We often think of feasts of the liturgical year as having been around for centuries. It might come as a surprise, then, to discover that the solemnity of Christ the King was created by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as a response to events happening in the world at that time.

From about 700 until 1870, many territories of the Italian peninsula had been under the direct rule of the pope. These were known as the Papal States and were considered a manifestation of the temporal power of the pope. In 1861, Italy was unified into the Kingdom of Piedmont-Sardinia. The Papal

States were greatly reduced, and the area around Rome (called Lazio) was eventually the only one remaining. In 1870, Rome was captured and declared the capital of Italy, and the temporal power of the pope was eliminated. With no territorial control, the popes considered themselves prisoners in the Vatican. This political dispute over territorial control of the Vatican between the Italian government and the papacy, which had begun in 1861, was commonly called the Roman Question. It was not until 1929 that the Lateran Treaty resolved the issue. The holy see acknowledged Italian sovereignty over the former Papal States, and Italy recognized papal sovereignty over the newly created Vatican State, the smallest nation in the world.

It was in the context of this political dispute (and other political crises throughout Europe) that the feast of Christ the King was born in 1925. Europe was recovering from World War I, and charismatic leaders and tyrannical movements were on the rise across Europe. The 1920s are remembered as an era of excesses and moral decay. In response to the troubled times in which he lived, Pius XI wrote an encyclical called *Quas Primas*, in which he addressed growing nationalism, moral decay, and other dangerous trends.

The pope used the title of Christ as “king” as the main theme of his letter. Referencing Scripture and the fathers of the church, he made the point that the kingship of Christ was given to him by the Father, not obtained through violence or oppression. Christ has dominion by his essence and nature. He came to freely give eternal life as the Son of the Father. His rule is one of love and service, and he calls all people to follow him.

20. ... Oh, what happiness would be Ours if all men, individuals, families, and nations, would but let themselves be governed by Christ! “Then at length,” to use the words addressed by our predecessor, Pope Leo XIII,

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When the Son of Man comes in glory, may we be among those who have fed the hungry, welcomed the stranger, and clothed the naked. For Jesus tells us clearly that it is those who have demonstrated good stewardship by sharing their gifts with the less fortunate who will receive God’s blessing and inherit the kingdom.



Catholic Parish of Woy Woy Peninsula

Woy Woy, Woy Woy South, Umina, Umina Beach, Ettalong, Ettalong Beach, Koolewong, Blackwall, Booker Bay, St Hubert's Island, Empire Bay, Horsfield Bay, Pearl Beach, Patonga, Woy Woy Bay, Daley's Point, Phegan's Bay and Wondabyne

St John the Baptist Church, corner of Blackwall and Victoria Roads, Woy Woy

Parish Office Ethel Cox Parish Centre
P.O. Box 264 Walter Baker Hall
54 Victoria Road 100 Blackwall Road
WOY WOY N.S.W. 2256

Phone: (02) 4341 1073
Fax: (02) 4341 0214
Email: parish@woywoycatholic.org.au

"He must increase, I must decrease"

Dr John Hill, *Parish Priest*

Fr Stephen Wayoyi, A.J. *Assistant Priest*

Office Staff: Helen Cameron, Raelene McLenaghan & Margaret Cooper

Parish Nurse: Ellen Bevan

Office Hours: 9.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m., Monday to Friday

Deadline for The Voice: 3.30 p.m. Wednesday

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 5pm; Sunday 7.30am, 9.15am, 6pm.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday-Friday 7.45am (Monday & Tuesday with Lauds); Saturday and Public Holidays 9am; First Friday 4pm (with Anointing of the Sick).

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Friday after morning Mass; First Friday, 3.30 p.m.; Saturday 11.30am; & 4.30pm; Sunday 7.00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

1st & 3rd Sundays, 11am; 5th Sunday, during 9.15 a.m. Mass. Godparents are examples of faith to the child. They must be confirmed and practising Catholics, at least sixteen years old. If there is at least one godparent, a non-Catholic may act as a Christian witness. Parents and godparents must attend a pre-baptismal instruction, held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 9.30 a.m.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Saturday after 9am Mass until 10am; every Monday until 9am (Public Holidays 10.15am).

PARISH CHOIR— Practice Wednesday nights in the church, 7 p.m. Enquiries: 4341 3367.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, 21a Dulkara Rd South Woy Woy 2256. p 024341 0884 f 0243 445049.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST YOUTH GROUP For information and events contact Sam French 042 244 9539.

CATHOLICCARE Counselling and Family Relationships 4356 2600.

MARY MAC'S PLACE Volunteers provide nutritious, freshly cooked meals and information and referrals to appropriate community services. Open Monday to Friday, 11am-1pm, at the Ethel Cox Parish Centre. For more information, please contact Christine on 4341 0584.

CASH HOUSIE every Saturday night at Peninsula Community Centre, Cnr Ocean Beach Rd & McMasters Rd, Woy Woy. Games start at 7.30 p.m. and finish 10.20 p.m., cash prizes. Ticket sales from 6.00 p.m. Proceeds benefit Parish. Enquiries Rob: 0427 990818.

'He shall come to rule the earth with justice'

(continued)

(Continued from page 3)

twenty-five years ago to the bishops of the Universal Church, "then at length will many evils be cured; then will the law regain its former authority; peace with all its blessings be restored. Men will sheathe their swords and lay down their arms when all freely acknowledge and obey the authority of Christ, and every tongue confesses that the Lord Jesus Christ is in the glory of God the Father." [*Annum Sanctum*, May 25, 1899].

21. That these blessings may be abundant and lasting in Christian society, it is necessary that the kingship of our Saviour should be as widely as possible recognized and understood, and to the end nothing would serve better than the institution of a special feast in honour of the Kingship of Christ. ...

The institution of this feast is a 20th-century example of ritual formation. In presenting Christ as king, Pius XI calls us all to see Jesus as the true authority who

bids us to follow his lead so that we might work at creating

an eternal and universal kingdom,
a kingdom of truth and life,
a kingdom of holiness and grace,
a kingdom of justice, love and peace.

(from Christ, King of the Universe,
preface) ML

David Fedor holds a master's degree in music and liturgical studies from the University of Notre Dame. In 1986 he was appointed director of music and organist for the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, N.J., and since 1998 has been the parish musician for St. Cassian Church in Upper Montclair, N.J. From *Ministry & Liturgy*, copyright © Resource Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under licence number 115216



Diocese of
Broken Bay