

St Saviour's Church

26 November 2017 - (Christ the Universal King)



Modern Western culture does not have many kings - or queens. The few left do not exercise real power; they play ceremonial roles and we associate them with pomp and pageantry. In the biblical culture, kings are real leaders of their communities. They are 'judges' in the sense that they set moral standards for the community. Rightly then, today's gospel reading celebrates Christ's kingship as an act of 'judgement' ... the feast celebrates the 'good news for the poor'. It is also a call to repentance addressed to us as individuals and as a Church, since our 'judgements', words and actions, are often far removed from those of Jesus. (Michel de Verteuil)

Parish Notes:

Cardiff Churches Nightshelter Forms available at the back of the Church for those who want to sign up to help. There will be a training session on Mon 11 December in St German's Hall at 7pm for all our helpers. More details on training to follow.

Lights of Love - Evening of traditional carols and readings run by the Sands charity in St Saviour's on Friday 8 December at 7:30pm.

Cardiff Foodbank - Urgent items: tinned tomatoes, fruit juice (concentrate), rice pudding tins, sponge pudding, tinned fruit. Not needed: beans, cereals, tea, pasta.

Advent Benediction - St Saviour's at 6pm on Sunday 10 December.

Reconciliation Service - St Saviour's at 7pm on 13 December.

New Mass Setting - We introduce our new mass setting next week, the first Sunday of Advent. There is a link to the music on our website.

Praying the O Antiphons - in the week before Christmas we will have some quiet reflections at 7pm, inspired by the O Antiphons (prophetic titles of Christ), in St German's and St Saviour's. It is meant to be a spiritual preparation for Christmas and the anti-dote to the noise and glitz of the 'shopping season'.

Advent and Christmas - Please see poster in the hall outlining some of our other services for Advent and Christmas. Copies are available online and at the back.

Carols and a Cuppa - Please join us at noon on Sat 23 December when we will offer a warm drink and Christmas Carols to shoppers and visitors on Splott Road.

Christian Unity - Advance notice of the week of prayer for Christian Unity 18-25 January 2018. This year's theme: 'That all may be free'. More details of a joint service to follow.

Recently Departed - Please pray for Barbara Millett. *RIP*

This week:

Mon 27:

6pm Mass (St G)

Tues 28:

10am Mass (St S)

Wed 29:

10am Mass (St G)

Prayer for the Mission of the Church

Thur 30:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

ST ANDREW

Fri 1:

No mass this week

Sat 2:

11am Mass (St S.)

Sun 3:

St Saviour:

Sung Mass at 9:30;

St German:

Sung Mass at 11:00;

Advent Carol Service

by Candlelight at

6:00pm

Keep in touch:

Parish Priest:

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READINGS THIS WEEK

Prov 31:10-13, 19-20,
30-31

Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

1 Thess 5:1-6

Matt 25:14-15, 19-21

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Isa 63:16b-17, 19b;

64:2-7

Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

1 Cor 1:3-9

Mark 13:33-37

PSALM RESPONSE

'The Lord is my
shepherd; there is
nothing I shall
want' (4vs)

COLLECT:

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; grant this for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

GATHERING:

Make way, make way
For Christ the King
In splendour arrives
Fling wide the gates
and welcome Him
Into your lives

*Make way! (Make way!)
Make way! (Make way!)
For the King of kings
(For the King of kings)
Make way! (Make way!)
Make way! (Make way!)
And let His kingdom in*

He comes the broken hearts to heal
The prisoners to free
The deaf shall hear,
the lame shall dance
The blind shall see

And those who mourn
with heavy hearts
Who weep and sigh
With laughter, joy and royal crown
He'll beautify

We call you now to worship Him
As Lord of all
To have no gods before Him
Their thrones must fall!

OFFERTORY:

Rejoice, the Lord is King:
Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus, the Saviour, reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When He has purged our stains,
He took his seat above;
Lift up your heart,

Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail,
He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus giv'n:
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope!
Our Lord and judge shall come
And take His servants up
To their eternal home:
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

COMMUNION:

Meekness and majesty,
manhood and deity
In perfect harmony,
the Man who is God
Lord of eternity,
dwells in humanity
Kneels in humility
and washes our feet

*O what a mystery,
meekness and majesty
Bow down and worship,
for this is your God
This is your God*

Father's pure radiance,
perfect in innocence
Yet learns obedience
to death on a cross
Suffering to give us life,
conquering through sacrifice
And as they crucify,
Father forgive

Wisdom unsearchable,
God the invisible
Love indestructible,

in frailty appears
Lord of infinity,
stooping so tenderly
Lifts our humanity,
to the height of his throne.

FINAL HYMN:

Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly
anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified;
no angels in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends
their burning eye
at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

FIRST READING:

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose. **R/**

Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.
He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name. **R/**

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R/**

Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **R/**

Psalm 23

SECOND READING:

A reading from St Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

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; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. 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, for everything is to be *put under his feet*. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

1 Corinthians 15 20-28

GOSPEL:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left.

'Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for

you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."

'Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me."

'And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Matthew 25:1-13