

Christ the King

THE FEAST of Christ the King, properly known as ‘Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925 in the encyclical *Quas primas*. Formerly kept on the last Sunday in October, in 1970 it was moved by St Paul VI to the last Sunday of Ordinary Time and its celebration has spread more recently to other denominations.

In the *motu proprio Mysteriori Paschalis*, St Paul VI gave as a reason for the new date ‘the eschatological importance of this Sunday’. By this he meant that, as the liturgical year draws to its close, our minds turn to the eschaton, that is, to the winding up of all things when Christ, in the words of the Creed, ‘will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end’. It is, if you like, the Omega-point of salvation history.

During Advent (which begins the following Sunday) we start the liturgical year all over again and focus on the Coming of Christ, which for us is the Alpha-point of salvation history. ‘Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End, the Alpha and the Omega’, as we proclaim at the beginning of the Easter Vigil each year.

Nowadays the origins of the feast in the political turmoil of the 1920s is largely forgotten. The Lateran Treaty of 1929 was the conclusion of a long struggle for the position of the Vatican in a united Italy to become clear. Gone were the papal states. The immediate task was to settle things urgently with Mussolini, the Italian dictator, and the struggle with fascism was set to continue until the end of the Second World War. On the other front – and already a menace in the 1920s – was the Russian Revolution and the spread of Communism. Faced with two ideologies, the one pagan and the other atheistic, victory in the spiritual battle was claimed in advance by the new Feast of Christ the King.

Whatever happens during the course of history, the Gospel says, the ultimate victory is that of Christ, Risen, Ascended and Glorified. Under the new onslaught of secular and other non-Christian ideologies, this Gospel message is of continuing urgency and relevance.

Fr Andrew



St Edmund Campion Deanery, Old Berkshire-
Thames ISIS Pastoral Area

EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH

St Mary’s Church, East Hendred

St Patrick’s Church, East Ilsley

www.hendredcatholicparish.org.uk

Office: hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Priest: The Revd Mgr Andrew Burnham

01235 835038 or 07976 437979

aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Sunday 24th November	CHRIST THE KING [C] Sung Mass: 9.30am St Mary’s Mass: 11.15am St Patrick’s Mass: 6pm St Mary’s	Week 34 per annum [Year 1] [WHITE] <i>Pro populo</i> <i>FM Canon Luck 1919</i>
Monday 25th November	<i>St Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin, Martyr</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary’s	[red] <i>FM Henry Lester Louis Morris 1963</i>
Tuesday 26th November	<i>Feria: Of Week 34</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary’s	[green] <i>FM Bridget Farrelly 1999</i>
Wednesday 27th November	<i>Feria: Of Week 34</i> Morning Prayer [Weds 2]: 9am St Mary’s [Ecumenical] Mass: 9.15am St Mary’s	[green] <i>FM Nancy Farrelly 1999</i>
Thursday 28th November	<i>Feria: Of Week 34</i> Exposition: 11.45am St Mary’s Mass: 12.15pm St Mary’s	[green] <i>FM Edward Woods 1937</i>
Friday 29th November	<i>Feria: Of Week 34</i> Mass: 8.30am Hendred House Evening Prayer: 5pm St Augustine’s [Ecumenical]	[green] <i>Holy Souls</i>
Saturday 30th November	St Andrew, Apostle <i>No Mass at St Mary’s</i> <i>Mass at English Martyrs’, Didcot and St John Vianney Wantage</i>	[red]
Sunday 1st December	ADVENT SUNDAY [A] Sung Mass: 9.30am St Mary’s Mass: 11.15am St Patrick’s Christingle: 4pm St Augustine’s [Ecumenical] Advent Evening Prayer: 5.30pm St Mary’s Mass: 6pm St Mary’s	Advent Week 1 [Year 2] [PURPLE] <i>Pro populo</i>
	Confessions: Sundays at 8.45am or by after any weekday Mass www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk	

TODAY AND LOOKING AHEAD

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS—YEAR OF THE WORD 2020

We are being asked by the Catholic Church to look closely in the coming year at the Bible. The scheme is called **The God who Speaks - Year of the Word 2020**.

On Advent Sunday, 1st December, we shall begin this by celebrating Evening Prayer in simple fashion at 5.30pm at St Mary's, immediately before the 6pm Mass.

I am then inviting people who are free to come to meet as a small study group in the Holy Family Room in St Mary's on the three Fridays in Advent. The session, with coffee and mince pies, will begin at 9.15am and continue until about 10.30am. The three topics are:

Matthew 1:1-17 The Genealogy of Jesus Christ

Matthew 1:18-25 The Birth of Jesus Christ

John 1:1-18 The Word became Flesh

The topics and the coffee will be hot, the room and the conversation warm, and we shall keep to time. The Scriptural text will be RSV and will be available as a print out. Please let me know if you are free to come. It isn't a commitment but it helps with preparation to have a rough idea of how many to expect. Fr Andrew

GATHERING TOGETHER IN CHRIST

If you are thinking of trying to do something for *The God who Speaks - Year of the Word 2020* and you can't make Fr Andrew's Friday morning Advent meetings, you might like to consider coming to the *Gathering Together in Christ* meetings. All meetings are open meetings and being a small group of parishioners from St Augustine's and St Mary's we have no biblical experts. Occasional visitors are very welcome. We meet once a month in the parish rooms at 7.30 pm, begin with coffee and biscuits and finish between 8.30 and 9.00. Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, December 3rd**, and we shall be looking at chapter 12 of John's gospel to help us get to know better the God who speaks and what he said. If you want more information, contact Denis Smith; 01235 765564; djbm.smith@ntlworld.com.

READER'S WORKSHOPS

To mark the **Year of the Word** the diocese of Portsmouth is launching Readers' training workshops. The training consists in two workshops of three hours each, for all church readers and aspiring readers. It is recommended that any readers, or 'would be' readers should register to attend. There are a number of courses, to be held throughout the Diocese. For further information please go to www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/readers

Visit our website hendredcatholicparish.org.uk
advancing slowly with more information.

Find us on  

NEWSLETTER | Please send all notices for next week's Newsletter to hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk by **Wednesday 10 am**. Please see the noticeboards at St Mary's for changes of service times made since the Newsletter went to press.

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

BAPTISM AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time.



THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED

Sr Catherine, Mary Wallace, Brenda Paddon, Jadyga Adaske, Angus Clark, Karen Greig, Kitty Teasdale, Mary Mc Nichol, Katherine Eyston, Antonia Breakspear.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Those who have died recently and those with anniversaries at this time: *Patrick Kelly, Lilian Purcell and William Flanagan.*

HOLY FATHER'S NOVEMBER PRAYER INTENTION - That a spirit of dialogue, encounter, and reconciliation emerge in the Near East, where diverse religious communities share their lives together.

GIVING TREE

Last year we joined with St John Vianney church to bring Christmas presents to 'Little People' and St Mary's parishioners kindly donated many items. This year the organiser has requested toys, family games and vouchers. We will have a 'giving tree' in the church with Christmas tags labelled with a particular item. If you can help then please choose a tag from the tree and wrap the item and put the tag on and leave the present under the tree. For vouchers please put money in an envelope marked 'Little people voucher money' and leave with one of the ushers after Mass – we will then use the money to buy vouchers. The tree will be in the church from this Sunday (24th November) until December 15th. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

MASS AT MAPLE DURHAM

An invitation from Edward Eyston: Mass is usually the last Sunday of the month (i.e. today but not end of December), 6pm. Aim for RG4 7TR. Avoid main gates and park in the Anglican church car park. Walk through to the house through the churchyard. All welcome.

PILGRIMAGES

LOURDES ✘ Portsmouth Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes with Bishop Philip from **15 - 19 July 2020**. Cost £695 per person sharing. Call Sue on 07780 221686 or email her at lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Volunteer should also contact Sue, a Youth pilgrim is £545 pp and rooms are shared with three others

SOUTHERN ITALY & PADRE PIO ✘ Father Des Connolly, will be leading a pilgrimage to Southern Italy from **Sunday 16 - Friday 21 August 2020**. For more information please call Gill from Tangney Tours on 01732 886666.

COFFEE AFTER MASS

Please join us for a cup of coffee at St Mary's Parish Rooms.