

Hampshire Downs Catholic Parish

Alresford ♦ Stockbridge ♦ Winchester



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE UNIVERSAL KING A 20th November, 2011

Living in a monarchy does not necessarily help us to understand the feast of Christ the King. At school I hated history because we were expected to learn the dates of most of the Kings and Queens of England. All I can remember now is the fact that rogues and villains were reasonably well represented among our monarchs.

Today's celebration is a bold reminder that although Jesus is a king, his understanding of his role is very different to that of many earthly kings. Jesus our king requires us to be loyal to him and he will be the judge of that loyalty. The thing that is different about Jesus is the standard by which he judges our loyalty. We show our loyalty to Christ the King in our concern for strangers, the hungry and needy. Our king said "In so far as you did this (service) to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."

In his life Jesus showed himself to be a king who was also a servant and shepherd to his people. He rode to his coronation on a donkey and was enthroned on the cross.

Like so much of our faith, the feast of Christ the King challenges us to question much that is done by the world's rulers and the way they exercise their authority. JC

Next Sunday sees the beginning of Advent. Please come along to the Advent Liturgy at St. Gregory's, Alresford at 4.00pm. This is a marvellous opportunity for all the different worshipping communities to come together for a single liturgy with an opportunity to meet each other afterwards. The Advent Penitential liturgies will be celebrated on Saturday, 17th December at 10.30am and on Monday, 19th December at 7.30pm, both in St. Peter's. Please come along to one of these celebrations so as to receive the Sacrament of Penance before the celebration of the Lord's birth. PJT

Thanks to Julia Bray and Deb Falconer and all the young people who took part in the St. Peter's Youth Theatre production of 'Bugsey Malone'. I am delighted that so many people were able to support the three performances and I look forward to the next production. PJT

Please pray for John Banyard who died last week. His Funeral Mass is in St. Peter's this Wednesday at 12.15pm. May he rest in peace.

TODAY'S MASS - LITURGY OF THE WORD

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

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

2nd Reading: First letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

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!

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

TODAY

Today is Youth Sunday and the Feast of Christ the King. The Youth Band are playing at 9.15am today at St Stephen's. **Blessing of the graves** at Magdalen Hill Cemetery today at 3.00pm. **No Evening Prayer and Benediction in St. Peter's.** **Flowers** in St. Peter's today are in memory of Hans Weingart. **There will be a talk** about the Annual Accounts and Planned Giving at some Masses today. Next weekend the talk will be at 10.30am at St. Peter's and the 9.00am Mass at Stockbridge.

THIS WEEK

Wednesday 23rd November - Canon Paul will be giving a talk on "My Experience of the Holy Land" based on living there for the month of June: Milner Hall at 7.30pm. Wine and nibbles from 7.00pm onwards. He will focus on the Holy Land as the 'fifth Gospel' and the importance of community scriptural reflection for Catholic Christians today.

Saturday 26th November - Stay Awake! All parishioners are invited to an Advent Day of Reflection at St. Stephen's/St. Peter's School, 9.30am - 3.30pm. Come for all or part of the day. **Mass at 9.30am**, followed by input and a variety of prayer workshops through the day. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available. This is also the annual day of reflection for Eucharistic Ministers. Refreshments provided but please bring a packed lunch. Please take a leaflet and book a place through the parish office, or contact Augusta Wolff augustawolff@googlemail.com, tel: 07825757287.

Saturday 26th November - No 9.00am Mass in St. Peter's

Saturday 26th November - Alton day of Renewal at St Lucy's Convent, Medstead. Starts with Rosary at 11.00am, Mass at 11.30am followed by Exposition, shared lunch at 1.00pm, Praise & Worship at 2.00pm, main talk at 2.30pm - Geoff & Gina Poulter will speak on 'Resurrection and New Life,' ending at about 4.00pm. Any queries John Foley on 0118 933 3420.

There will not be a session in December.

NEXT WEEKEND

Sunday 27th November 2011 - Parish Advent Service at St. Gregory's, Alresford at 4.00pm. Refreshments to follow. Minibus transport available from St. Peter's. Please contact the Parish Office.

Sunday 27th November - Retiring collection at all Masses next weekend for the Covenant with the Poor.

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday 28th November - Following Canon Paul's talk, 'A Month in Jerusalem' you are invited to watch a new film 'Little Town of Bethlehem'. Here three young men, from the 3 biblical faiths, (Christian, Jewish and Muslim) tell their stories, and their involvement in a non-violent struggle for peace in Israel/Palestine. Monday 28th November, the Milner Hall, 7.30pm. (Refreshments from 7pm).

Thursday 1st December - Mass at St. Mary's, Twyford at 7.00pm. Please note there will be no 7.00pm Mass in St. Peter's that day. Refreshments will be provided afterwards.

Saturday 3rd December - St. Gregory's Bazaar will take place at the Community Centre, West Street, Alresford. Santa's little helpers are needed to make this year's Christmas bazaar a success. Please contact Jim King on 01962 732180 if you are able to help and/or donate, bric-a-brac, tombola, produce, cakes, gifts, crafts and books, DVD's and CD's.

Monday 5th December - Catholic History Group meets at 8.00pm in the Milner Hall. Bishop Gardiner of Winchester by Dr. Glyn Redworth, Reader in History at Manchester University. Non-members £3.

Holy Land 2012: Following the success of recent pilgrimages I have been asked to run another one to the Holy Land next October. Before I begin detailed planning I need a rough idea of numbers. So, please complete the tear-off slip which can be found on the monthly diary at the back of all churches and return it to the Parish Office. PJT

OUTREACH AND MISSION

Street Pastors - Are you interested in becoming a street pastor in 2012? We are now recruiting for a training programme starting in January. If interested apply to Mark Hibbert-Hingston, our administrator on 01962 854454 or e-mail winchester@streetpastors.org.uk. Alternatively, call Steve Taylor on 01962 867117 to chat about it.

Winchester Basics Bank need a new Chairperson after their next AGM in March. If you are interested, please contact Moira Knapman on Moirajck@aol.com. Many thanks for all your support of food for the Basics Bank. It is really appreciated.

Christ at the Christmas Market: This year there will be a Christian Stall at the Cathedral Christmas Market. It will operate from 24th November to 21st December between 10.30am and either 6.00 or 7.30pm. Christians from all churches are needed to cover sessions on the stall for 2 or 3 hours at a time. Contact Hannah at Christchurch - 857986 to have a slot allocated to you or talk to Steve Taylor - 867117 or Peter McManus - 854080.

The CAFOD Portsmouth office is urgently looking to expand its campaign volunteers in the diocese to help raise awareness of global issues and help change the structures that keep people poor by lobbying governments and international bodies. Can you help promote CAFOD campaigns in your parish once or twice a year, distributing action cards and/or speaking about the campaigns at Mass? Full support and training provided. Contact: CAFOD Portsmouth office: portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or 01252 329385.

GENERAL

First Communion 2012: Please see the monthly diary for information and a tear off slip.

Confirmation Programme 2012 - The Hampshire Downs Confirmation Programme starts in January with Confirmation on the 26th June and we would like to invite you and your young person to come to an information session on Thursday 15th December. Mass will be at 7.00pm with the meeting afterwards in the Milner Hall. This is an opportunity to find out a bit more about what confirmation is about and some important dates. For young people it is a great opportunity to meet other young people who are thinking about joining the programme and find out about how the programme will run. Do come along, no commitment is required yet. Call Don West on 07730487774 or don.west@ntlworld.com for queries.

Christingle Service: There will be no 'Christingle' this year unless co-ordinators step forward to help organise the event. If you would like to coordinate a Christingle service this year contact Sanna Dean (sannadean@lineone.net) and Louise Cutts have some useful notes.

St. Peter's volunteers who clean the Church Brass candlesticks etc. would welcome more volunteers to join their rota. **This work will only take an hour of your time once every eight to ten weeks.** If interested please contact Margaret Guppy on 01962 841322 for more details.

St. Paul Sunday Missal for 2012 - would St Gregory's subscribers please purchase direct from Redemptorist Publications, Wolf Lane, Chawton, 01420 88222 - Cost: £6.00 plus postage & packing.

Advent Groups. Hampshire Downs parish is again offering all members of the community the opportunity to join 'house groups' this Advent. Groups will be reflecting on the Sunday readings for Advent with the theme Stay Awake: Alert to God's Presence - Listening, Dreaming, Doing. Sign up sheets are available at all Churches this weekend. **Too busy to join a group?** The packs are available for sale from the bookshop or to download from the parish website. Please contact Augusta Wolff or 07825757287, augustawolff@googlemail.com for more information.

These groups are currently available:

Mondays 2.15pm Convent: Tuesdays 8.00pm Cranworth Road: Wednesdays 7.30pm Kingsworthy: Wednesdays 7.30pm St. Cross: Wednesdays 10.00am Oliver's Battery: Thursdays 11.00am Fulfood: Thursdays 7.30pm Woodfield Drive.

MASSES AND LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

19th to 26th November 2011

St. Peter's, Winchester

Masses:

Sat 19	6.00 pm	Mass - David Wade RIP
Sun 20	8.00 am	Mass - Birthday Intention for Norma Phelan
	10.30 am	Mass - Margaret and Tom Carroll RIP
	3.00 pm	Blessing of Graves at Magdalen Hill Cemetery
	6.00 pm	NO Evening Prayer and Benediction
	7.00 pm	Mass - Mr. and Mrs. Templeman RIP
Mon 21	12.15 pm	Mass - Phelan Family RIP, especially Brian Phelan
Tue 22	8.00 am	Mass - Intentions of Garavan family RIP
Wed 23	12.15 pm	Mass - Funeral Mass for John Banyard RIP
Thur 24	7.00 pm	Mass - Eric Ellis Fry RIP
Fri 25	12.15 pm	Mass - Deceased in Morn Hill Cemetery
Sat 26	9.00 am	NO 9.00am Mass in St. Peter's
	9.30 am	Parish Advent Day of Reflection at St. Stephen's with Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Sat 11.30 am - 12.30 pm and 4.30 pm - 5.00 pm

Eucharistic Adoration:

Tue 9.00 am - 8.00 pm

Wed 1.00 pm - 8.00 pm

Thur 9.00 am - 4.00 pm

St. Gregory's, Alresford

Sun	11.00 am	Mass - Mass for the Dead
Mon	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Tue	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Wed	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Thur	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Fri	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Sat	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

St. Stephen's, Oliver's Battery

Sun 9.15 am Mass - Deceased Le Grys and White families

St. Thomas More's, Stockbridge

Sun 9.00 am Mass - People of the Parish

NOTICES

Please send newsletter items to the Parish Office by 5.00 pm **Wednesday**. Please keep items as concise as possible and note that they may be edited.

Communion for Sick and Housebound - If you are housebound, even for a short time, and would like to receive Communion at home, please contact the Parish Office.

A Minibus service is available for people living in the Winchester area to bring you to 10.30am Sunday Mass at St. Peter's and take you home. Please contact the Parish Office.

THANK YOU:-

- from **Mary Flesher** to all who helped her after her fall at St. Stephen's 9.15am Mass last Sunday. She is fine now and recovering.
- from the **APF** after their appeal last weekend. 70-80 new members signed up.
- from **Wells for India** for the cheque received from the Covenant with the Poor for £2,874.41.
- from **CAFOD** for your incredibly generous donation of £3,086.92 received in support of Harvest Fast Day.

We acknowledge with thanks:

Last week's collection:

(Alresford, Stockbridge and Winchester): £3,570.51

