

The parish of St André de la Pommeraye

www.standrewschurchguernsey.org



Newsletter for the solemnity of Christ the King, 22 November 2020

The Rector writes ...



Although the new calendar year in the West begins on 1 January, there are different points in year which have a 'new year' feel. The beginning of the school year in September always has a 'new year' feel. The Church's liturgical cycle begins on Advent Sunday, which we will mark next weekend. So today is the last Sunday in the liturgical year which began in December 2019. We mark this final Sunday of the liturgical year with our celebration of the feast of Christ the King.

This celebration is a relatively new arrival in the Church's calendar. It was introduced into the calendar of the Roman Catholic church in 1925 by Pope Pius XI in response to growing secularism and nationalism. It was adopted by many other Christian churches. The altar frontal and vestments today are white, in keeping with other feasts honouring Jesus Christ.

In explanation of his decision, Pope Pius XI wrote this: 'If to Christ our Lord is given all power in heaven and on earth; if all men, purchased by his precious blood, are by a new right subjected to his dominion; if this power embraces all men, it must be clear that not one of our faculties is exempt from his empire. He must reign in our minds, which should assent with perfect submission and firm belief to revealed truths and to the doctrines of Christ. He must reign in our wills, which should obey the laws and precepts of God. He must reign in our hearts, which should spurn natural desires and love God above all things, and cleave to him alone. He must reign in our bodies and in our members, which should serve as instruments for the interior sanctification of our souls, or to use the words of the Apostle Paul, as instruments of justice unto God.'



The picture, top left, is *Christ in Majesty* from the [Ghent altarpiece](#) by Hubert and Jan van Eyck (1427). The second picture is from a manuscript of 1220.

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I would be grateful if people would leave the parking spaces in the lay-by outside the barn for disabled drivers and for drivers with passengers who have restricted mobility. There are usually two or three parking spaces in the Rectory yard, as well as the car park.

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Although the active Covid-19 cases in Guernsey are reducing daily, we are strongly advised to be careful to wash our hands and use hand sanitiser. We have bottles of hand sanitiser in church. I encourage you to use this facility when you come into church.

And **please do not come to church if you feel unwell** and especially if you are exhibiting any symptoms associated with Covid-19 and the normal cold symptoms which may mask something more serious. Click [here](#) for information about symptoms and what to do.

Notices

- The **flower arrangement** in the pedestal this Sunday are in memory of Jeanette Mary Lee.
- Congratulations to the team at **Guernsey Welfare Service** as their work was recognised by the 'Charity of the Year' award by the Guernsey Community Foundation last Tuesday.
- We welcome donations of food in the box at the back of church for Guernsey Welfare Food Bank. Monetary donations may be sent to Guernsey Welfare Service, Holy Trinity Church Centre, Trinity Square, St Peter Port, Guernsey GY1 1LP, or online donations can be made at www.guernseywelfare.com
 - Here is an update on what the Guernsey Welfare store looks like: what we have plenty of and what is needed. Thanks for the support!
 - **We have large quantities of:** tinned soup, baked beans, other tinned beans (eg butter or kidney), tinned tomatoes, porridge, pasta, cereal
 - **We have reasonable quantities of:** tea bags, rice pudding, custard, rice, pasta sauce, tinned spaghetti, biscuits
 - **We are mostly in need of:** sugar, tinned meat including Fray Bentos pies, squash, tomato sauce, strawberry jam, tinned fruit, tinned veg (potatoes, peas, carrots), coffee
- A growing problem in Guernsey is **social isolation and loneliness** amongst older adults. **Guernsey Linking Lives** is a befriending service, an initiative of Guernsey Welfare Service, aimed at those aged over 60 who find themselves needing extra friendship and support. There are some leaflets about the project in church – aimed at both potential volunteers and those who might benefit from the project.
- **Fairtrade** goods can be ordered from Monomundi in Guernsey. Please email any orders to philsoulsby@gmail.com or stevemauger@cwgsy.net



This week at St Andrew's church

St Andrew's church is open daily, without restriction, from around 10 am until the late afternoon or early evening.

Thursday 26 November 7.00 pm Augmented choir practice

The next **Parish Prayers** will be on Friday 27 November in church at 9.30 am followed by Hillside Preschool's Nativity dress rehearsal.

Dates for the diary

Please let me know about events to be included under this heading.

Holy Communion, and laying on of hands and prayers for healing at the **Monnaie Chapel** on Wednesday at 10.30 am. The Monnaie Chapel is a remarkable place – accessed off the Rue du Monnaie (halfway up the road, on the left, when approaching from Les Poidevins).

The **St Andrew's Day lunch** will be next Sunday 29 November at 12.30 pm. This is the last day for putting your name and menu choices down on the list at the back of the church for the lunch at Les Cotils. Jill Bishop would really appreciate your payment now and has the church credit card machine, so you can pay by debit or credit card, or cheque. Please note that it is the same day as the Advent Carol Service, which begins at 4.30 pm.



There will be **Pop Up 'Messiah'** at the Vale Church on Saturday 5 December at 7.00 pm. All proceeds will be going to the Guernsey Welfare Service and the Vale Church. The event will be conducted by Helen Grand; Andrew Warren will be the organist. Suggested donation of £5 per person (singers & non singers), £3 for under



18s. Singers are asked to bring their own copies of the score (any edition). No rehearsals, and no dress code - but people are encouraged to wear red, green and gold to fill the church with Christmas colours.

Christmas angels

Knitting sessions will be held at the Rectory at 2 pm on: **Tuesday 24 November, Wednesday 2 December** and **Tuesday 8 December** (finish off knitting; start tagging) ... with an extra session to finish adding tags on **Friday 11 December** for anyone who can spare a little time that afternoon. Allowing for the recommended quarantine period, the angels can then be distributed on Tuesday 15 December. Many thanks in anticipation!

Prayers for the week

Our **parish 'prayer for the month'** for November:

Isn't it irritating when you're chatting to someone, they are too busy texting messages on their phone to pay attention to you? I'm sure God must feel the same as, too often, when we pray, we're on send not receive. Perhaps next time we pray we might ask God what he would like to chat about to us.

Heavenly Father,
teach me to pray with my ears and my eyes, my heart and my mind,
before I ask for anything. Amen.

Please pray

- for those who have the responsibility of implementing the budget announced by States of Guernsey last Monday;
- for all involved in the administration of justice;
- for our preparation for Advent;
- for the Church of England's General Synod, meeting online from Monday to Wednesday in the coming week;
- for those living under the restrictions of lockdown in the UK and elsewhere.

We pray in the Guernsey churches cycle of prayer for the Society of Friends.

We pray for all who live in the parish of St Andrew and for our church community.

And, by name, for Stella Machon, Audrey Gollop, Jean Walpole, Chris & Cindy Kennedy, Georgina, Chris Lesbirel, Ann Nicholson, Fletch O'Hara, Elisa Wales and Eileen Jones.

And for those who have died, including Daryl Parnwell.

Finally ...

A personal note: Judy and I moved too Guernsey five years ago last week. It has been a memorable and (mostly) enjoyable time. We are so thankful to be here. We did wonder whether there would be enough to do ... How wrong we were!

The Bible readings for Sunday are printed on the next page. Please print them, or bring a mobile device, if you wish to follow the readings during the Sunday services.

With best wishes and my prayers,

Tim

Collect and readings for today ...

The Collect

Eternal Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King;
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Or

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament reading: Ezekiel 34 vv 11-16 & 20-24

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Gospel: Matthew 25 vv 31-end

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food,



or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'



Prayer after Communion

Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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The Very Revd Tim Barker, The Rectory, Route de St André, St Andrew, GY6 8XN
01481 238568 | 07781 166095 | dean@deanery.gg | Twitter: @TimBarker10

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The Revd Juliette Robilliard
Associate Priest | 01481 264344 | revrob151@gmail.com