



**Pastoral Area
Newsletter**
www.3rivers.org.uk

Year (B) Weekdays: Year I. Psalter Week 2.
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
UNIVERSAL KING

Welcome to our Pastoral Area

Churches in the Pastoral Area

Bishops Waltham - Our Lady Queen of Apostles,
Martin Street.

Fair Oak - St Swithun Wells,
Allington Lane.

Eastleigh - Holy Cross, Leigh Road.

Chandlers Ford - St Edward the Confessor,
Winchester Road.

North Baddesley - St Andrew's, Fleming Avenue.

Romsey - St Joseph's, Abbey House Drive.

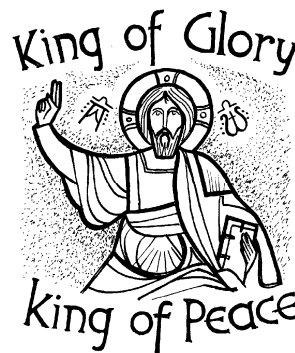
Taking Today's Gospel Home

+ *Children/
Families*

*How often do I
think of Jesus?*

+ *Young
People/Adults*

*What does it
mean to say that
Christ reigns in our hearts
and minds?*



Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King

Pope Pius XI instituted the Feast of Christ the King in 1925. At the time, secularism was on the rise, and many Christians, even Catholics, were doubting Christ's authority, as well as the Church's, and even doubting Christ's existence. The feast was intended to raise the status of the Church above the, often oppressive, regimes of the day. It could be argued, not much has changed!

Whilst the feast of "Christ the King" is relatively modern it is firmly rooted in the scriptural concept of the "Kingdom of God". The two ideas are, however, very different.

If there is one thing that all the New Testament writers agreed upon it was that Jesus came to establish the Kingdom of God - *here on earth*. "The right time has been fulfilled and the Kingdom of God has drawn near. Repent and believe in the good news." (Mk 1:15).

The Jewish word "Messiah," and the Greek word "Christ," both mean "anointed one," and referred to the expected king who would deliver Israel from the hands of the Romans. Christians believe that Jesus is the messiah but unlike Jewish expectations, Jesus came to free all people, Jew and Gentile, not from the Romans, but from sin and death. Thus Jesus does not rule over a kingdom 'of' this world (John 18:36) but a kingdom that is, none the less, definitely 'in' it.

In Scripture the "Kingdom of God" is established by Jesus at His resurrection and entrusted to those who follow Him. We are empowered by our baptism to spread the "Good News" to all people and to care for the Kingdom until He comes again. Then he will "hand over the Kingdom to God the Father" (1 Cor 15:23). Everyone shall be raised into a radically different and everlasting life and the Kingdom will be fulfilled in a "New Creation", a different kind of world, an earth united with heaven.

The "feast" of Christ the King tells us that Jesus' authority reigns supreme in our hearts and minds as we co-create the Kingdom. He will be with us "until the end of time" (Mt 28:20).

Deacon Bob.

❖ Liturgy and Sacraments

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS: We offer our prayers and congratulations to Rosalind Jones and Craig Canning for their wedding on Friday, 27 November, 2009, at Holy Cross Church.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Jeremiah 33:14-16. Psalm 24. 1 Thessalonians 3:12 -4:2. Luke 21:25-28. 34-36.

Please read the Gospel during the week and listen as it is proclaimed on Sunday.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: For parents seeking the Sacrament of Baptism for their child in 3 Rivers Pastoral Area there will be a Baptism Preparation Course on Sunday, 6 December, 2009, from 4.30pm-6pm, in the Resource Centre of Holy Cross Church, Leigh Road, Eastleigh. Application forms are available from the Parish Office in Chandler's Ford, on 023 8027 3882, or Romsey Parish Office, on 01794 513646.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION—2009: There will be a Post Confirmation gathering in the Resource Centre of Holy Cross Church, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, on Sunday, 6 December, 2009, from 6.15pm-8pm. Enquiries please to Lyn Preston on 023 8009 0329.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION:

Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church: Parents who wish their child to receive their First Holy Communion are asked to please contact Father John for an Application Form by Sunday, 29 November, 2009. A meeting for parents will be arranged soon after that date. Please note the child must be in Year 3 or older. Enquiries please to Lucy O'Neill, on 01389 878760.

St. Joseph's and St. Andrew's Churches: Enquiries please to Romsey Parish Office on 01794 513646.

St. Swithun Wells/Holy Cross/ St. Edward the Confessor Churches:

The next parent's session will be held on Tuesday, 1 December, at 7.30pm, at St. Edward the Confessor Church, Chandler's Ford. The next children's sessions will be held on Monday, 7 December, from 6.30pm-7.30pm, at the church where the child is to make their First Holy Communion. Masses at St. Edward's Church and Holy Cross Church, on Sunday, 13 December, will particularly involve children. Enquiries please to Elizabeth Nash on 01962 712022, or Anne Owen on 023 8025 4806.

HOLY HOUR DURING ADVENT: St. Edward the Confessor Church: On Wednesdays, 2/9/16/23 December, 2009, from 7.30pm-8.30pm. Please come and pray before the Blessed Sacrament in preparation for Christmas.

ADVENT SERVICE OF LIGHT: This will be held on Wednesday, 16 December, at 7.45pm, at St. Swithun Wells Church, Allington Lane, Fair Oak. The whole Pastoral Area is invited and will be warmly welcomed.



❖ Ongoing Formation

BIBLE STUDIES EVENING: Tuesdays, (changed from Mondays), at St. Andrew's Church, North Baddesley, at 7.30pm.

CAFÉ (CATHOLIC FAITH EXPLORATION): Please bring a lunch to share while exploring the relevance of the Gospels to our everyday lives, on Wednesdays, from 12.30pm-2pm, in the Parish Centre, Romsey. Old and newcomers very welcome.

JOURNEY IN FAITH: These meetings are for anyone who wishes to know more about the Catholic Faith, or would like to find out about becoming a Catholic. The next session at St. Edward the Confessor Church, 191/193 Winchester Road, Chandler's Ford, will be held on Thursday, 26 November, 2009, from 7.30pm until 9pm. All will be warmly welcomed. Enquiries please to: Deacon Paul on 023 8025 4806, for *St. Swithun Wells, Holy Cross and St. Edward the Confessor Churches*.

Deacon John on 01794 515688, for *St. Joseph's & St. Andrew's Churches*.

Pat Taylor on 01489 895889, for *Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church*.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION PROGRAMME 2009: A programme of learning, discussion and insight into our Faith, aiming to make Faith the centre of our lives. It will serve to reinforce our understanding of the Scriptures and the meaning of the Sacraments. Finally, it will explain Catechesis and help define our Faith. The next session will be held on Wednesday, 2 December, from 7.30pm for 7.45pm, ending at 9.00pm, at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church, Martin Street, Bishop's Waltham.

The Theme will be "The Ministry of the Eucharist since Vatican II". This session will be of particular interest to Eucharistic Ministers, but all are very welcome to attend and are likely to find it interesting and informative. For further details please call/text Giles Brady on 07816 569293, or Charles Forrest on 023 8069 4482.

❖ Ecological Matters

ORCHARD DAY: Each Christian Church in Romsey is contributing an apple tree to a community orchard to be planted in Romsey Memorial Park at 12.30pm on Saturday, 28 November. There will be stalls with refreshments, children's activities, apple juicing and apple identification, plus experts to answer your fruit related questions. Do come along and show your support for the tree planters (Parish Priest and Chair of the PPC) and for this ecumenical ecological venture.

'BE THE CHANGE' A SYMPOSIUM: On Sunday, 29 November, 2009, from 2pm-6pm, in the new extension of Holy Family Church, Redbridge Hill, Southampton, Hants. SO16 4PL. The afternoon will help people to come to a deeper understanding of where we are as a society, how we got here, and what we can and must do if we want to see: an ecologically sustainable, socially just, spiritually fulfilling, human presence on the Planet. Short films and video clips will be used to highlight the message of "Be the Change". Tea, coffee and light refreshments provided. All welcome. Please see poster in the welcoming area of all our churches. Enquiries please to 023 8077 5199 or email: louis mcdermott@bopenworld.com

❖ Malayalam Retreat

MALAYALAM RETREAT (KERALA LANGUAGE): There will be a retreat from 3pm to 8pm on Thursday and Friday, 4th and 5th February, 2010, at Holy Cross Catholic Church, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF. This has been organised by parishioners of Holy Cross Church from Kerala. For more details please contact joji joseph, jose athirampuzha, sibi on 07876653859/07877728236/07872315685.

❖ Supporting each other

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH: Volunteers urgently required to run coffee mornings after the 11am Sunday Mass.

S.V.P. (ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY): The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 24 November, at 8pm, at the usual venue. Enquiries please to Romsey Parish Office on 01794 513646.

ST. SWITHUN WELLS FELLOWSHIP: The group meets regularly at St. Swithun Wells Church, Allington Lane, Fair Oak, on Wednesdays, during term time from 7.45pm to 9pm. On Wednesday, 25 November, the meeting will be preparing for the Advent Service of Light. Everyone is very welcome. Enquiries please to Peter Baggott on 023 8069 4060, Bob Birtles on 023 8069 2416 or Steve Holmes on 023 8069 3669.

ST. SWITHUN WELLS CHURCH: *Starting a Cleaning Rota:* Thank you to all who volunteered in response to the recent appeal. However, we still need at least 4, preferably 8, people or couples to clean the church. The commitment will be to do the cleaning once every 8 weeks. Please seriously consider this request and contact Steve Holmes after the 5pm Mass or by phone on 023 8069 3669, if you are able to help.

DIOCESAN ADVENT CHOIR FESTIVAL: This will be held at St. Edward the Confessor Church from 9.30am to 4.30pm on Saturday, 28 November, 2009. Enquiries please to Paul Inwood on 01329 835583.

ST. JOSEPH AND ST. ANDREW CHURCHES: The Parish Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday, 19 December, 2009, from 10am to 1pm, in the United Reformed Church Hall, Romsey. Unused items are needed, also bottles for the Tombola, plus toiletries, jewellery, Christmas goods and crafts for other stalls. Jumble is not required. Enquiries please to the Parish Office in Romsey on 01794 513646.

❖ Outreach

'GOOD COMPANIONS' The next lunch is on Tuesday, 1 December, at 12.30pm, at 'Keats' Restaurant, Ampfield. The group meets for lunch every two months and was set up for those who live alone. Please contact Pauline Wilson on 023 8026 6617, by Thursday, 26 November, if you would like to reserve your lunch.

CHRISTMAS DRAW TICKETS: These are now available at St. Joseph's and St. Andrew's Churches. Wonderful prizes. Proceeds to The Leonard Cheshire Home, Romsey.

❖ Having your say on 'Assisting suicide'

THE KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA have drafted a letter to the Assisted Suicide Policy Team raising the objections that the Bishops' Conference have asked us to raise. A copy of the letter is enclosed with your weekly Pastoral Area Newsletter. Please will you fill in your address at the top of the letter, sign it and post it to the address on the letter. It is our aim to get as many of these letters sent to reach them by 16 December, 2009.

❖ School Matters

ST. SWITHUN WELLS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, Hillcrest Avenue, Chandler's Ford, SO53 2JP. Please come along to the Christmas Fayre being held at the School on Friday, 27 November, 2009, from 6pm to 8.30pm. Donations welcome of bottles for the tombola, festive jam-jars (filled with gifts, e.g. small pencils, crayons, toys, marbles, balloons, sweets and stickers, or anything that fits, and decorated with something festive), and all **unwanted gifts** (no used items or bric-a-brac, thank you). Please leave in the marked collection boxes at our churches. Donations of plants and cakes will be gratefully received at the school on the day. Raffle tickets will be available after Mass this weekend. Volunteers are also urgently needed to prepare in advance for the Fayre and on stalls on the day of the Fayre. Please call Anna McCormack if you can help on 023 8026 6553.

❖ Travelling Nativity



HOLY CROSS CHURCH: Would your children like to offer hospitality to "Mary, Joseph and donkey" on their journey to Christmas? As part of our Advent Season/Christmas preparations we have a Mary, Joseph and donkey we would like the children to look after for one or two days, and pass on to the next family, until they reach Holy Cross Church on Christmas Eve. If your family would like to take part, please let Val Talbot on 023 8062 0425, or Elizabeth Nash on 01962 712022 know before 23 November, 2009.

❖ Finance

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS COLLECTIONS HELD IN OUR CHURCHES ON 15 November, 2009.

St. Edward the Confessor: £1,194.60, (Loose plate: £213.26, Envelopes: £208.00, & Standing Orders: £773.34).

Holy Cross & St. Swithun Wells: £1,017.42, (Loose plate: £280.61, Envelopes: £176.81, & Standing Orders: £560.00).

200 CLUB: No. 169, Holy Cross, £25. **St. Joseph's and St. Andrew's:** Gift Aid: £415. Non Gift Aid: £300.

On 5/6 December, 2009, at St. Swithun Wells, Holy Cross and St. Edward the Confessor Churches, there will be a special collection for flowers for our Churches at Christmas.

LIVING OUR FAITH UPDATE: £707,068.15 has been raised from 263 pledges. Thank you.

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| Saturday | 21 | 10.00am (HC) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> (<i>The First Mass of Sunday</i>) 5.00pm (SW) Maureen Blackford RIP 6.00pm (SJ) MASS 6.00pm (OLQoA) MASS 6.30pm (SE) Charles and Mary Rose Magee RIP |
| Sunday | 22 | OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING 9.00am (SE) Deceased members of the Moriarty and Flannery Families 9.00am (HC) Polska Msza Święta 9.15am (SA) Edward Rayment (anniversary) 9.30am (OLQoA) MASS 11.00am (SA) MASS 11.00am (HC) Antonio and Carmella Iampietro |
| Monday | 23 | 9.15am (SE) Kathleen Harvey RIP 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 10.00am (SW) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion followed by the Rosary</i> |
| Tuesday | 24 | 9.15am (SE) Special intention for James Thorpe <i>St. Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions</i> 10.00am (HC) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> 10.00am (SA) MASS 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS <i>followed by the Rosary</i> 6.00pm (SJ) MASS 7.00pm (HC) <i>Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament</i> 7.30pm <i>Holy Rosary in the Oratory of Marie Louise House, Romsey</i> |
| Wednesday | 25 | 9.15am (SE) Mary and Paddy O'Neill <i>followed by the Rosary in the Lady Chapel</i> 10.00am (HC) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> 6.00pm (OLQoA) MASS |
| Thursday | 26 | 9.15am (SE) Barney Rice FM 10.00am (HC) Maria Vallelonga RIP 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 6.00pm (SJ) MASS |
| Friday | 27 | 9.15am (SE) Helen Christian FM 10.00am (HC) Josephine Zammmit RIP 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 10.00am (SA) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion with Morning Prayer</i> |
| Saturday | 28 | 10.00am (HC) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> (<i>The First Mass of Sunday</i>) 5.00pm (SW) The People of 3 Rivers Pastoral Area 6.00pm (SJ) Laurence & Kathleen Cashman (anniversary) 6.00pm (OLQoA) MASS 6.30pm (SE) Peter and Rose Barry |
| Sunday | 29 | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9.00am (SE) Deceased members of the O'Donoghue Family RIP 9.00am (HC) Polska Msza Święta 9.15am (SA) MASS 9.30am (OLQoA) MASS 11.00am (SA) MASS 11.00am (HC) Antonio Cicu FM |

HC: Holy Cross, SW: St. Swithun Wells, OLQoA: Our Lady Queen of Apostles, SA: St Andrew's, SJ: St. Joseph's, SE: St Edward's.

*Items for the next Pastoral Area Newsletter are required please by Tuesday, noon, by post or phone, direct to the Parish Office at Chandler's Ford on 023 8027 3882, or email 3rivers@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
This newsletter can be sent to you by email service — just email website@3rivers.org.uk*

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES:

St . Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School 023 8026 6210
St George Catholic V.A. College 023 8032 2603
St Anne's Catholic School 023 8032 8200

Fr John Buckley
✉ The Presbytery, Martin Street, Bishop's Waltham, SO32 1DN
☎ 01489 895889
✉ jbuckley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Michael Dennehy
(*Co-ordinating Pastor*)
✉ 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF
☎ 023 8061 2430
✉ mdennehy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr George Lyons
✉ 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF
☎ 023 8062 0795
✉ glyons@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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RETIRED PRIESTS
Fr Clement Marshall
Fr Maurice Twomey
Fr David Whitehead

~ + ~

DEACONS

Deacon Bob Birtles
✉ 3 Shorts Road, Fair Oak, Eastleigh, S050 7EJ
☎ 023 8069 2416
✉ bob.birtles@gmail.com

Deacon John di Meo
✉ 'Kleines Tal', Bridge Road, Romsey, SO51 8JD
☎ 01794 515688
✉ jdimeo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Owen
✉ 34 Foyle Road, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh, SO53 4QP
☎ 023 8025 4806
✉ paul.anne.owen@ukgateway.net
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PARISH OFFICES

Parish Co-ordinator, Pauline Parsons
✉ 191/193 Winchester Road, Chandlers Ford, SO53 2DU
☎/☎ 023 8027 3882
✉ 3rivers@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Secretary, Rosemary Peacock
✉ St Joseph's Parish Office, 26 Abbey Water, Romsey, SO51 8EJ
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✉ sasj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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Registered Charity No. 246871