

Thirty Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Diary of a Canvey Priest

Too Busy for the King?

I am beginning to suspect that the quickest way to discover you are not in charge is to make a very detailed plan! This week, I wanted everything to go smoothly for a funeral. Unfortunately, the livestream had other ideas, and I discovered rather late that I had not clarified who would be doing the readings. So much for having everything under control! Of course, wanting things to go well is important, especially when serving a grieving family. But I have begun to wonder whether, in trying so hard to get everything right, I sometimes forget who is really in charge. An unexpected moment this week brought that home to me.

I found myself with a little time between appointments and ended up helping at the foodbank, saving some eggs. It wasn't in my diary, and certainly wasn't part of my carefully organised plans. Yet being close to the action gave me a fresh appreciation of the extraordinary dedication involved. One lady, despite not being particularly well herself, worked with such quiet diligence to ensure that others would have something to eat.

There was something profoundly moving about it. No grand speeches, no fanfare, just ordinary people quietly serving others.

And then I thought about this Sunday's feast of Christ the King.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells us that when we feed the hungry, welcome the stranger or care for those in need, we are serving Him. The King of the universe comes to us, not only in glory, but in the ordinary needs of those around us.

How easily I can become so busy trying to serve Christ that I forget to allow Him to reign! So preoccupied with my plans that I risk missing His presence in the people before me. Perhaps that unplanned moment at the foodbank was one of the most important appointments of my week.

Christ the King reminds us that the measure of our lives is not how successfully we control everything, but how faithfully we love. I may be busy trying to run the kingdom, but the King is already here. The question is whether I recognise Him.

Parish Priest: Fr Paschal Uche
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Parish Notices

Events:

Mass at St Josephs - on Tuesday 24th November at 9.30am all welcome. For deceased members of the school & community.

Reader's meeting – There will be a reader's meeting next Wednesday 25th November at 7pm.

Other notices:

Mass at St Josephs - on Tuesday 24th November at 9.30am all welcome. For deceased members of the school & community.

St Joseph's School open days – Please see the poster at the back of the Church with the forthcoming dates for open days in relation to children starting next September.

Funeral – Mr William (Bill) Windsor sadly passed away recently & his funeral will be held here on Wednesday 25th November at 11am followed by burial at Willows Cemetery at 1:30pm.

Coffee morning – Last week's Coffee morning raised £142.76 for Parish funds so thank you to all who supported & donated.

Thank you – A thank you to all who attended the Eucharistic Ministers meeting on Wednesday.

Spiritual:

Our Advent retreat day – On Saturday the 12th of December the feast day of Our lady of Guadalupe, we will have a retreat day to prepare our hearts for Christmas. There will be talks, prayer, availiablity for confession, a shared lunch and an opportunity to hear about my trip to Mexico!

Staying Connected:

Parish WhatsApp Group – Please see Posters at the Back of Church to join.
Facebook – **https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61594932892468**

Faith in Focus

Did You Know?

The Catholic Church teaches that we face two judgements: the Particular Judgement and the General (Final) Judgement.The Particular Judgement takes place immediately after death, when each soul stands before Christ and receives its eternal destiny: heaven (immediately or through purification) or hell.The General Judgement takes place when Christ returns in glory at the end of time. All the dead will rise, and the truth of every life, including the consequences of our actions, will be revealed.Why two judgements? The first concerns our personal destiny; the second reveals God's justice and mercy in the whole of human history.Christ our Judge is also Christ our Saviour and Our King!
CCC, 1021–1022, 1038–1041.

Post Communion Prayer – De Profundis Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading.
If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you.
My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity.
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns for Kerry Gardiner

Office Hours – Mon – 10:00am to 3:00pm, Wed – 9:30am to 2:00pm, (Parish Surgery 4:30-6:30) Thurs 10:00am to 3:00pm. Fri 10:00am to 3:00pm

Adoration and recitation of the Holy Rosary take place every day, with the church being open from 6:00 am – 8:00pm during the week

Offertory collection last week: £511.45

Weekly Mass Times & Intentions

All Masses are preceded by a time of Eucharistic Adoration – a peaceful opportunity to spend time in prayer with Jesus, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome.

Day & Time	Feast day & Intention
34th Sunday of OT	
4:30 – 5:30pm	*Confessions*
Saturday 21st Nov 10:00am	• **RIP** Noel Carroll
Saturday 21st Vigil Mass 6:00pm	*The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary* • Pro Populo
Sunday 22nd 10:00am	*Sunday Mass – Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe (Youth Sunday)* • Eileen Potter
Monday 23rd	***NO MASS***
Tuesday 24th 09:30 am	*St Andrew Dung-Lac* • **Mass at St Josephs School**
Wednesday 25th 11:00am	*Feria* • **RIP** Funeral William (Bill) Windsor
Thursday 26th 10:00 am	*Feria* • **RIP** Anne Zambra (M.Khan)
Friday 27th 10:00am	*Feria* • **RIP** John Branton
Saturday 28th 10:00 am	• **RIP** Kerry Gardiner
First Sunday of Advent	
4:30 – 5:30pm	*Confessions*
Saturday 28th Vigil Mass 6:00pm	*Sunday Vigil* • Pro Populo
Sunday 29th 10:00am	*Sunday Mass,* • **RIP** Sergio Lottimore

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND – Neil Lockwood, Eddie Fearne, Carol Tebbutt, Maria Redgrove, Joan Dettke, Peggy Fearne, Joseph Sullivan, Maureen Pring, June Fen, Clare Ashford, Joseph Pisani, Edward Horton, Patrick O'Brien, Joan Flegg, Lorraine Ballin, Marie McDonagh, Maureen Preshaw, Valerie Ham, Lena Williams, Peggy O'Brien, Eileen Sharp, Miliana Bridie Mayamba, Janis & Christy Nixon

OUR LADY OF CANVEY & ENGLISH MARTYRS
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