

## 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 Christ the King

Welcome to this week's newsletter. If you are receiving this by post you will also receive a copy of Selena's Advent/Christmas Mission newsletter.

I wonder what the word 'king' conjures up in your mind – I suspect the bicycling monarchs of the Netherlands are not foremost. I once spoke to an American theologian about the image of 'king', since they don't have one – 'Ah, but we think of your Royal Family', she said. I wasn't quite sure how that related to Christ as King!

Today's feast was instituted in 1925 by Pope Pius XI who had been writing in the preceding years about the importance of true peace, about the problems of class divisions and unbridled nationalism and about the need for Christ to rule over our minds by his teaching, our hearts by his love and over each one's life by living in accordance to Christ's law by imitating his example.

There are two modern hymns which give very different images of Christ as king: 'Christ triumphant, ever reigning ... yours the glory and the crown, the high renown, the eternal name' contrasts greatly with 'This is our God, the servant king, he calls us now to follow him, to live our lives as a daily offering of worship to the Servant King.' The final verse links in well with today's gospel: 'for it is Christ we're serving'. Which do you prefer? Triumphalism, in which we become caught up, or service?

### Worship this Sunday

Morning Prayer from St John's on line prepared by Selina and Richard. Available at a time of your choosing. Join in via <https://youtu.be/5YWWm5Yby9A>

10.00 a.m. 'The Home Service' bringing church worship to your front room. On 10Radio 105.3 FM This will be repeated on Wednesday at 11.00 a.m. and will be available to listen to at any time via the internet through [www.10radio.org](http://www.10radio.org).

John Young's Sunday evening hymns, with reflections 7.00 p.m. Click on the Team Facebook page and from there on John Young's page.

**Weekday worship: Morning Office** daily at 8.30 a.m. If you wish to join please contact Tim for details.

**Compline:** Wednesdays, 8 p.m. led by Selina and Richard on Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81555085560>  
People joining need to have either the red book from Common Worship or the Daily Prayer app.

**Daily Hope** No internet? Justin Welby has launched a 24-hour free phone line for worship and prayer, aimed at those who have no or limited access to the internet. Dial 0800 804 8044 to hear a greeting from the Archbishop and then a range of options including hymns, prayers & reflections.

**Lectionary Readings for this Sunday**, Feast of Christ the King.

Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20 – 24. Through Ezekiel God paints a beautiful picture of God acting as shepherd, bringing the scattered sheep together and leading them into their own land. God will destroy those who have grown 'sleek and strong' at the expense of the weaker ones and will 'shepherd the flock with justice'.

Ephesians 1: 15 – end. 'God put this [divine] power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come.

Matthew 25: 31 – end. Jesus paints a picture of the last judgement when those who have fed the hungry, given drink to the thirsty, welcomed the stranger, clothed the naked and visited those in prison will be told that it was Christ they were serving in these actions, and that they will be rewarded accordingly.

#### Collect

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.

#### Post 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.

### Worship next Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> First Sunday of Advent

10.30 a.m. Parish Communion live-streamed from St John's, with Rev Tim Treanor, John Young on the organ and Christine and Ken managing the technical side.

6.00 p.m. Evensong from St Margaret's congregation by Zoom. Everyone is welcome to join and we can all sing! Please let Maria know if you want receive the words of the hymns and psalm we shall be using by post or by email. Details of how to join, by computer or by landline, will be in next week's newsletter.

**Advent and Christmas Angel Project** If you have angels to share, would like knitting patterns, can help with the trail or if you would like more information please contact Richard or Selina.

Rev Selina Email at: [everydayangels2020@gmail.com](mailto:everydayangels2020@gmail.com) or call her on 01823 662227

Rev Richard Email: [richard.kelley@bathwells.anglican.org](mailto:richard.kelley@bathwells.anglican.org) or call or text him on 07970 346544

**Prayer for the Nation** At the start of lockdown the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, issued 'A call to prayer for the nation', asking us to pray together at **6 p.m. daily**. Full details on <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches/call-prayer-nation>.

The prayer they suggest we use this coming week	Daily themes for prayer
Lord Jesus Christ, in these dark and difficult days, we turn our hearts to you. In ages past, you have delivered our nation from disaster. Do it again, we pray. Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to our leaders, Give strength beyond human strength to the NHS and all our frontline workers. Give comfort beyond human comfort to the elderly and all who grieve. Lord Jesus Christ, in these dark and difficult days, turn your face towards us, have mercy upon us, and heal our land, we pray. Amen.	Sunday – Family, friends and loved ones. Monday – Schools and colleges, children and young people. Tuesday – Elderly, isolated and vulnerable. Wednesday – Businesses, the workplace and economic wellbeing. Thursday – The NHS and other key workers. Friday – National and local government. Saturday – All who are grieving, and all who are suffering with physical and mental ill-health.

**Living in Love and Faith** is the title of a whole lot of resources which have been produced to help members of the Church of England study and pray together so as to discern a way forward for the Church of England in relation to matters of identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage. We cannot, as yet, meet to have the prayerful discussions which it would be good to have, but if interested you can find the resources on <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/living-love-and-faith>.

**Diocesan News** You can keep up to date with Diocesan news on their website: [www.bathandwells.org.uk](http://www.bathandwells.org.uk) This also links to the Church of England website. It has useful information on Safeguarding too.

**Bishop Peter** The clergy who joined in Tuesday's retreat day by Zoom had a wonderful surprise when Bishop Peter appeared for 5 minutes to wish us all well. He is shortly going for his third round of chemotherapy in preparation for his stem cell transplant. After this he will be in (literal) isolation for several weeks and hopes to see us all again at the beginning of March. We keep him in our prayers, as he keeps us.

**Archdeaconry Days 2021** In the past couple of years there have been opportunities for clergy and lay people to study, pray and discuss together on a Saturday in a large church. In 2021 we have to move on-line, which may make it easier for people to attend. The theme for 2021 will be 'Prayer – Everyone, Everywhere'. Together we shall explore ways of praying, wherever and whoever we are. A short video will go live each day for us to watch at our convenience. The week will start on Sunday with a recorded non-Eucharistic service from the Cathedral which will include a reflection from Bishop Ruth. This will be followed on Mon – Fri with a daily short video in which people from the Diocese talk about how they pray in different contexts: Prayer and **Nature**; Prayer and the **Digital** World; Prayer and **Arts**; Prayer and the **Bible**; Prayer and **People**. On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Zoom sessions will bring people together to discuss what they have learned/ experimented with during the week. Our Archdeaconry session is scheduled for 2.00 – 3.30 p.m. You can find out more and sign up on the website: <https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/2020/09/ad-days-2021>

### Churches open for private prayer

Bradford on Tone: Sundays 9a.m. - 1p.m., Wednesdays 1-5p.m. Langford Budville: Thursdays and Sundays.  
Runnington Sundays 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sampford Arundel: Sundays 10.30 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Stawley: Sundays 10 a.m. – 12 noon. Thorne St Margaret: Wednesdays 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
West Buckland: Wednesdays and Sundays 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

### Church contacts

Do ring the parish office number: 01823 665254 and leave a message. Or email [stjohns.wellington@googlemail.com](mailto:stjohns.wellington@googlemail.com). Or phone any of the clergy directly: Tim Treanor: 01823662248, Alan Ellacott: 01823 669824, Martin Beaumont: 01823 400127, Selina Garner: 01823 662227, Richard Kelley 07970 346544 Maria Hearl: 01884 256380 [Editor].