

# FAITH @ Home

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Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

*Celebrating and supporting faith, hope and love in the heart of the family!*



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Year B 34TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

"TO THE HEIGHTS" YOUTH EDITION ALSO AVAILABLE

## Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Daniel 7: 13-14

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 92(93): 1-2, 5

Second Reading:

Revelation 1:5-8

Gospel:

John 18: 33-37

*"Mine is not a kingdom  
of this world."*



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## Hear



Grab your Bible and look up the Gospel reading. Don't have one?

No worries, you can find this week's readings online [HERE](#).



## Pray



In the Gospel today we find ourselves back in the events of Good Friday and we might initially wonder why this Gospel is chosen for the feast of Christ the King (Year B). We are called to reflect on the true kingship of Jesus.

Take some time to reflect on the key message of this week's Gospel. Think about the following:

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do Jesus' words resonate with you personally?
- If Jesus Christ is King of the Universe, do I also allow Him to be King of my life, and of my heart? Am I willing to follow His ways, to trust in Him to provide? Do I believe He is just? Pray this week for an increase in trust in Jesus' loving plan for your life.
- Being a subject of Christ the King, rather than the ruler of your life, means letting go of control and your own will. Have you space and silence to hear His voice?

## Family Prayer



*Angels, saints and nations sing:*

*"Praised be Jesus Christ, our King.*

*Lord of life, earth, sky and sea*

*King of Love on Calvary."*

## Talk



It feels a little odd to be talking about Jesus and Pontius Pilate in November, rather than Holy Week. Jesus' death and resurrection is central to all we believe, however, at all times of the year.

Discuss the following as a family:

- Did you ever pretend to be kings and queens or princesses as a child? How did you act? How did you dress? What way did you think people should act around you?
- Jesus didn't dress like a regular king. His crown was made of thorns, not gold. He showed us how to serve others, and not to be served. He said His Kingdom was not of this world. What kind of King was Jesus? Talk about some of the stories you know about Jesus and how He treated others.
- You can often tell what county someone is from because of the GAA jersey they wear. How can I show that I belong to the Kingdom of God? Would people recognise that I belong to Jesus by the way I pray and live my life?

## Family Challenge!



Think about ways of showing that you're on God's team and want to be part of His Kingdom, in how you pray, speak, treat others and spend your time.

# A KINGDOM NOT OF THIS WORLD

This Sunday is the last Sunday of the Church's liturgical year. On this Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King. Each year we set aside this Sunday to reflect upon this title that we have given to Jesus. Today's Gospel portrays Jesus's kingship in light of his passion: a crown of thorns, not of gold. His ways are not our ways.

Pilate questions Jesus about the charges brought against him. Caiaphas and the high priests have charged Jesus with a political crime, one that would require a punishment of death. Pilate distances himself from the Jewish leaders who accuse Jesus; he is not a Jew, and he seems to want little to do with this Jewish affair.

In his responses to Pilate's questions, Jesus distinguishes his kingdom from the political powers of this world. King and kingdom may be appropriate terms for Jesus' mission and promise, but only by analogy. Jesus is king, but not the kind of king we imagine or expect. He was certainly not the kind of king Pilate feared he might be.

Jesus refers to a kingdom that does not belong to this world. This has been mentioned earlier in John's Gospel. Recall that in his prayer during the Last Supper discourse (see [John 17:6-18](#)), Jesus prayed for his disciples who are in the world but do not belong to the world. Yet like Jesus, they are sent into the world for the world's salvation. In today's reading, we see Jesus identify the final proof that his kingdom is not of this world: If his kingdom were of this world, then there would be people fighting to save him. Again we hear echoes of John's theme—salvation is worked out through a cosmic battle. It is helpful to return to the first chapter of John's Gospel to understand the context for Jesus' words to Pilate. Jesus came into the world, but the world did not know him. In John's language, the world prefers the darkness, and yet the light will not be overcome by the darkness.

Truth has been another important theme in John's Gospel. We see it emphasized in the conclusion of the dialogue between Jesus and Pilate. Those who know the truth will recognize Jesus as king and will know how to interpret this insight. Yet Jesus' kingship was hidden from many of his contemporaries. Only those chosen, those who have the eyes of faith, are able to see. As modern disciples of Jesus, we also struggle at times to recognize Jesus as king. Today's Gospel invites us to see with eyes of faith that we might recognize that Jesus, through his crucifixion and death, is indeed king and Saviour of all.

*adapted from Loyola Press: Sunday Connections*

Check  
this  
out

## CHRIST ON THE STREET

Christ on the Street, a ministry of the Diocese of Waterford and Lismore, is a small attempt to bring a Christian touch to the lives of lonely people among us. It hopes to facilitate a sharing of humanity, an encounter with a human person. See the website for information about how you can get involved, as a volunteer, a pray-er, a missionary or a benefactor.

Christ on  
the Street



## CARLO'S CORNER

### Hail Christ the King!

Kings and Queens - they seem pretty far removed from our everyday life. We read about them in Hello Magazine, or follow their activities on Instagram, or TV shows - that's if we have any interest at all in royal lives. They live surrounded by wealth, grandeur, high security and not a lot of privacy.

Today we celebrate Jesus Christ as King. You couldn't find a more different model of Kingship anywhere. Born into a poor stable, an animal feeding trough for his bed, living a simple life, earning his wages as a carpenter in a small obscure village in Israel. He came to build a different type of Kingdom. He came to serve and not be served, to speak out for the poor and the marginalised, to bring healing and forgiveness, to set people free, to ultimately give His life for others.

The idea of a King with a crown of thorns, and a cross instead of a throne, is a jarring one. Yet 2000 years on, other kingdoms have fallen, and His remains and will continue to remain. The question is, will I let Him be King of my heart? Will I allow Him to guide me and my actions? Will I be proud to belong to Him?

[CHRIST THE KING \(CHRIS STEFANICK\)](#)

[TUNE: KING OF MY HEART \(BETHEL\)](#)

*To the Heights Youth Resource also available*

## EVENTS

### *The Web of Life: Advent Reflection*

St John's Pastoral Centre, John's Hill, Waterford 4th December, 7pm facilitated by Sr Antoinette Dilworth rsj

### *Little Nellie of Holy God Presentation:*

Thursday 28th November, St John's Church, Parnell Street, Waterford. Mass at 6.30pm followed by talk by John Donovan at 7.15pm. Display of items associated with Little Nellie also.

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