



Anglican Diocese of Wangaratta  
Parochial District of  
Wangaratta West & The Warbys

## The FEAST of CHRIST THE KING or THE REIGN OF CHRIST



Christus Rex which was formerly at the Community of Christ the King.  
now at Cathedral College, Wangaratta.

Stewardship Thanksgiving Sunday

Eucharist, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024,  
8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m.

## The Feast of Christ the King

*Christ the King is a title of Jesus based on several passages of Scripture and, in general, used by all Christians. Many denominations, including Catholics, Anglicans, Presbyterians, and some Lutherans and Methodists, celebrate, in honour of Christ under this title, the Feast of Christ the King on the last Sunday of the liturgical year, before a new year begins with the First Sunday of Advent.*

The ideological movement of Christ's Kingship was addressed in the encyclical [Quas Primas](#) (*In the first*) of Pope Pius XI, published in 1925, which has been called "possibly one of the most misunderstood and ignored encyclicals of all time." The Pontiff's encyclical quotes with approval Cyril of Alexandria, noting that Jesus' Kingship is not obtained by violence: "'Christ,' he says, 'has dominion over all creatures, a dominion not seized by violence nor usurped, but his by essence and by nature.'"

Originally the title of the feast was "Domini Nostri Jesu Christi Regis" (Our Lord Jesus Christ the King), and the date was "the last Sunday of the month of October - the Sunday, that is, which immediately precedes the Feast of All Saints".

Pope Pius XI instituted the feast of Christ the King in 1925 to remind Christians that their allegiance was to their spiritual ruler in heaven as opposed to earthly supremacy, which was claimed by Benito Mussolini.

In 1969, Pope Paul VI gave the celebration a new title: "Domini Nostri Iesu Christi universorum Regis" (Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe). He also gave it a new date: the last Sunday in the liturgical year, before a new year begins with the First Sunday in Advent, (the earliest date for which is 27 November).

Through this choice of date "the eschatological importance of this Sunday is made clearer". He assigned to it the highest rank, that of "Solemnity".

Pope Benedict XVI has remarked that Christ's Kingship is not based on "human power" but on loving and serving others. The perfect exemplar of that acceptance, he pointed out, is the Virgin Mary. Her humble and unconditional acceptance of God's will in her life, the Pope noted, was the reason that "God exalted her over all other creatures, and Christ crowned her Queen of heaven and earth."



Those churches also that use the Revised Common Lectionary observe Christ the King Sunday (*titled **Reign of Christ Sunday** by some*) as the last Sunday of the liturgical year, in agreement with the 1969 Roman Catholic date revision. These churches include most major Anglican and mainline Protestant groups.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

**Processional Hymn**—AHB 170 / TiS 231. tune, Camberwell.

- 1. At the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow,  
every tongue confess him King of glory now;  
this the Father's pleasure that we call him Lord,  
who from the beginning was the mighty Word.**
- 2. Humbled for a season, to receive a Name  
from the lips of sinners unto whom he came,  
faithfully he bore it spotless to the last,  
brought it back victorious, when from death he passed.**
- 3. In your hearts enthrone him; there let him make new  
all that is not holy, all that is not true:  
He is God the Saviour, he is Christ the Lord,  
ever to be worshipped, trusted and adored.**
- 4. When this same Lord Jesus shall appear again  
in his Father's glory, there with him to reign,  
then may we adore him, all before him bow,  
as our hearts confess him King of Glory now.**

Caroline Maria Noel 1817-77 alt

*The Acclamation*

Lift up your heads, O gates;  
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;  
**and the King of glory shall come in.**

'Who is the King of glory?'  
**'The Lord, strong and mighty,  
the Lord who is mighty in battle.'**

Lift up your heads, O gates;  
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;  
**and the King of glory shall come in.**

'Who is this King of glory?'  
**'The Lord of hosts,  
he is the King of glory.'**

*Welcome & Greeting*

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

*Sentence*

If you want to become a disciple of Jesus, deny yourself, take up your cross and follow him.

Matthew 16.24–25

*Invitation to Confession*

Jesus says, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand’. So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

cf Matt 3.2

*Kyrie—sung or said*

**Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Pause for thought*

Let us make our confession to the God of grace.

**O King enthroned on high,  
filling the earth with your glory:  
holy is your name,  
Lord God almighty.  
In our sinfulness we cry to you  
to take our guilt away,  
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

cf Isaiah 6 [CW p125]

*Absolution*

Almighty God,  
who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom  
that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive you your sins,  
open your eyes to God’s truth,  
strengthen you to do God’s will  
and give you the joy of his kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Hymn of Praise (Gloria in excelsis).*

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God’s people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

*The Collect*

Let us pray

O God,  
whose Son has shown the way of the cross to be the way of life:  
transform and renew our minds  
that we may not be conformed to this world  
but may offer ourselves wholly to you as a living sacrifice  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

**A Reading from the Prophecy of Daniel [7. 9-10, 13-14]**

As I watched, thrones were set in place,  
and an Ancient One took his throne;  
his clothing was white as snow,  
and the hair of his head like pure wool;  
his throne was fiery flames,  
and its wheels were burning fire.  
A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence.  
A thousand thousand served him,  
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.  
The court sat in judgement,  
and the books were opened. As I watched in the night visions,  
I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven.  
And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him.

To him was given dominion and glory and kingship,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him.  
His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away,  
and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

Hear the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 93**

**The Lord is king, and has put on robes of glory:  
the Lord has put on his glory,  
he has girded himself with strength.**

**He has made the world so firm:  
that it cannot be moved.**

**Your throne is established from of old:  
you are from everlasting.**

**The floods have lifted up, O Lord,  
the floods have lifted up their voice:  
the floods lift up their pounding.**

**But mightier than the sound of many waters,  
than the mighty waters or the breakers of the sea:  
the Lord on high is mighty.**

**Your decrees are very sure:  
and holiness, O Lord,  
adorns your house for ever.**

## **A Reading from The Letter of Paul to the Philippians [2. 1-11]**

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Hear the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn:** AHB 496 / TiS 583. Tune, Breslau.

1. **'Take up your cross,' the Saviour said,  
'if you would my disciple be;  
take up your cross with willing heart  
and humbly follow after me.'**
2. **Take up your cross; let not its weight  
fill your weak spirit with alarm;  
his strength shall bear your spirit up  
and brace your heart and nerve your arm.**
3. **Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,  
and let your foolish pride be still:  
your Lord refused not even to die  
upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.**
4. **Take up your cross, then, in his strength  
and calmly every danger brave;  
it guides you to a better home  
and leads to victory o'er the grave.**
5. **Take up your cross and follow Christ,  
nor think till death to lay it down;  
for only those who bear the cross  
may hope to wear the glorious crown.**

Charles William Everest 1814–77 *alt.*

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew [16. 21-28]  
**Glorify to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.'

But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

For the Gospel of the Lord,  
**praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*The Sermon*

*A time of silence, for reflection, follows the sermon.*

*The Affirmation of Faith.*

Let us together affirm our faith.

**We believe in one God,  
who made and loves all that is.  
We believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was born, lived, died and rose again,  
and is coming to call all to account.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
who calls, equips and sends out God's people,  
and brings all things to their true end.**

This is our faith, the faith of the Church:

**We believe in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**



## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The priest says*

*Let us pray for the Church and the world.*

*The response to "Loving God" is "**hear our prayer.**"*

Lord Jesus,  
we are called to complete dedication in service to you, our King.  
Help us follow you in every aspect of our lives.  
May our commitment to you be unwavering,  
filling us with the deep peace and fulfillment  
that comes from living according to your will.  
Strengthen our hearts to walk in your light and serve you  
wholeheartedly.

Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, draw us closer to you as we pray and reflect.  
May we find spiritual clarity and direction  
and understand the path you have laid before us.  
May we seek your presence daily,  
knowing that through prayer,  
we gain the strength to follow your teachings and grow in wisdom,  
compassion, and love for others.

Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, inspire us to live our faith boldly,  
becoming beacons of hope and light in the world.  
Guide us to serve others with love and humility, just as Christ did.  
May our acts of kindness and generosity  
reflect our faith and spread your love to all we meet.  
Help us find joy in making a difference in others' lives,  
bringing your Kingdom closer to Earth.

Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, may our lives reflect your light  
through integrity, honesty, and kindness.  
May our character shine with moral strength,  
drawing others to the love and truth of Christ.  
Remind us of your constant presence as you walk with us every step of  
each day  
and as we grow in faith and live according to your teachings.

Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

Generous God,  
we dedicate our time, talents, and treasures to your service,  
knowing that these gifts are essential  
for building your Kingdom on Earth.

Help us to invest in your work with open hearts,  
spreading your love and truth.

May our giving help to bring hope, joy, and transformation to the world  
as we live as examples of Christ's grace and love,  
guiding others toward the eternal hope in Him.

*The priest says*

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to  
pray,

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

*Please stand*

#### THE GREETING OF PEACE

To crown all things there must be love,  
to bind all together and complete the whole.  
Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

cf Colossians 3.14,15

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

**Offertory Hymn**—TiS 256, tune, Servant King.

- 1. From heaven you came, helpless babe,  
entered our world, your glory veiled;  
not to be served, but to serve,  
and give your life that we might live.**

***This is our God, the Servant King,  
he calls us now to follow him,  
to bring our lives as a daily offering  
of worship to the Servant King.***

2. There in the garden of tears,  
my heavy load he chose to bear;  
his heart with sorrow was torn,  
'Yet not my will but yours', he said.  
*This is our God, the Servant King ...*
3. Come see his hands and his feet,  
the scars that speak of sacrifice,  
hands that flung stars into space  
to cruel nails surrendered.  
*This is our God, the Servant King ...*
4. So let us learn how to serve  
and in our lives enthrone him;  
each other's needs to prefer,  
for it is Christ we're serving.  
*This is our God, the Servant King ...*

Graham Kendrick 1950—  
© 1983 G. Kendrick, Kingway's Thankyou Music

*Offertory prayer:*

Almighty God, we thank you for all the gifts you have given us:  
our lives, our loved ones,  
all that we have  
and all that we are.

Most of all, we thank you for Jesus,  
your Son and our Redeemer,  
who came among us to show us the way to eternal life. **Amen.**

Jesus was the perfect steward of your gifts,  
showing that complete trust in you is necessary,  
and that giving of self  
is a most important part of following Him.

Accept these offerings of our time,  
our talents,  
and our material treasures,  
made in that same spirit of sacrifice  
that Jesus taught us by his life and death for us. **Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;  
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away you did not reject us,  
but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children  
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life  
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross  
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,  
at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his body is the bread of life. ✠**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,  
he gave you thanks, and said:  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his blood is shed for all. ✠**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,  
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine  
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord. ✠**

With your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of praise  
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD  
AND THE COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
We who are many are one body,  
**for we all share in the one bread.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

*The Invitation to Communion is given*

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sins of the world.  
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*Communion Reflection, TiS 548. Tune, Gonfalon Royal 332.*

1. Eternal light, shine in my heart;  
eternal hope, lift up my eyes;  
eternal power, be my support;  
eternal wisdom, make me wise.
2. Eternal life, raise me from death;  
eternal brightness, help me see;  
eternal Spirit, give me breath;  
eternal Saviour, come to me;
3. until by your most costly grace,  
invited by your holy word,  
at last I come before your face  
to know you, my eternal God.

*Christopher Martin Idle 1938–  
from a prayer by Alcuin 735–804*

## THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

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. **Amen.**

**Almighty God, we thank you  
for feeding us with the body and blood  
of your Son Jesus Christ.**

**Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.**

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

### *Notices*

**Concluding Hymn—**AHB 520 / TiS 599. tune, Savannah.

- 1. Take my life, and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days,  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**
- 2. Take my hands, and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love.  
Take my feet, and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee.**
- 3. Take my voice, and let me sing  
always, only, for my King.  
Take my lips, and let them be  
filled with messages from thee.**
- 4. Take my silver and my gold,  
nothing, Lord, would I withhold.  
Take my intellect, and use  
every power as thou shalt choose.**
- 5. Take my will and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne.**

6. **Take my love: my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure-store.  
Take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.**

Frances Ridley Havergal 1836–79 alt

*The Blessing*

God the Father,  
who has given to his Son the name above every name,  
strengthen you to proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord.

**Amen.**

God the Son,  
who is our great high priest passed into the heavens,  
plead for you at the right hand of the Father.

**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
who pours out his abundant gifts upon the Church,  
make you faithful servants of Christ our King.

**Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

*Dismissal*

Go in the peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

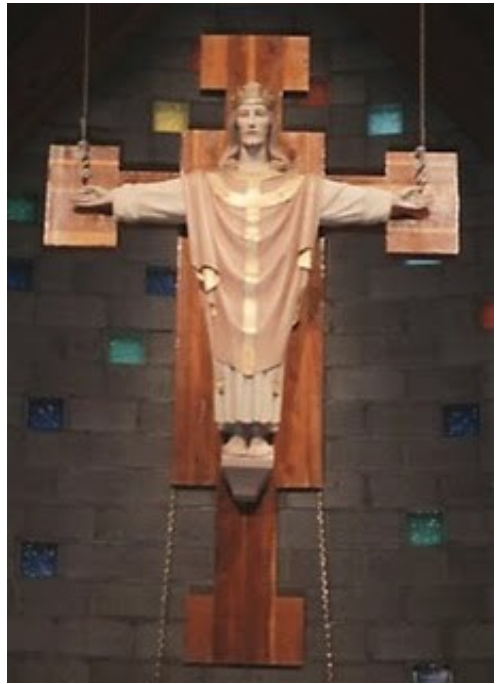
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christ  
the King

