



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH, CRANEBROOK, NSW

The Net

Visit our website: www.corpuschristi.org.au

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE - YEAR B

23rd & 24th NOVEMBER, 2024

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Not from, but for, the World

What are we to make of the famous reply of Jesus to Pilate: 'My kingdom is not of this world'? Left there, it sounds as though Jesus is talking about a realm which is far removed from terrestrial concerns. Perhaps our task as his followers is to meditate into a blissful nothingness, to live other-worldly lives.



It is a poor translation, and it should read: 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would have fought to stop my being handed over.' Of all the ways in which our Lord could have contrasted his realm with all the other ways in which societies are ruled, he chose a contrast about the use of force. Rather, his reign springs from his Father's will that humanity should live together in a realm of non-violence.

We can easily criticise the blasphemous use of barbaric violence in the supposed service of religion. It is the most extreme opposite of Our Lord's teaching which He embodied in his practice.

But, even for us, the challenge is there to restrain too-ready resort to armed violence and to humanely moderate its exercise where it is used to protect the innocent.

We could pause for a moment to pray for the coming of the Kingdom, not as an 'out of this world' experience, but in the words of the Our Father: 'Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.'

We, the people of Corpus Christi,
seek to grow in living
a Christ-centred mission,
sharing our gifts to foster welcome,
justice and community in today's world.



A very warm welcome to anyone who
is new to the parish.

So that we can get to know who you are,
please introduce yourself to the priest or acolyte after Mass
and fill out a Census Card, which is available in the foyer.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL 6PM

SUNDAY 7.30AM & 9.30AM

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday & Wednesday at 6pm

Thursday & Friday at 9.10am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday evening from 5.15pm -
5.45pm in the Meeting Room

ADORATION AND DEVOTION

First Friday of each month after
9.10am Mass.

This is also an anointing Mass.

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

Address: 86-92 Andromeda Drive
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parishteam@corpuschristi.org.au

Facebook:
[www.facebook.com/
CorpusChristiParishCranebrook](http://www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiParishCranebrook)

Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm
(Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri)

PARISH TEAM:

Administrator - Fr Jessie Balorio
- jessie.balorio@parracatholic.org
- 0451 851 610 (*emergencies only*)
- Presbytery: 4729 1675

Mrs Sue Weekes - Office Support
- sw@corpuschristi.org.au

SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:

Corpus Christi Primary - ph 4726 2200
(Principal - Mrs Sarah O'Rourke)

Xavier College - ph 4777 0900
(Principal - Mr Michael Pate)

Parish News

COMMUNAL SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

(Second Rite with visiting priests)

TUESDAY 10TH DECEMBER AT 7PM



CHRISTMAS EVE MASS TIMES

**Tuesday 24th December
6pm, 8.30pm & Midnight**

CHRISTMAS DAY

**Wednesday 25th December
7.30am & 9.30am**

Christmas Mass & Reconciliation times across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains can be found by visiting: www.parracatholic.org

MISA DE GALLO OR MISA DE AGUINALDO AT CORPUS CHRISTI

Thank you to everyone who expressed interest in having Misa de Gallo (Dawn Mass 6am) and Misa de Aguinaldo (Night Mass at 7.30pm) Masses at Corpus Christi. We are pleased to announce that the Misa de Aguinaldo night Mass will be going ahead.

PARISH MORNING TEA



Our next parish morning tea will take place on

SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER AFTER THE 9.30AM MASS

Everyone is welcome. We warmly encourage you to invite your friends and family to join us both for Mass and morning tea

To support our parish with catering, you are most welcome to bring a plate to share alternatively an optional gold coin donation can be made. *We kindly ask that a list of ingredients is provided for any home prepared food to support anyone with food allergies*

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PLAY

All children are invited to participate in the Nativity Play at the 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve.

Rehearsals will take place in the Church on Friday 20th December from 9.30am -11.30am and Tuesday 24th December at 4.30pm.



CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

All school aged children are invited to join the Children's Choir, which will be singing at the 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve.

Rehearsal for this choir will take place on Saturday 21st December from 9am - 11am.

If your child is interested in joining either the choir or the Nativity play please write your details on the sheet in foyer.

CORPUS CHRISTI YOUTH MASS

Our final youth Mass for 2024 will be held on

**SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER AT 5.00PM
Mass followed by refreshments.**

Please note that parents are welcome to attend the Mass and registration is not necessary.

For more information about our parish Youth Masses please contact Fr Jessie or Kieran Faccin.



DONATIONS FOR VINNIES CHRISTMAS HAMPERS



We are blessed that both Corpus Christi Primary and Xavier College have agreed to assist the conference this year with food donations.

Any members of the parish who would like to assist the conference by making donations of the following items would be appreciated:

tinned hams, Christmas puddings, custard, soft drinks, biscuits and mince pies, chips and other snack items, tinned fruit and other tinned items.

Baskets have been placed in the main foyer and near the other entry

If parishioners wish to make a gold coin donation to help with the purchase of some food items, buckets will also be in the foyer area and near the other entry door.

Thank you for your continued support of the conference.



NOVEMBER MASSES & BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Thank you to everyone who placed photos of their deceased relatives and friends to the altar, along with our book of remembrance during the month of November.

We kindly ask all families to collect your photos this weekend as we begin to prepare our Altar for Advent.

LET US OFFER GIFTS OF PRAYER

Recently Deceased:

Priscilla Mphanza, Werner Rauker, Max Ducasse, Dianne Mannion.

For those who are sick:

Barbara Kemp, Rose Zahra, Eleanor

Albertyn, Rosa Pronesti, Marlene Rodger, Lorna Christie

Parish News

PARISH WORKING BEE & BBQ

The parish will be having a working bee on

Saturday 30th November from 9am – 12pm

to prepare the grounds for Christmas.

BBQ will be provided after the working bee in appreciation of your support.

Please bring your gardening tools and any other equipment.



'YOUNG IN SPIRIT' SENIORS GROUP

Our seniors group meets on the last Friday morning of each month after 9.10am Mass in the Parish Office.

Please bring a small plate of food to share for morning tea. New members are always welcome.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers to Join the Parish Sacrament Team

We are in need of new members on the parish sacramental team and are asking anyone who is interested to contact Fr Jessie at the Parish Office. The main role is to assist in preparing children for the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Term 1), First Eucharist (Term 2) and Confirmation (Term 3). Preparation for Reconciliation and First Eucharist is two sessions each and three sessions for Confirmation.

Training and resources are provided.

Children's Liturgy Volunteers Needed

Children's Liturgy is on during the school terms at 6pm and 9.30am Masses. We try to keep your rostered times to a maximum of 3 each term. Please contact the Parish Office for more details.

Adopt a Garden

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to adopt a section of the parish gardens. If you are experiencing any problems with the work you are doing in your section, if you have any queries or would like to join this group, please contact the Parish Office, who will put you in touch with Greg Hall, the coordinator.



SAFEGUARDING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The modules are available to complete online at <https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding/training/>
Cycle 1 (New staff/volunteers who have not completed any training within the Diocese)

Cycle 2 (Renewal Training for staff/volunteers who completed Cycle 1 two years ago)

For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

BISHOPS CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Bishop's Christmas Appeal for Catholic Care's Houses to Homes This Christmas, will you help homeless mothers and children find a safe place to call home and rebuild their lives? Your kind-hearted gift and prayers will help Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provide homeless mothers and their children with practical and emotional support, and a safe haven to call home. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal at parracatholic.org/appeal.

Envelopes will be available in the church next weekend

MINISTRY ROSTERS FOR CHRISTMAS

As we are fast approaching Christmas and the new year, could all those who volunteer on the liturgical ministries please consider your availability for this time.

The sign on sheets for the ministry rosters for our Christmas Masses are in the foyer.

If you are able to assist in volunteering in the ministries of Acolyte, Reader, Commentator, Altar Server and Data Operator for any of the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Masses please put your name on the relevant list.



SACRAMENT OF PENANCE FOR CHILDREN - 2025

Children in Year 4 and above at school are invited to participate in the Parish Sacramental Program, commencing with the Sacrament of Penance. Parents wanting their child to participate in the program are required to attend a Penance Information Meeting and register their child on

**WEDNESDAY 26TH FEBRUARY, 2025
AT 7.00PM IN THE CHURCH.**

PARISH GIVING

Planned Giving/Parish Donations

Your gift to Planned Giving helps cover the running of the parish and also contributes towards outreach in our parish community and beyond.

If you would like to contribute directly, the parish bank details are:

**BSB: 067 950
Acct No: 100000698
Acct Name: Cranebrook Parish**

Please ensure you put your details in the reference section (ENVELOPE N# OR SURNAME)

Please contact the Parish Office if you

- ◇ are contributing to the Planned Giving Program via the envelope system and would like to change to credit card or direct debit;
- ◇ would like to join the Planned Giving Program.

The Living Word

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe - Year B

24th November 2024

First Reading

Daniel 7:13-14

A reading from the prophet Daniel
His sovereignty is eternal.
I gazed into the visions of the night.
And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven,
one like a son of man.
He came to the one of great age
and was led into his presence.
On him was conferred sovereignty,
glory and kingship,
and men of all peoples, nations and languages became his servants.
His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty
which shall never pass away,
nor will his empire be destroyed.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 92:1-2. 5. R.v.1

(R.) The Lord is king;
he is robed in majesty.
1.The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed;
the Lord has robed himself with might,
he has girded himself with power. (R.)
2.The world you made firm, not to be moved;
your throne has stood firm from of old.
From all eternity, O Lord, you are. (R.)
3.Truly your decrees are to be trusted.
Holiness is fitting to your house,
O Lord, until the end of time. (R.)

Second Reading

Revelation 1:5-8

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse
The ruler of the kings of the earth ...
made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God.
Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the First-born from the dead, the Ruler of the kings of the earth. He loves us and has washed away our sins with his blood, and made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God and Father; to him, then, be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen. It is he who is coming

on the clouds; everyone will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the races of the earth will mourn over him. This is the truth. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega' says the Lord God, who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.

Gospel

John 18:33-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

You say that I am a king.

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.' 'So you are a king then?' said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'

The Creed is said.

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

Questions for Adolescents

- Q. Why do you think Pilate questioned Jesus the way he did?
- Q. To what 'truth' did Jesus come into the world to bear witness?
- Q. How are we called to continue to bear witness to this truth?
- Q. Have you ever felt challenged about what you believe?
- Q. Do you find 'Christ the King' a helpful or significant image of Jesus?

Questions for Adults

- Q. Why did Pilate ask Jesus, 'Am I a Jew?'
- Q. Do you think the notion of 'Christ the King' has been misused at times in history?
- Q. Why might the Church choose to end the liturgical year with this particular feast?
- Q. What does it mean for us that Jesus is 'king' of a kingdom filled with the sick, poor and outcast?

Learning moments

Create two word and image collages: one that represents attitudes and structures of kingdoms of this world; and one that represents attitudes and structures of the kingdom of God. Share observations about the similarities and differences between the two concepts of kingdom.



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REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE –

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

Jesus tells his closest friends that he is the Messiah, the One chosen to come and lead Israel into a new way of life. Only, their idea of a messiah king is different. They are waiting for a Jewish political leader who will take over the nation and destroy their enemies, then persecute them the way the Jews have been persecuted by the political powers of their time. The ways of Jesus are different. He is a 'king' of nonviolence, forgiveness, unconditional love and service.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Each one of the readings depicts the enthronement of Christ who is revealed as the messiah-king. Until his trial, Jesus himself refused to be identified as king. The royal messianic expectations that prevailed during his lifetime were predominantly political. If he assumed them, his followers might have instigated a rebellion against the Roman occupiers. When finally he did acknowledge his royal identity, he insisted that his rule was not like that of other kings.

Enthroned in heaven, Christ is revealed as the faithful witness to all that God has done and will continue to do. As first-born from the dead, his resurrection is the promise of our own resurrection. The dominion that he received from God is universal and exclusive and it will last forever. When he comes again on the last day, he will be revealed in all his glory.

Christ's kingdom is a kingdom of truth and life, of holiness and grace, of justice and love and peace. We need not stand at a distance from him, afraid to approach because of our human vulnerability. He is the one who loved us so much that he handed himself over to suffering and death so that we might live. He has already brought us to birth in this kingdom through Baptism and he has taught us how to live in it. Today we look to that time when his glory will be revealed, when we will all be gathered into the embrace of God, there to sing praise to that glory forever.

REFLECTIONS by Greg Sunter

Living the Gospel

This week marks the end of the liturgical year. Next week, with the first week of Advent, we begin the new liturgical cycle. It is fitting that the Church concludes the liturgical year with the celebration of Christ the King. The conversation between Jesus and Pilate displays a lot of word play on the part of Jesus and quite a lot of confusion on the part of Pilate. The confusion stems from different perceptions of what it means to be a king. For Pilate, part of the most powerful political and military rule in the ancient world, the idea of a king was a threat. Claiming kingship was claiming authority and power that would inevitably lead to challenging the authority and power of Rome and, more directly, its representative in Palestine – Pilate. Jesus, of course, had a completely different idea about ushering in a kingdom. He does indeed declare that he is a king and that is what leads us to today's feast of Christ the King. However, his intention is not to claim a position of power and authority. When we think back to Jesus' teachings about the kingdom of God, we recall that he declares the people of highest status – the first – in the kingdom to be the lowliest of this world. It is the poor, the sick, the outcast, the children and the widows who will hold the highest places in the kingdom of God. In a kingdom like that, what does it

mean to declare oneself king? The confusion about what it means to be a king that is captured in this interaction between Jesus and Pilate is the same confusion that we saw among the disciples as they came to terms with exactly what it means to be the Messiah.

Gospel Focus – Truth

Jesus says to Pilate that he came into the world 'to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.' That is where today's gospel passage finishes but as the gospel continues on, Pilate famously asks Jesus 'What is truth?' and the question is left dangling; unanswered. The truth Jesus has borne witness to is the truth of his whole life – the revelation of God's love for humanity. It is for proclaiming this truth that Jesus is placed on trial and is brought before Pilate.

Historical Context – Christ the King

Unfortunately, political and military images of kingship have played a dominating role in the Church since very early in its history. The very earliest Christians, or followers of the Way, did not conform to social and political hierarchies of their day. But when Emperor Constantine declared Christianity to be the official religion of the Roman Empire the structure of the Church quickly adopted the political and social structures of the empire. At times in history the Pope has adopted a regal status and led huge armies into battle. Many of these structures persist today and we sometimes struggle to recapture Jesus' intention when he declared himself a king.

Have you thought? The Kingdom of God

When Jesus speaks about the Kingdom of God he never gives a particularly clear picture of what he means. He usually refers to the kingdom with metaphoric language ('the kingdom of God is like ...') and often the kingdom is defined by what it is not. The kingdom is also a real contradiction: it is here and now and yet it is still to come; it is almost impossible for some to enter the kingdom while others are assured a place; it is within us and in our hearts and yet is a great banquet to which all are invited.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for November

For anyone who has lost a child

We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.



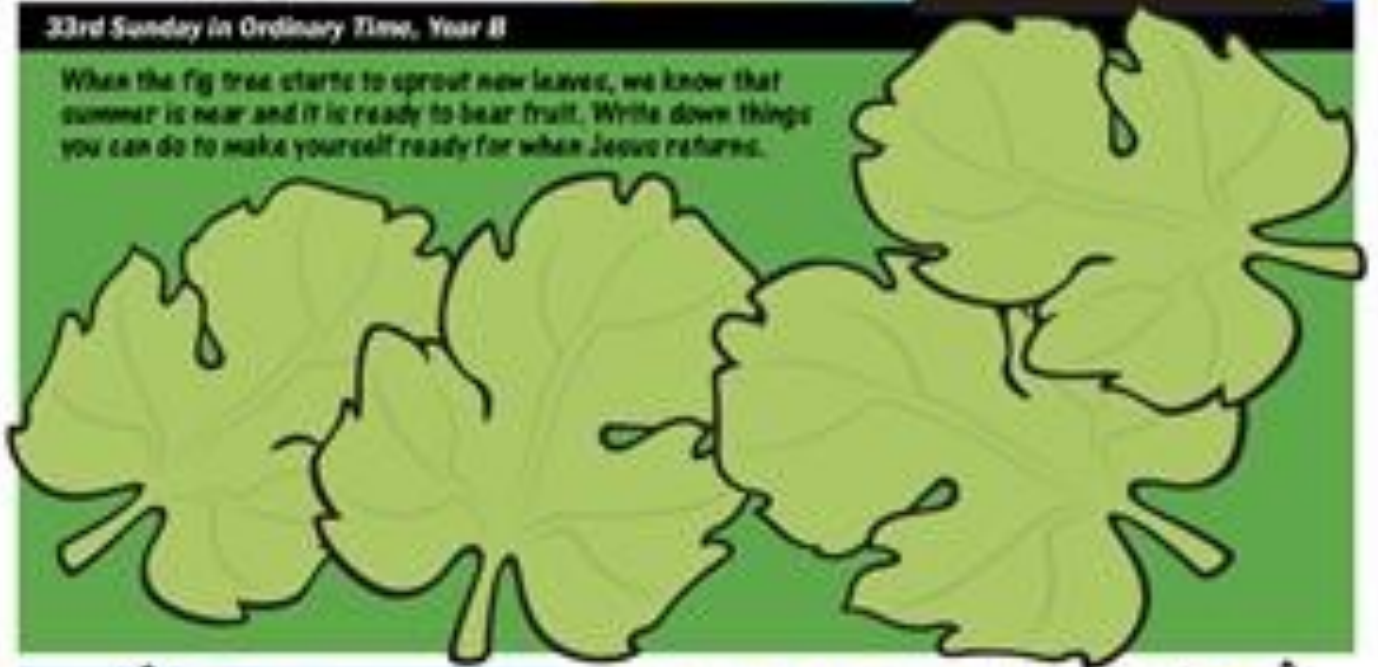
Children's Worksheet



We are God's chosen ones

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year II

When the fig tree starts to sprout new leaves, we know that summer is near and it is ready to bear fruit. Write down things you can do to make yourself ready for when Jesus returns.



When Jesus returns, God will send his angels to gather his chosen ones. Write down the names of some people you know for the angels to gather.



FIND THE SECRET ANSWER

Help the angel find the hidden answer to the question... "Who will know when the time is right for Jesus to return?". In the puzzle below, cross out any letter that appears four or more times. Then unscramble the remaining letters to complete the verse below.



B	M	G	S	N	D	V	K	P	Y	Z
J	W	Q	I	H	Z	O	S	W	E	V
P	C	T	B	V	Q	G	X	M	P	I
M	Q	S	L	N	K	Y	C	S	U	B
X	D	J	M	T	X	V	D	J	Z	V
L	U	O	K	S	J	B	K	C	D	R
Q	E	L	P	G	O	Z	U	Q	S	Y
G	I	W	U	X	M	F	K	C	N	G
L	O	C	S	B	I	P	L	J	D	P
Z	U	Y	L	H	N	G	Q	A	W	K

ONLY _____ KNOWS.

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who support our parish throughout the year.*

Please consider supporting them when in need of these services...



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Dianne Xiberras: 0400 774 213
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