Religious Education Department
Thirty-Fourth Sunday of the Year A
Week Beginning 22nd November 2026

The Feast of Christ the King
For Sunday, **22 November 2026** (Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Year A), the Gospel reading is Matthew 25:31–46 (the judgment of the sheep and the goats).

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11–12, 15–17
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23:1–2, 2–3, 5–6
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20–26, 28
Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:31–46
Introduction:

Today is the last Sunday of the Church's year, the Feast of Christ the King. As the year draws to an end, we turn our thoughts to when Christ will return as king at the end of time.

Sorry:

Listen to this reading **(Psalm 34: 11-14)**

Listen to me little ones, and you will learn to please God. If you want a life filled with happiness and joy, turn away from wickedness and lies. Surround yourself with goodness, and try with all your heart to share the Peace of God with others.

We ask God's forgiveness for any mistakes we have mad as we pray: Pick me up Lord, if I have made a mistake and fallen again. Take my hand and surround me with your goodness so that I can try again.

Gospel Acclamation:

Christ is the King of the world, One, day he will come back and we will see his full glory. Christ is the King of the world.

Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46:

And when the Son of man shall come in his majesty, and all the angels with him, then shall he sit upon the seat of his majesty. And all nations shall be gathered together before him, and he shall separate them one from another, as the shepherd separated the sheep from the goats:

And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on his left. Then shall the king say to them that shall be on his right hand: Come, ye blessed of

my Father, possess you the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave me to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave me to drink; I was a stranger, and you took me in**.** Naked, and you covered me: sick, and you visited me: I was in prison, and you came to me. Then shall the just answer him, saying: Lord, when did we see thee hungry, and fed thee; thirsty, and gave thee drink? And when did we see thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and covered thee? Or when did we see thee sick or in prison, and came to thee?

And the king answering, shall say to them: Amen I say to you, as long as you did it to one of these my least brethren, you did it to me. Then he shall say to them also that shall be on his left hand: Depart from me, you cursed, into everlasting fire which was prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry, and you gave me not to eat: I was thirsty, and you gave me not to drink.

I was a stranger, and you took me not in: naked, and you covered me not: sick and in prison, and you did not visit me. Then they also shall answer him, saying: Lord, when did we see thee hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister to thee? Then he shall answer them, saying: Amen I say to you, as long as you did it not to one of these least, neither did you do it to me. And these shall go into everlasting punishment: but the just, into life everlasting.

Gospel Reflection:

34th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) - The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe: Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

November 2026 focuses on being ready and living faith each day. The readings remind us to follow good examples, use our gifts well, and care for others.

We are called to stay alert and trust in God's plan. Jesus is shown as our true king who leads with love and service. As the Church year ends and a new one begins, the message is clear. Live with purpose, stay awake in faith, and be ready to welcome the Lord with hope.

As the Church celebrates the final Sunday of the liturgical year, we proclaim Jesus Christ as King of the Universe. Yet the kingship of Christ is very different from the power and authority that the world often values. Jesus does not reign from a throne of wealth or military strength. Instead, He reigns through love, mercy, service, and sacrifice.

In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that we will be judged on how we have treated others, especially those who are most vulnerable: the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the sick, and the imprisoned. He tells us that whatever we do for the least of our brothers and sisters, we do for Him.

This Gospel challenges us to recognise Christ in every person we meet. It is easy to honour Christ in church, but Jesus asks us to find Him in those who need our help, compassion, and kindness. The measure of our faith is not only what we believe but how we live out that belief in loving service to others.

As we prepare to begin a new liturgical year, this feast invites us to reflect on our lives. Have we allowed Christ to be King of our hearts? Do our actions reflect His love and mercy? When we care for those in need, forgive others, and work for justice and peace, we help build God's Kingdom here on earth. May Christ the King reign in our hearts, our homes, our school, and our community, leading us closer to His eternal Kingdom.

Prayer:

Christ the King Prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, we thank You for Your love, mercy, and faithfulness. Help us to recognise You in those who are hungry, lonely, suffering, or in need.
Give us generous hearts so that we may serve others with kindness and compassion.

Teach us to place You at the centre of our lives and to live each day according to Your Gospel. May Your peace rule in our hearts, Your truth guide our decisions, and Your love inspire our actions. As we come to the end of this liturgical year, help us to prepare for Your coming with faith, hope, and joy. We ask this through Christ our King. Amen.

Supporting Our Five Charity Partners:

As part of our commitment to living out our faith through service, we are once again collecting dry goods to support the five charities we work with throughout the year. We would be very grateful for donations of non-perishable food items such as pasta, rice, tinned vegetables, tinned meat or fish, cereals, long-life milk, tea, coffee, biscuits, and other cupboard essentials.

These donations make a real difference to individuals and families experiencing hardship in our local community. If you are able to contribute, please send donations into school via your child. We thank you for your continued generosity and support of this important work of charity and solidarity.

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40)

Advent Begins Sunday 29th November:

Next Sunday, **29th November**, marks the **First Sunday of Advent**, the beginning of the Church's new liturgical year B. Advent is a special season of preparation as we await the celebration of the birth of Jesus at Christmas and look forward with hope to His coming again.

During these four weeks, we are encouraged to make time for prayer, reflection, acts of kindness, and service to others. As a school community, we will journey through Advent together, focusing on hope, peace, joy, and love, and preparing our hearts to welcome Christ.

We wish all our families a blessed and prayerful Advent season.

"Stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming." (Matthew 24:42)

'The God Who Speaks'

And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them? This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the Day of Judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. **(1 John 4:16-18**).