

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 Gospel of the Lord.**



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE / B

21 NOVEMBER 2021

WITNESSING TO THE TRUTH

In the ancient world, the monarchy was understood as a sacred institution. The ruler was appointed, sustained, and legitimated by the gods. The king was understood to rule with the blessing of the gods and acted on their behalf in the human sphere. Notwithstanding this perception of the dignity of the monarchy, Israel's experience of this institution was a mixed one – not all rulers exhibited the qualities which the psalms and prophets spoke of as desirable and necessary in a monarch.

Today's readings invite us at the end of the Church's year to ponder anew the nature of Jesus' kingship and the royal dignity each of us shares by virtue of our baptism. Pilate was confronted with the problem of determining Jesus' identity and whether he was guilty of the crime of sedition. After some questioning, Jesus' identity as a king emerges, but in an unexpected manner. As king, Jesus' role is not that of earthly rule but of bearing witness to the truth about the God who sent him into the world.

The kingship of Jesus is proclaimed in the reading from the Apocalypse but in such a way that the reader never loses sight of the manner in which it was most clearly given expression. Jesus' death on the cross is the means by which we are once again reconciled to God and is the source of the dignity of all those who are baptised. It is by witnessing to the truth that we exercise the dignity which has been given to us in baptism.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Dan 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 ever be destroyed.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

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.**

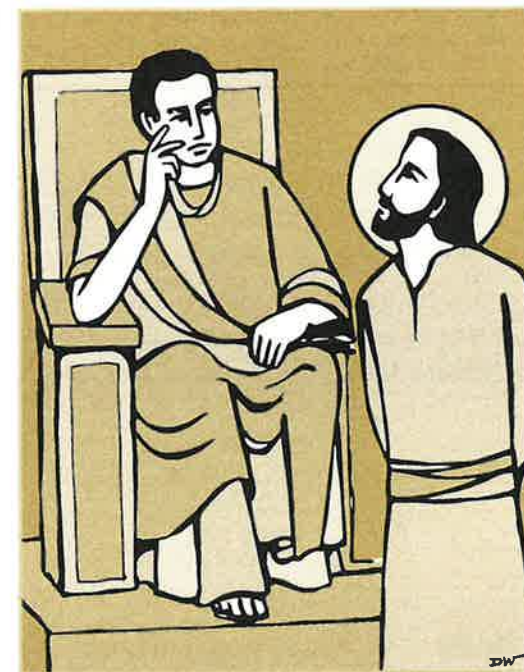
SECOND READING

Apoc 1:5-8

A reading from the book of 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.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mk 11:9, 10

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Alleluia!

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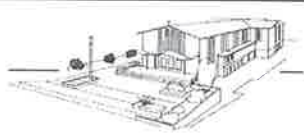
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Sun 9am

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From my desk

Greetings to one and all on this Solemnity of the Universal Kingship of Jesus Christ, Dominion and Glory as he reigns over all people and nations. He is the beginning and end. His Kingdom does not belong to this world. His Kingdom, we can transform into God's Kingdom of love and justice here and now. This is the last Sunday of our ecclesiastical (Church's) year. Next Sunday we will celebrate the 1st Sunday of Advent, and continue in another year of grace, in which we remember once again our sacred history of salvation as we await the 2nd and final coming of the Lord.

Congratulations to our 1st Holy Communicants of St Agnes who received Jesus for the first time in Holy Communion last Sunday, may they continue to receive Jesus often, as their source of spiritual nourishment of grace in their lives.

Because of Covid restrictions our annual St Andrew's dinner, which I believed took place around this time, will sadly not take place this year.

Confirmations are just around the corner. St Andrew's Confirmation will take place on Tuesday 30 November at 6.30pm. Bishop Umbers is not able to attend and confer the Sacrament at St Andrew's, and has given delegation to me to confer the Sacrament on our children at St Andrew's. St Agnes' Confirmation will take place on Wednesday 1 December, at 6.30pm by Bishop Umbers. Due to Covid restrictions these Masses are restricted in their numbers and sadly not open as a normal parish Mass.

Many thanks for those who have given generously to our Restoration Fund. Envelopes are available in both our churches. At St Andrews, we are entering into repairing the split blue vinyl pews, each panel costs \$150 to restore. Sadly, only St Agnes' church because it is a War memorial Church can receive a tax deduction. On the donations envelopes there is a section where you are invited to place the name of those who you might like to be remembered through your giving. These names will be put in our Donors Book at each church.

Please visit our website in regard to many matters especially our ability to oppose the euthanasia bill into NSW Parliament

Congratulations and God's blessing on Fr Danny Meagher (formally the Rector of the Seminary of the Good Shephard, Homebush, and recently administrator of Five Dock Parish) on being appointed by Pope Francis as an auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Sydney.

God bless you all and keep you all safe.

Fr John

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WONDERFUL PARISH PRIEST FR JOHN KNIGHT,
ON YOUR 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION, CELEBRATED MONDAY,
15TH NOVEMBER. May God Bless you, with many more years of faithful service.**



CWF PARISH APPEAL THIS WEEKEND

Your generous donations will help those most vulnerable in Sydney, with crisis pregnancy support, telecare counselling, support for the deaf and hard of hearing, pastoral support for our Aboriginal communities, and care for children needing foster care among many other things. Appeal envelopes will be provided for your use, or you can find them in your envelope pack or donate by scanning the code, or going to the www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf. Donations are 100% Tax deductible.



Our Parishes acknowledge and honour the Bidjigal and Gadagal People of the Eora Nation as the original custodians of this land

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Go Make Disciples,

The Mission Plan for the Archdiocese of Sydney

Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

All our dear loved ones we are remembering in our November Masses

Recently deceased: Valerie Micallef, Maria Phi, Juliata, Teresita, Magallan, Mervie, Blake Barker, Salvina Aquilina, Rosina Foti, Doris Galea and all who have died from the Covid-19 Virus.

Deceased: Agnes Brisbane.

Anniversary: Cec Knight, James Lawes, Frances Lawes, Carmen Farrugia, Frank Patruno, Mario De Roit, Ruth Kelly, Carmen Farrugia and Christine O'Meara, Vincent Valencia.

The Sick: Maria Reilly and all the sick of the parish, the dying, poor and homeless.



A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney: Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or afeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Where will Fr John be celebrating Masses next weekend

At St Mary's Cathedral with Knights of the Holy Sepulchre

Sat, 5.30 St Agnes, Supply Priest

Sun 9.00am St Andrew's Supply Priest (Livestreamed)

Please scan the QR Code to watch on Youtube



SCAN ME

Funeral for the late Valerie Micallef – St Andrew's, Sat, 27 Nov, 10:30pm.