SUNDAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:
How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and authority for ever and ever.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 23.

RESPONSE:
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
   there is nothing I shall want.
   Fresh and green are the pastures
   where he gives me repose. ℟
2. Near restful waters he leads me;
   he revives my soul.
   He guides me along the right path,
   for the sake of his name. ℟
3. You have prepared a table before me
   in the sight of my foes.
   My head you have anointed with oil;
   my cup is overflowing. ℟
4. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
   all the days of my life.
   In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
   for length of days unending. ℟

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:
Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming! Alleluia.

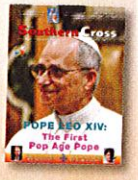
GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:
The Lord sits as King forever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

Live the Word

Mon 23 Nov (St Columbanus, Ab)
Revelations 14:1-5; Psalm 24; Luke 21:1-4
"Be slow to anger, swift to learn, slow also to speak, ... equally swift to hear. Be respectful to the worthy, merciful to the poor. Be mindful of favours, unmindful of wrongs." – St Columbanus, Letter to a Young Disciple

Tue 24 Nov Ss Andrew Dung-Lac, Pr & Companions, Ms
Rev 14:14-19; Psalm 96; Luke 21: 5-11
St Andrew Dung-Lac represents the 117 martyrs of Vietnam; 97 of the martyrs were Vietnamese and 21 were foreign missionaries. Eight were bishops, 50 were priests and 59 were lay people.

Wed 25 Nov (St Catherine of Alexandria, VM)
Revelation 15:1-4; Psalm 98; Luke 21:12-19
True wisdom comes not only from study but from union with God. True beauty is only attained by reflecting the Source of all beauty. True courage is only possible when it is Christ who strengthens us.

Thu 26 Nov Liturgy of the Day
Rev 18:1-2.21-23; 19:1-3.9; Psalm 100; Luke 21:20-28
Do not put off what you can do today. God calls us to deepen our faith and rise to the challenge of loving our neighbours in the here and now. It requires a sense of constant awareness and living in the present.

Fri 27 Nov Liturgy of the Day
Revelation 20:1-4.11–21:2; Psalm 84; Luke 21:29-33
When will all people see your goodness, O Lord? When will all come to you and drink at the source of your grace? How can I tell them of your sweetness and your power? How can my happiness reach others?

Sat 28 Nov Liturgy of the Day
Revelations 22:1-7; Psalm 95; Luke 21:34-36
God speaks to our hearts through the Word and other people. God does not want to compel belief by a miracle. God calls us to believe and to trust. Allow God to lead you to a freely chosen faith.

Sun 29 Nov 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1.3-8; Psalm 80; Mark 13:33-37
This Advent, as we prepare for the coming of Jesus, our Prince of Peace, let us ask ourselves: Where might we stretch ourselves to love more? With whom can we share our talents and our goods?

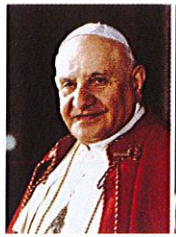
KEY: **SOLEMNITY**; FEAST; Memorial; (Optional Memorial)
Ab=Abbot; Pr=Priest; V=Virgin; M=Martyr

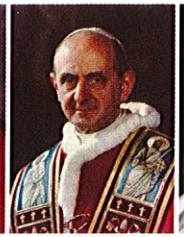
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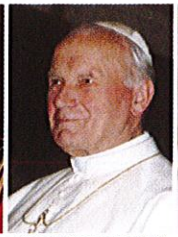
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Catholic Link

SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT AND WATCHFUL FAITH
Christ the King • Year A
Divine Office: Week II • 22 November 2026

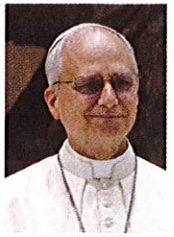

Pope St John XXIII
Photo: De Agostini Editore


Pope St Paul VI
Photo: Fotografia Felici


Pope St John Paul II
Photo: The White House, 1991


Pope Benedict XVI
Photo: by Medialpj


Pope Francis
Photo: Korean Culture and Information Service


Pope Leo XIV
Photo: Edgar Beltrán, The Pillar

Christ the King

Standing before Pontius Pilate, Jesus made two claims, (1) that he is a King, and (2) that he came to bear witness to the Truth. We dedicate our final article in the present *Link* series to recent popes whose watchful faith and witness to the truth, like Christ the King, have helped us to see the times in which we live from God's perspective.

Pope John XXIII surprised many by calling an Ecumenical Council to address the challenges which the modern world posed to the Church. Pope John's inspiration was to renew and update the Church by studying original sources and bring them into dialogue with the present day.

His successor, Pope Paul VI, drew Vatican Council II to conclusion and tirelessly began the project of implementing the decisions of the Council, an ongoing and long-term task.

Pope John Paul II stunned the Church and the world with a burst of energy granted him by the Holy Spirit. For twenty-seven years he served the Church by teaching, preaching and pilgrimaging across the world. He issued a stream of letters on wide-ranging aspects of the faith and morals of Christians. From philosophical reflection on the relationships between faith and reason, to theological insights on the mystery of the Eucharist, Pope John Paul influenced millions of people. Even his death was a sermon on the joy of believing.

Pope John Paul's successor, Pope Benedict XVI, remembered as the pope who resigned from the papacy, will more likely be cherished for the spiritual depth of his theological writings. A brilliant and gifted theologian most of his life, on becoming pope he had a style that was quiet, gentle, courteous, and profoundly respectful to all. His watchful faith led him to alert the Church and the world of the flaws of the current wave of relativism (i.e. there are no universal criteria for truth). His most inspiring words were always about love. His three encyclicals were: *God is Love*, *Saved by Hope,* and *Love in Truth*.

From the beginning of his papacy, Pope Francis struck an informal note. His style was relaxed and easy. In his first letter to his world-wide flock, he wrote, "I prefer a Church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets, rather than a Church which is unhealthy ... from clinging to its own security". Throughout his years as bishop of Rome, he urged the Church to think first of people on the peripheries: the poor, the lonely, the lost and forgotten. Francis' personal priority was pastoral. As Gaza was bombed daily, daily he phoned the parish priest of Gaza City.

Francis broke new ground by putting environmental issues and climate change on the Church's agenda, urging "care for our common home". His writings and actions were always pastorally sensitive, as in his exhortation, *The Joy of Love,* reaching out to divorced and remarried Catholics and opening a way forward for returning to the sacraments.

Pope Leo XIV, the present pope, reveals himself as a reflective leader, not intimidated by the "tech revolution", as we saw in our previous *Link* articles, open to human development, but watchful of potential moral pitfalls.

May Christ the King continue to inspire such servant leadership!

St Patrick's Catholic Church Benoni

Founded 1910

Archdiocese of Johannesburg South Africa

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Parish Secretary: Judy Joseph
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106 Woburn Avenue, Benoni

Mass Times	Tues 09h30	Wed No mass	Thurs No Mass	Fri 08h00	Sat 08h00 17h00	Sun 07h30 10h00	Confessions Tues 10h00 Sat 08h30

Baptism of children: Book with the parish secretary and collect the form. Attendance of one short instruction is required.

Please support your parish: **"St Patrick's Catholic Church"** Benoni, Standard Bank. Current Account number: **021 095 612** (Branch code: 013042). To join our monthly Dedicated Giving contact Tanya; bookkeeper@stpatricksbenoni.co.za or on 060 327 2998.

Our **"Society of St Vincent de Paul"** helps the poor – on our behalf – irrespective of race, colour or creed. Please support them: Society of St Vincent de Paul, Standard Bank, Boksburg, Current Account no. 220930287.

There will be a second collection for the **Bishops' Gaudete Fund** during the Sundays of Advent (Sunday 29 Nov) - this is to help the poor and needy.

The Divine Mercy chaplet will be said every Friday at 3.00pm. Everyone is welcome.

This coming Saturday 28 November there will be a **RETREAT** for the First Confession children from 9.00am to 12 noon.

Our catechism children will be presenting the Nativity play on Sunday 29 November, at 8.15am for 8.30am in the big hall.

We congratulate our children from the parish and St Columba's who made their First Holy Communion last week.

Congratulations to Nanda Basson who won the "Queen of Africa" quilt.

To make a donation to St Patrick's or give your collection at mass: Use SNAPSCAN by downloading the app on your phone and holding it over the QR code on the right.

CHRIST THE KING

Sunday Missal page 430 Weekday Missal page 1484

Inherit the kingdom. (Matthew 25:34)

Today, on the feast of Christ the King, we celebrate Jesus' sovereignty over all creation. We celebrate the fact that all things were created through him, all things are redeemed through him, and all people will be judged by him.

It's this last point-Jesus as judge-that today's Gospel focuses on. It tells us that as our King, Jesus has the right to set the standard by which we will be judged. Other judges exercise their office based on the existing laws of the land. But Jesus is the law of the kingdom. His life, his way, is the standard by which we will be judged.

If you want to be a judge in this world, you have to know the law intimately. Just one word in one statute can affect the entire outcome of a case. Not so with Jesus. His law is simple. We will "inherit the kingdom" based on this guiding principle: "Whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me". That's the standard: mercy, generosity, and self-giving love.

It's often said that you can't take it with you, and there is a lot of truth to that. All our money, all our honors, all our possessions are temporary. They won't follow us to heaven, and they can't help us get in. But there is something we can take with us: our acts of charity. In fact, they are the very things that will open the gates of heaven to us!

Jesus will not be impressed if we have many possessions, and he will not be disappointed if we have just a few. What matters is whether we have let him soften our hearts so that we feed the hungry, forgive those who have sinned against us, and reach out to the lonely. Because his kingdom is not a kingdom of wealth and power; it isa kingdom of humility, love, and service.

"Jesus, my King and my Judge, teach me to love as you love."

Parish repository

There are very attractive items for Christmas on sale in the parish office. There are also different statues on sale (Our Lady; Divine Mercy; the Sacred Heart of Jesus; St Joseph; our Lady of Fatima and Madonna of the Rosary). 2027 Liturgical calendars at R30 a copy; advent candle packs at R95. Different colours of bracelets and rosaries. Crucifixes.