



Today's gospel reminds us of the end of time by drawing our attention to the last moments of Jesus' earthly life. He was crucified on the cross between two thieves for claiming to be king, yet the only crown he wore was thorns. Only his mother Mary and a few friends were faithful to the last. At the moment of his greatest human agony he welcomes the repentance of the good thief and gives him his personal assurance of eternal life, 'Today you will be with me in paradise.' While earthly kings rule from palaces, Christ the King reigns from the cross. His kingdom is not a palace but a people who give their hearts lovingly to him by shaping their lives according to his will. For those of us who have lost sight of the truth that heaven is our final destiny, the feast of Christ the King invites us to start living our lives as Jesus has taught us to live them. In all we do, we seek to become more like Jesus Christ for he only becomes our king when we give him our total allegiance. In practice we often withhold that loyalty. How many of us can truthfully say of family life that Christ is the head of the house, the unseen guest at every meal and the silent listener to every conversation. To recognise Jesus as head of our lives involves a change of heart like the good thief and a more honest approach in our way of living. Selfishness, hatred and injustice must give way to Christ-like attitudes if we are to follow his message. The kingship of God is made real by allowing God to do his work in us and through us. It is a life long process involving a daily invitation to conversation. He calls us who we are, his subjects, to take his side in our struggle of furthering the growth of his kingdom.

**Masses and Services During the week - Eucharistic Service: Monday - 9.30 a.m. Masses: Tuesday - Friday - 9.30 a.m. **Saturday** – Reconciliation at 12.30 - 1.00 p.m and again from 6.30 – 7.00 p.m. **Sunday** – 9 a.m., 10.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.**

**Christmas Fair** - Many thanks for all your hard work for the fair yesterday and making it a success as always. I am very grateful to all who helped in any way with the setting up, running of the stalls and clearing up afterwards. You're all in my masses and prayers.

There is a lot going on at this time with the rewiring of the church and Presbytery and reroofing at the back of church. Hopefully they will have finished all the work by Christmas.

**We welcome** our First Holy Communion children, teachers and catechists to our 10.30 a.m. mass this morning. Please pray for them during their time of preparation.

**Churches Together in Wilmslow** are organising a Hustings for the forthcoming election. All four candidates have agreed to participate at Wilmslow United Reformed Church, Chapel Lane, SK9 1PR on Saturday 30th November at 2.00 p.m. You may submit your questions in advance to [wilmslowhustings2019@gmail.com](mailto:wilmslowhustings2019@gmail.com)

**SVP Appeal** - A family (of 7) who are beneficiaries of the SVP are in desperate need of a washing machine. If anyone can help by way of donating one, we can collect and deliver.

**Confirmation 2020** - Students in year 8 and above who would like to be confirmed next year please email your interest to Alex Brenninkmeijer: [alex@brenn.co.uk](mailto:alex@brenn.co.uk) by 4th December 2019. The preparation course will run over 6 sessions starting in January. Please be aware that catholic secondary schools do not, generally, prepare their students for confirmation.

God Bless You All

Fr. William O'Riordan

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. W. O'Riordan 01625 522776. Permanent Deacon: Rev. B.T. Chrisp 01625 251047.

Parish Contact for all Sacraments/Newsletter -Trish Chrisp: 01625 251047 / 07957 285824 or [trishchrisp@gmail.com](mailto:trishchrisp@gmail.com)

Parish Rep. Child Protection: 01625 252108. S.V.P: 07749 453776. Hall Co-ordinator: 01625 250879

Parish Website: <http://stbenedictshandforth.mycylex.co.uk>

Your Catholic Primary School is: St. Benedict's situated on Hall Road, Handforth.

For more information please contact Hannah McGuire, Head Teacher on 01625 520207