

Granville Catholic Church Record

Vol. 10. No. 46

November 23, 2025

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



We have spent the past few weeks meditating upon the Communion of Saints, the certainty of death, and the purification of Purgatory. This week, we come to the most profound of the "Last Things": the Eternal Destinations decided by Christ at the moment of our passing - Heaven and Hell.

As soon as the soul separates from the body, it stands before God for the Particular Judgment. In this private encounter, Christ reveals the soul's entire life, its graces accepted and rejected, its sins, and its merits. This Judgment is perfect and final, and the soul immediately chooses its own eternal place based on its final disposition toward God. There are only two outcomes: perfect, eternal union with God, or perfect, eternal separation from God.

The first destination is Heaven, the reward promised to all who die perfectly purified in God's grace. Heaven is the state of unending joy

Heaven and Hell The Eternal Choices of the Judgement

and perfect happiness. It is the fulfilment of every human longing, where the soul is united with the Most Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This vision of God, known as the Beatific Vision, is an intimacy and happiness so complete that nothing on earth can compare to it. The Saints and Angels welcome the soul, and there is an eternal feast of truth, love, and beauty. This is the destiny for which God created every one of us; it is the ultimate and highest purpose of our existence.

However the Church also holds up the solemn truth of Hell. Hell is the state of eternal separation from God. It is not an arbitrary punishment, but the ultimate consequence of a soul freely choosing mortal sin, refusing God's mercy, and dying unrepentant. While God desires that all souls be saved, He respects our free will. If a soul decisively rejects God's love and grace, the doors of Heaven are closed. The greatest suffering of Hell is the loss of God, the absence of the source of all goodness and joy, which the soul instinctively longs for.

Reflecting of Heaven and Hell is meant to deepen our sense of

urgency regarding our own spiritual lives. The prospect of Heaven should fill us with hope and motivate us to pursue holiness with greater fervour. Conversely, the reality of Hell should inspire us to flee from sin and to never postpone seeking the Sacrament of Penance (Confession). Confession is the ordinary path God has given us to restore the state of grace after mortal sin, guaranteeing us forgiveness and safety on the road to salvation.

It is vital to understand that the Particular Judgment is just that: *particular* to the individual soul. The time for choosing is now, while we are still the Church Militant here on earth. The eternal joy of Heaven is real, and the eternal misery of Hell is real. This is why the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and daily devotion to Jesus, Mary, and St. Joseph are so important; they are the anchors that keep us fixed on the path of salvation.

Let us make a firm resolution to live each day in such a way that we may be ready to meet the just Judge with confidence, and be filled with vigilance, penance and unending hope in His Divine Mercy.

THE PARISH OFFICE

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Assistant Priest

Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguyen

Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

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Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

Holy Family Primary School

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Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton, John Augustus, Frank Azzopardi, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, John Borg, Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia, Carmel Galea, Carmello Giovenco, Evangeline Grabato, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins, Terese Jones, Therese Khalil, Kay King, Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Don Provest, Ricardo Tognini, Lorraine Vella, Sam Wardan, Gerard Watts.



*Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
by the grace of your Holy Spirit
cure the weaknesses of your servants,
and mercifully restore them to full health.*

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,
11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

Narelle Khoury, Claudette Takchi,
Moona Wehbe

Flower Arranging

Ana Brown and Latu Manu

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,
11:30 a.m.

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 3:

Vietnamese Community

Readers

Vigil Rebecca Hanson, Racquel La Rosa,
Katherine Jenner

10:00 a.m. Sisters, Merlin Sandhiya,
Wadzi Mushininga

Children's Liturgy

Elmo and Shanthi Xavier

IN MEMORIAM

We prayerfully remember throughout November in a special way, all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, and in particular, all those listed in the parish's Book of Remembrance.



*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them
May they rest in peace. Amen*

*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

NOTICES

Saturday Confessions at Holy Trinity Church

Weekly confession time is available at Holy Trinity Church before the Vigil Mass from 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. Take advantage of this weekly opportunity to make your confession and then join us for the Vigil Mass at 6:00 p.m.

There are 3 opportunities each and every week to make your confession across the parish, along with an additional time on the First Friday of the month, so take advantage of these opportunities to seek the mercy and forgiveness of Our Lord in the sacrament He instituted to draw us closer to Himself.



Weekly Adoration at Holy Family Church

Weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held every Wednesday evening, after the 6:00 p.m. Mass.

Please take some time out of your day and spend some time with Our Lord, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament, and join others in praying for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. Opportunities for confessions will still be available every Wednesday evening between 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

"A Holy Hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament is worth more than a thousand years of human glory."

- St. Pio of Pietrelcina

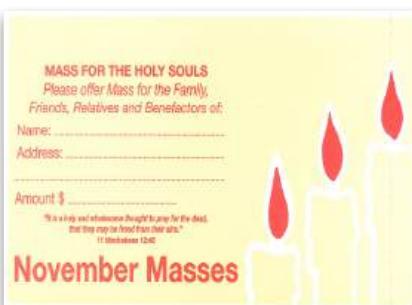
November Mass Intentions for the Souls in Purgatory

Envelopes for the parish's Book of Remembrance are now available at the doors of the church.

The Book of Remembrance is a special way to honour and pray for the repose of the souls of our beloved dead throughout the month of November.

If you wish to have the names of your deceased loved ones inscribed in the book, please take an envelope, clearly write the names, and place the sealed envelope in the clearly marked boxes located near the church doors.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen



Become a Parish Volunteer

We're always grateful for the dedication of our volunteers, and encourage others to come forward and get involved.

If you have a passion for service and some time to offer, consider joining one of our many parish ministries. There are opportunities for all ages to join in and take part in the life of the parish.

Please be aware that some volunteer positions will require a Working With Children Check. Completion of safeguarding training is also required, and assistance will be available if required.

For more information on how you can become a volunteer, contact the parish office, or visit the parish website's 'ministries' section. www.holycrossgranville.org.au

2026 Columban Calendars on Sale Now

The 2026 Columban Calendars are now on sale in the Piety Shops at both churches for \$11.00.

This Calendar is well-known for its traditional religious paintings and liturgical information and is a major fundraiser for Columban Missionaries.

Funds raised help the St. Columbans Mission Society continue their work in the fifteen countries they serve. Through education, pastoral care and essential aid, your continued support transforms lives and brings Christ's love to the most vulnerable.

Online Donations in Support of the Parish

Online donations can be made through the Holy Cross Parish website (holycrossgranville.org.au) using our BPoint facility by visiting the website or scanning the QR code below.

This can be used to make a single donation or, for those who are part of the planned giving programme, to make your contribution.

Thank you to all those who regularly support the parish by your contributions. Whether through the planned giving programme and your envelopes or through the second collection.

Your regular support of the parish is greatly appreciated and is of tremendous assistance to the parish in undertaking our works.





OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

CHRISTUS VINCIT ✝ *CHRISTUS REGNAT* ✝ *CHRISTUS IMPERAT*

The liturgical year draws to a glorious close as we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Instituted in 1925 by Pope Pius XI, this feast is a wonderful contemplation on the universal, eternal Kingship of Our Lord Jesus Christ. It is a day to affirm publicly and joyously that Christ must reign - not just in Heaven, but here and now, in every corner of the world and, most intimately, in our own lives.

The Kingship of Christ is unlike any earthly sovereignty. It is established not by temporal conquest or bloodline, but by divine right and by conquest through love. Jesus Christ is King by nature, the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, consubstantial with the Father. His dominion is absolute, extending over all creation. Yet, He is also King by right of redemption. The crown He accepts is not of gold, but of thorns; His throne is the Holy Cross. By His Passion and Death, He conquered sin and death, purchasing our souls with His Precious Blood. This victory established a spiritual kingship. As Pope Pius XI taught, the evils that plague society - from the breakdown of the family to international conflicts - stem from the rejection of Christ's authority. When humanity casts off the sweet yoke of the Saviour, it falls under the harsh tyranny of human error and vice.

The solution to the world's sorrows is simple, yet demanding: the universal restoration of Christ's Kingship.

What does it mean for us, as faithful Catholics, to acknowledge this sublime King? It means understanding the nature of His Kingdom. As our Lord declared, "My kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36), but a realm of supernatural grace. This Kingdom, as described in the Mass Preface, is "*a kingdom of truth and life; a kingdom of holiness and grace; a kingdom of justice, love and peace.*" **Truth:** We pledge to seek and live by the enduring truths revealed by Christ, rejecting the errors and relativism of the age. **Justice:** We commit to rendering to God what is His due - adoration, reverence and fidelity - and to our neighbour what is their due, based on God's laws and charity. **Holiness:** We strive to conform our lives to the perfect model of the King, pursuing virtue and avoiding sin, making our souls a worthy temple for grace.

The great task of this Solemnity is the enthronement of Christ the King in our hearts, our homes, and our institutions. In the heart, Christ reigns when we govern our will according to His Commandments, daily serving Him and receiving Him devoutly in the Holy Eucharist. This requires a consistent spiritual life: regular prayer, confession, and meditation on the things of Heaven.

In the home, Christ reigns when the family is centred on the altar, when parents teach their children the Catechism and the sacred liturgy, and when the Holy Rosary is recited together. The Sacred Heart of Jesus reverently displayed serves as a reminder of this domestic sovereignty. Let us, then, on this great Solemnity, renew our personal consecration to Our Lord. Our prayer rings out in the venerable chant of the Church: "*O Christ, King most clement, we pray Thee, come with Thy peace to our land!*" By living as loyal subjects to the Divine King, we not only secure our salvation but also hasten the day when the whole world shall recognise His gentle, victorious sceptre.

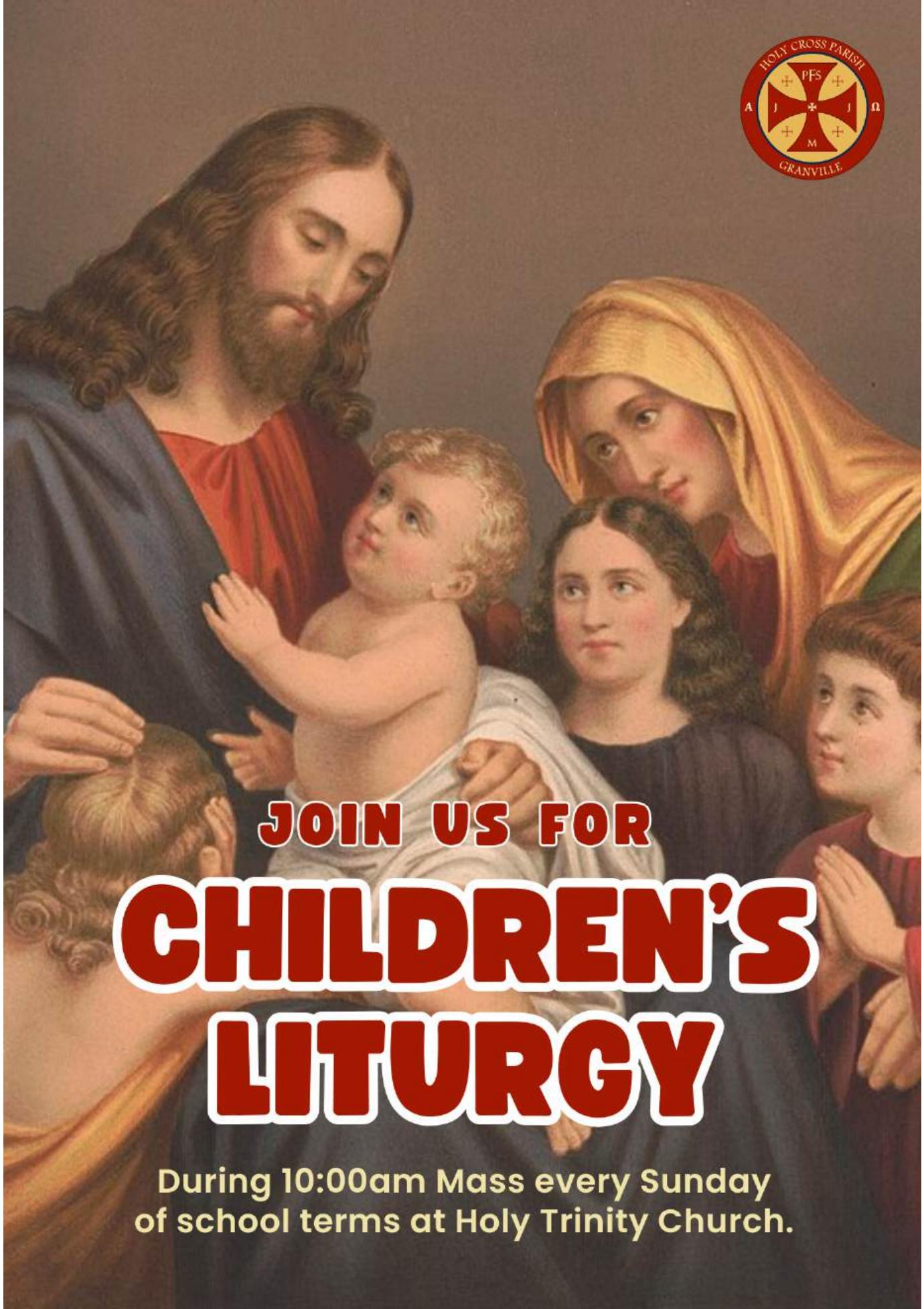
*Christ Conquers! Christ Reigns!
Christ Commands!*



PRAYER OF CONSECRATION TO CHRIST THE KING

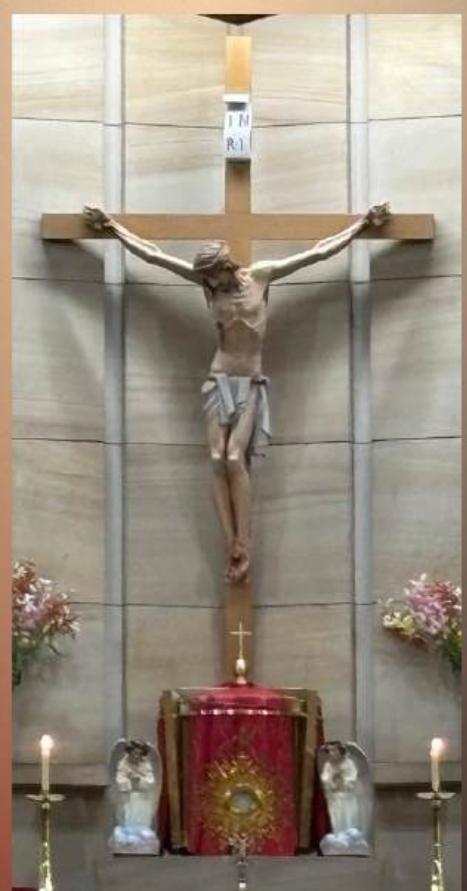
O Christ Jesus, I acknowledge You as King of the Universe. All creation was made for You. Exercise all Your rights over me. I renew the promises of my Baptism, renouncing the devil and his works and allurements.

I promise to live a truly Christian life and to offer my heart to You, my Sovereign King. May your gently rule be acknowledged by all people.

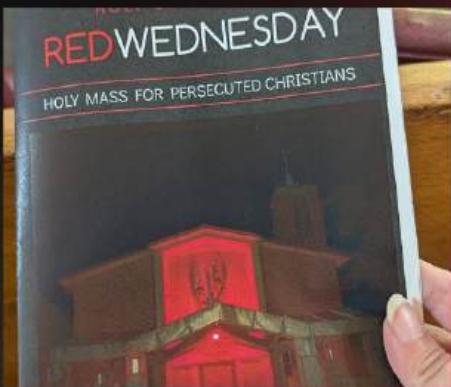
A classical painting of Jesus holding a young child. He has long brown hair and a beard, wearing a blue robe over a red tunic. The child is in a white tunic. In the background, a woman in a yellow headscarf and a young boy are visible. The scene is set against a dark, hazy background.

JOIN US FOR
CHILDREN'S
LITURGY

During 10:00am Mass every Sunday
of school terms at Holy Trinity Church.



~ HOLY MASS FOR RED WEDNESDAY ~ HOLY FAMILY CHURCH 19TH NOVEMBER 2025



Saints & STUFF

St. Columbanus

St. Columbanus (c. 543–615) was one of the greatest of the Irish missionary monks, a figure whose life embodied radical dedication to Christ. Known as one of the *Peregrini pro Christo*—"Wanderers for Christ"—he left the security of his Irish monastery with twelve companions to carry the Gospel across continental Europe.

He wasn't content to stay put; he founded influential monasteries in France and Germany (like Luxeuil), eventually travelling all the way to Italy where he founded the famous Abbey of Bobbio. His impact was immense, helping to revitalise Christianity and scholarship in a fractured post-Roman Europe. He was a demanding spiritual director and even challenged kings and popes on issues of morality and discipline.

Today, St. Columbanus is invoked as the patron saint of motorcyclists, poets, and all who wander or travel. His story is a powerful reminder that our faith requires action, movement, and a willingness to leave our comfort zone to serve the Lord. The monasteries he founded became centres of learning, preserving classical knowledge during the Dark Ages.

St. Columbanus, pray for us!

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

Vocal Prayer

2700 Through his Word, God speaks to man. By words, mental or vocal, our prayer takes flesh. Yet it is most important that the heart should be present to him to whom we are speaking in prayer: "Whether or not our prayer is heard depends not on the number of words, but on the fervour of our souls."

2701 Vocal prayer is an essential element of the Christian life. To his disciples, drawn by their Master's silent prayer, Jesus teaches a vocal prayer, the Our Father. He not only prayed aloud the liturgical prayers of the synagogue but, as the Gospels show, he raised his voice to express his personal prayer, from exultant blessing of the Father to the agony of Gethsemane.

2702 The need to involve the senses in interior prayer corresponds to a requirement of our human nature... We must pray with our whole being to give all power possible to our supplication.

2703 This need also corresponds to a divine requirement. God seeks worshippers in Spirit and in Truth, and consequently living prayer that rises from the depths of the soul. He also wants the external expression that associates the body with interior prayer, for it renders him that perfect homage which is his due.

CATHOLIC Trivia

Pretzels: A Catholic Origin

The popular pretzel is not just a salty snack; it has a surprisingly ancient and sweet Catholic origin, dating back to European monasteries around A.D. 610.

The creation is attributed to an anonymous Italian monk who sought a creative way to reward children for learning their prayers. The dough was rolled into strips and folded to resemble a child's arms crossed over the chest in prayer. Because the small baked treats were called "bracellae" (Latin for "little arms") or "pretiola" (Latin for "little rewards"), the name eventually evolved into "pretzel."

Crucially, the pretzel was designed as a Lenten food. Since it was made with a simple dough of flour and water, it satisfied the Lenten requirements of avoiding eggs, milk, and fat. This made it a perfect treat during the fasting season. The three holes formed by the arms are even said to represent the Holy Trinity. Monks would traditionally hide the pretzels in their hoods or cloaks to give them out discreetly, reinforcing the idea of a secret reward. German bakers later brought the treat to America, where it was initially called a "bretzel," paving the way for the snack we know today.

MT
VOCALS

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Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Year C

The Readings

Introit

(Revelation 5:12; 1:6)

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

First Reading

Second Book of Samuel

(2 Samuel 5:1-3)

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron.
'Look' they said 'we are your own flesh and blood. In
days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led
Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You
are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel,
you shall be the leader of Israel.'" So all the elders of
Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made
a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord,
and they anointed David king of Israel.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 121:1-5. R. see v.2

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. R.

Jerusalem is built as a city
strongly compact.
It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord. R.

For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David. R.

Second Reading

Letter of St Paul to the Colossians

(Colossians 1:12-20)

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible
for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the
light.

Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out
of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the
kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain
our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the unseen God
and the first-born of all creation,
for in him were created
all things in heaven and on earth:

everything visible and everything invisible,
Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignties, Powers –
all things were created through him and for him.
Before anything was created, he existed,
and he holds all things in unity.
Now the Church is his body,
he is its head.

As he is the Beginning,
he was first to be born from the dead,
so that he should be first in every way;
because God wanted all perfection
to be found in him
and all things to be reconciled through him and for him,
everything in heaven and everything on earth,
when he made peace
by his death on the cross.

Gospel Acclamation

(Mark 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!

Gospel

The Gospel of St. Luke

(Luke 23:35-43)

The people stayed there before the cross watching
Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved
others,' they said, 'let him save himself if he is the Christ
of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too,
and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said,
'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him
there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are
you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as
well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you
no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence
as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying
for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong.
Jesus,' he said, 'remember me when you come into your
kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied, 'today you
will be with me in paradise.'

Communio

(Psalm 28:10-11)

The Lord sits as King for ever.

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

"Where Christ is, there is the Kingdom."

~ St. Ambrose