

Sunday 20th November 2022

Christ the King



Today's Gospel reading is Luke 23:33-43

We are reminded of Jesus's death. This might seem a strange reading when we are celebrating the Feast of Christ the King, but once again, we are thinking about *what sort* of king we worship today. In this reading, we see Jesus praying for forgiveness for those who were putting him to death, reflecting his kingdom values of forgiveness and love. This is despite Jesus being mocked and taunted for being a king. We hear one of those being crucified with Jesus showing faith in Jesus's kingship and asking about his kingdom, and Jesus confirming that this man will be with him in paradise that very day.

Jesus is the King of a Kingdom which is not a place, but is a way of life. We are all invited to be part of this Kingdom!

This is the last Sunday of our Church year. Next Sunday, Advent Sunday, is the beginning of a new Church year and we start looking forward to celebrating Christ's birth at Christmas.

This Sunday was traditionally known as "Stir-up Sunday". This was because of the words of the Collect (special prayer) for this Sunday, but it was also when people stirred up their Christmas puddings or Christmas cake! If we are to be faithful and active followers of Jesus, our King, perhaps we need to stir ourselves!

Although the Collect has changed, the old Collect is still used in our service on this Sunday – listen out for it and if you spot it, pray that we will be stirred up to be servants of Christ our King. (There is a clue below as to when you will hear it!)



Prayer for this week (Post-Communion Prayer for Christ the King Sunday)

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,
may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Christ the King

When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Luke 23:33 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



CHRIST THE KING

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
P	W	J	Y	L	B	R	U	C	S	E	Z	D	O	X	F	A	K	N	T	I	V	M	H	G	Q

- 10-17-22-11-13 _____
- 18-21-19-25 _____
- 1-17-7-17-13-21-10-11 _____
- 18-21-19-25-13-14-23 _____
- 9-7-21-23-21-19-17-5-10 _____
- 9-24-7-21-10-20 _____
- 16-14-7-25-21-22-11 _____
- 9-7-8-9-21-16-21-11-13 _____

FORGIVE	KING	KINGDOM	SAVED
CHRIST	CRIMINALS	CRUCIFIED	PARADISE

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The puzzle is based on Luke 23:33-43 (NIV).



CHRIST THE KING

I F R C P A Y E O L S I M R C
F Z H C R U V L H R E S I M I
E M J W C I N C H R I S T E F
A N P E G R M I B V J W A M A
R W V R X H U I S K I N G E T
T A O F T D S C N H A Q F M H
S F B U E Z K K I A E K L B E
H G R K Q R U B U F L D P E R
Z T C Q T W L D C V I S Q R D
K O I B T T L I H D P E D E T
M C L O T H E S O U A F D H W
P A R A D I S E S D U I G B D
B B B W C Q R A E P V I F S A
U N T K G O M U N I R L E F T
S O L D I E R S D K I U E Q P

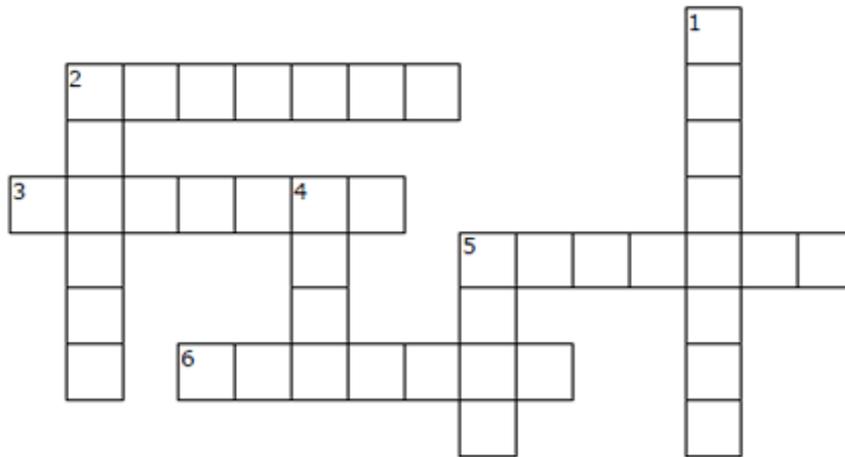
PUNISHED	LEFT	CRUCIFIED	DIVIDED	CLOTHES
MOCKED	PARADISE	KING	FATHER	CHOSEN
TRUTH	SKULL	SAVE	CRIMINALS	CHRIST
FEAR	SOLDIERS	RIGHT	FORGIVE	MEMEMBER

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CHRIST THE KING



ACROSS

2. Things such as dresses and trousers that you wear
3. To kill someone by tying or nailing them to a cross
5. A person who is in an army and wears a uniform
6. To stop blaming, or not punish someone for something they have done

DOWN

1. Someone who commits a crime
2. The Messiah, as foretold by the prophets of the Old Testament
4. The emotion you feel when you are frightened or worried
5. To keep someone from being killed or injured; to rescue

FORGIVE
SOLDIER

SAVE
CLOTHES

FEAR
CRUCIFY

CRIMINAL
CHRIST



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