

THE WORD

Year B • Season Colour: White • Psalter Week 2



**WHAT
KIND
OF KING?**
(JOHN 18:33-37)

In the account of the trial of Jesus given by the evangelist John, there is a dialogue between Jesus and the Roman governor, Pilate, about the nature of Jesus' being a king.

Jesus tells his questioner that the kingship for which he was born was not to be one expressed in power but in witnessing to the truth from God. The members of this kingdom are those who listen to his message and are looking for the truth; they enter the kingdom where God is to be found, that is, among the community of believers. Pilate, in the full text, apparently avoids making a decision about what Jesus tells him by asking "What is truth?" But by refusing to accept the truth offered by Jesus, he aligns himself with those who have opted for the darkness instead of the light.

Jesus will be revealed as king on the cross, where he will gather all people to himself when he is lifted up. Thus his kingship is seen as having a universal scope, not restricted to any one nationality but rather open to all those who are on the side of truth and listen to his voice. The cross in the Fourth Gospel is the place of Jesus' being exalted ("lifted up"); it is not the tragedy which we might understand from the Synoptic versions. In our passage today, Jesus explains this serenely to Pilate while outside the mob is calling for his execution. ■

LEARN

In the Fourth Gospel, the term 'the Jews' often refers to the Jewish authorities who are opposed to Jesus.

Pontius Pilate was historically a harsh and brutal ruler; he was finally relieved of office because of his cruelty.

The Feast of Christ the King was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925.

The crucifixion in John's Gospel is the enthronement of Jesus as King and Priest.

SAY

The Lord is king, in the crib and on the cross.

REFLECT

This Gospel reading for the feast of Christ the King presents Jesus as the unifying focal point of the human race. Jesus is the one who offers light, truth and life to those who will accept them. He is the clearest Word which God has spoken to human beings and conveys God's message to those who will listen. In a world which seems to be becoming more and more fragmented, some such unifying focus appears to be increasingly necessary.

Throughout the Gospel of John there has been the idea of judgment, not so much the final judgment at the end, but rather the judgment which human beings pronounce upon themselves by their decision for or against Jesus and his message. In the Gospel tradition, the evangelists present Jesus as respecting human freedom and decision; he may well regret the choice certain people make, but recognises this as their right. There are no threats of eternal damnation or the like. Perhaps today's feast might remind us that the divisions which we may think so important, of race, class and religion, are simply human inventions; that for God it is enough that a person is a human being, made in God's image and likeness and that the values Jesus teaches are basically human values which anyone can respect and live by. Perhaps the world would be that better place if we all learned to accept one another as fellow human beings with the same hopes and fears; and perhaps in that way the Kingdom of God, which is marked by reconciliation, justice and peace will become a reality in our world. ■

DO

Look at a crucifix or picture which presents Jesus in the robes of a priest with a royal crown on his head. This is the meaning of John's crucifixion scene.



PARISH OF DROMORE

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Feast of Christ The King

Sunday Mass Times

St Colman's Dromore **All Saints Ballela**
Sunday 11.00am Sunday 9.45am

Weekday Mass Times: St Colman's

Mon, Wed, & Thurs- 9.30am: Liturgy of the Word with Eucharist

Tues & Fri : Mass – 9.30am

Sat: 10-11am: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Weekday Mass times: All Saints

Thursday – 7.00pm

Ballela Anniversaries

Sun 25 : Mary McGrath
Deceased members of the Doran Family

Thur: Daniel & Teresa Doyle

Sun 2: John McCormac

Dromore Anniversaries

Sun 25: Mary Beins (Months Mind)
Lily Lennon (Months Mind)
Maired Keery
John & Kathleen Doherty

Sun 2: None

Offertory Promise Collection £838.28

Readers - Dromore

Sun 2: Claire Downey

Do This In Memory

"Week 3" will take place in both churches on Sun 25th November.

Tea & Chat

Will take place in St Colmans hall after 11am mass on Sun 25th Nov. everyone welcome.

Wind, Rain, Snow and Moon

The launch of a new book of poetry by Fr Michael Maginn will take place in Ashburn Hotel, Lurgan on Tues 4th Dec at 7pm entertainment by Cantabile & Maginn school of Irish dancing, refreshments served.

Annaclone, Ballela & Dromore Lourdes

Committee Meeting in Ballela school on Mon 26th Nov at 8.30pm.

Hospice Collection Will be taken up in both Churches today, **Sun 25th Nov.**

Sunday 25th November 2018

Parish Draw Winners Week 33

£100	Brian O'Neill	183
£50	Marjorie McQuillan	495
£30	Margaret McClenaghan	121
£20	Bill O'Loughlin	067

Ballela G.A.C Lotto

Fri 23rd Nov: 2 14 15 16

No £10 winners. Seller Gary McMullan. Jackpot £2000 Club AGM 14th Dec at 7.45pm in Ballela school.

Christmas Coffee Morning

Ballela Community Group are having their Christmas Coffee morning in Ballela School on **Sun 9th Dec** After 9.45am mass in Ballela until 12 noon. There will be delicious homemade scones, buns and treats for everyone and there will be a chance for the kids to visit Santa in his Grotto. There will also be children's activities and Holly Wreaths for sale. Admission is £2.50 per person.

Dromore Diocesan Historical Society

An Extraordinary General Meeting will be held in the Parish Centre, Scarva Rd, Banbridge on Sun 25th Nov at 3pm. All members are invited to attend.

Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages April – Oct 2019

7 nights B&B and Airport Shuttle service from Dubrovnik or Split for €279 per person sharing. Book any flight-any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service. Call us for further info and book the dates that suit you, Tel. 014434510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com.
website: www.med-irishcentre.com

The Giving Tree

This Christmas St Vincent de Paul ask for your support with a Christmas Present Appeal by donating new, unwrapped toys and gifts for children and adults who might not otherwise receive a Christmas present. The gifts will then be wrapped and distributed to those in need. How to take part? Take a tag from the tree in St Colmans Church, buy the gift, and return it in a bag with the tag attached. Please return the gifts no later than Sunday 9th December. Leave in the box at the back of St Colmans Church. Thank you SVP