



St. Joseph's Parish



Family Activity Sheet



21st – 28th November 2020

Introduction:

This is the last Sunday of the Church's year, the Solemnity of Christ the King. Normally this date is celebrated as "Youth Sunday" and in at St. Joseph's we try to involve the young people in the Mass. May be in the family involve the "young people" in leading prayers. Next Sunday is the beginning of Advent, so do make sure that your advent preparations are completed this week. See last week for an idea on how to make a family advent calendar. We would love to see any photos in you have made one!

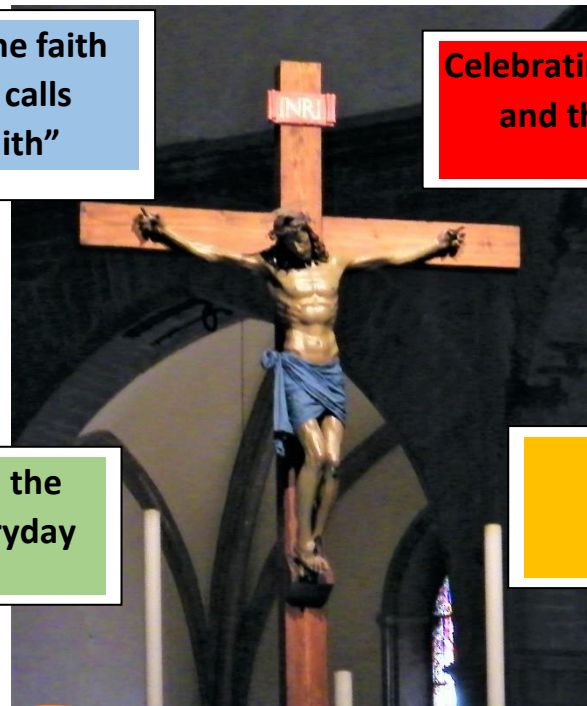
There are Four Dimensions of the Faith which we can put around the cross, making sure that Jesus Christ is the centre of everything we do:

Speaking/Learning the faith
(which the Church calls
"professing the faith")

Celebrating it in the liturgy
and the sacraments


Living it (in Christ) – i.e. the
choices we make in everyday
life



Christian prayer.



These notes will use these colours to show the balance of activities – some of course reflect more than one dimension of the faith, but over the month, try to pick a variety of activities.

We would love any pictures of you doing these activities! If you have any, please send to the parish office. By sending them to the office please state if you are happy for them to be included in the newsletter (which is emailed to everyone and put on the website) and/or the parish Facebook page

Date	Feast/memorial	Activity
15 th November	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Gospel</u> <u>Matthew 25:31-46</u></p> <p>Jesus said to his disciples: ‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left.</p> <p>‘Then the King will say to those on his right hand, “Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me.” Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty or a stranger or naked or visit you in prison?” And the King will answer, “In so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.”</p> <p>‘Next he will say to those on his left hand, “Go away from me. For I was hungry and thirsty you never gave me food or anything to drink; you never made me welcome; you never clothed me, and you never visited me when I was sick or in prison. In so far as you neglected to do this to the least of my people, you neglected to do it to me.”</p> <p><i>This is not about earning heaven, but about loving other people with the love that Jesus pours into us by His Holy Spirit.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Family reflection on the Gospel:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Light a candle  • Someone read this Gospel passage out loud (<i>It's a slightly abbreviated form of the full Gospel for today</i>) <p>Discuss together some of these questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who will be coming in glory? (Ans: The Son of Man, i.e. Jesus. Jesus used this title for Himself because it showed that He came for everybody – all mankind (humanity) and not just for the Jews) • How else does Jesus describe Himself? (Ans: As a king) • Who has been blessed by God the Father? (Ans: those who fed the hungry, gave drink to the thirsty fed the naked etc) • What is the link between doing these things and loving Jesus? (Ans: Jesus says that whatever we do to other people we do to Him) • What does the King do to those who have not looked after other people? (Ans: he sends them away) • Discuss, how as a family, a project that helps other people during Advent. <p>Finish with a prayer to the Holy Spirit asking Him for help to make a real difference during Advent – out of love for Jesus.</p>

<p>23rd November</p>	<p>Today's Gospel is a lovely short one which is very important:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Luke 21:1-4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The widow's mite</p> <p>As Jesus looked up, he saw rich people putting their offerings into the treasury; then he happened to notice a poverty-stricken widow putting in two small coins, and he said, 'I tell you truly, this poor widow has put in more than any of them; for these have all contributed money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in all she had to live on.'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>A collection of small coins</u></p> <p>Find as many 1p and 2p pieces you can and stick them all on a piece of card. May be add 5p coins if you like.</p> <p>As you go through Advent, add any more that you get and then at Christmas, put them all in the crib collection at Church.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
<p><u>All week</u></p>	<p>From Monday onwards, the "Collect" (opening prayer) at Mass begins with the words, "stir up..." Before the solemnity of Christ the King was moved to the last Sunday of the Church's year, the Collect on Sunday was the same and so the last Sunday of the Church's year was given the nick-name, "stir up Sunday." Because of this, it is the day on which Christmas pudding was traditionally begun, and all the family took turns to give it a stir.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Make a Christmas pudding (or two).</u></p> <p>Making Christmas pudding is not difficult, and if the fruit is well soaked in alcohol the night before and the pudding is given a "drink" of brandy once it is cold, it will keep well.</p> <p>May be make a smaller one to give to someone you know who will be on their own this Christmas.</p> <p><i>The best Christmas puddings are steamed, and you can hide a little coin (wrapped in greaseproof paper) in the middle – but don't do this if you are going to microwave the pudding!</i></p>

All week

Prepare for Advent:

This is the last week of the church's year, and as a family think about what "new year" resolutions you can make.

Make an advent candle wreath:

1. Get 4 candles (traditionally three are purple and one is pink but get what you can), and either put them in a ring of oasis, or 4 candle holders (if you don't have 4 candle holders and cant get oasis, you can stick them in jars filled with soil or sand, or even set them in clay or plasticine which is in a dish/flowerpot/plastic tray....
2. Make a circle with wire or card if you don't have any oasis
3. Collect greenery from the garden or on walks
4. Arrange the greenery in a circle on the base or if you have an oasis, stick it into the oasis
5. If you have oasis, you can add a few short flowers
6. Light one candle each Sunday of Advent, beginning on 29th November.



In a family prayer time, ask our Blessed Mother Mary to help us to keep Christ in Christmas.

Decide what kind of prayers you will say as a family this advent, e.g.

- The Rosary,
- Read a sentence of the Christmas story each day
- Set up a crib scene bit by bit as a focal point for prayers (each day add another feature)
- Each member of the family to choose a prayer each day

Advent means "coming" and it's a time of preparing for the coming of Christ – in two ways; at the end of time and at Christmas.

Print off the liturgical year circle on the next page and cut out the arrow. Fix to the middle of the circle with a split pin and turn it around to point to where we are in the year.

May be stick them both on card (or print onto card) to make it stronger.

Christmas picture competition

See the attached paper on this. We would love to decorate the Narthex with your pictures/paintings/drawings of the Christmas story.

Choose a part of the story that is in Luke or Matthew's Gospels (Luke 1:26-2:20, Matthew 1:18-2:23) and create a picture (not a model) to illustrate it. You can use any medium, paint, pencil, pen, crayon, collage etc, or a mixture. All pictures submitted will be put on display and there will be prizes for the different age categories, including an adult section. Submission must be no later than after midday on 6th December



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LITURGICAL CALENDAR

