St. John's Parish
Roman Catholic Church

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A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT KING

THE SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE
NOVEMBER 22, 2026

Today, the last Sunday of the liturgical year and Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, the Gospel speaks to us about the final judgement (cf. Mt 25:31-46) and tells us that it will be based on charity.

The scene that it presents to us is that of a regal hall, in which Jesus, "the Son of man" (v. 31) is seated on a throne. All the peoples are gathered at his feet. Among them, the "blessed" (v. 34), the friends of the King, stand out. But who are they? What is so special about these friends in the eyes of their Lord? According to the criteria of the world, the king's friends should be those who gave him wealth and power, who helped him conquer territories, win battles, made him great among other rulers, perhaps to appear as a star on the front pages of newspapers or on social media, and to them he should say: "Thank you, because you have made me rich and famous, envied and feared". This is according to the criteria of the world.

However, according to Jesus' criteria, it is others who are friends: they are those who served him in the weakest people. This is because the Son of man is a completely different King, who calls the poor "brethren", who identifies with the hungry, the thirsty, the outsiders, the sick, the imprisoned, and says: "As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (v. 40). He is a King who is attuned to the problem of hunger, to the need for a home, to sickness and to imprisonment (cf. vv. 35-36): realities that are unfortunately all too current. The hungry, the homeless, often dressed however they can, cram our streets: we come across them every day. And also with regard to infirmity and prison, we all know what it means to be sick, to make mistakes and to pay the consequences.

So, today's Gospel tells us that the "blessed" are those who respond to these forms of poverty with love, with service: not by turning away, but by giving food and drink, by clothing, sheltering, visiting; in short, by being close to those in need. And this is because Jesus, our King, who calls himself the Son of man, finds his favourite sisters and brothers in the most fragile women and men. His "regal hall" is set up where there are people who suffer and need help. This is the "court" of our King. And the style with which his friends, those who have Jesus as their Lord, are called to distinguish themselves is his own style: compassion, mercy, tenderness. They ennoble the heart and descend like oil on the wounds of those injured by life.

Thus, brothers and sisters, let us ask ourselves: Do we believe that true royalty consists in mercy? Do we believe in the power of love? Do we believe that charity is the most kingly manifestation of man and an indispensable requirement for the Christian? And finally, a specific question: Am I a friend of the King, that is, do I feel personally involved in the needs of the suffering people I find on my path? May Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth, help us to love Jesus our King in the least of his brethren.

POPE FRANCIS — November 26, 2023

Bishop Wayne Lobsinger Appointed Bishop of the Diocese of Peterborough

The Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, has appointed Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Hamilton, as the new Bishop of the Diocese of Peterborough.

Bishop Lobsinger commented on the announcement: "*It is with humble gratitude that I accept the appointment of the Holy Father, Pope Leo, to be the Bishop of Peterborough. It will be hard to leave the Diocese of Hamilton, having lived and served in this Diocese my entire life, however I look forward to my new ministry in Peterborough with excitement and joy.*"

The faithful are invited to join in a Mass of thanksgiving to celebrate Bishop Lobsinger's appointment on **Sunday, November 29, at 11:00 a.m.** at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King (714 King Street West, Hamilton).

We give thanks for Bishop Lobsinger's generous service to the Church and ask the faithful to keep him in their prayers as he prepares to begin this new chapter of ministry. May the Lord bless him with wisdom, strength, and joy, and may Mary, Mother of the Church, accompany him as he shepherds the people entrusted to his care.

Day of Spirituality: St. John's Catholic Women's League invites you to our Day of Spirituality which will be held on Saturday, December 5th, in the parish hall. Gather at 9:30 a.m. for coffee and refreshments and guest speaker, Raminta Piggott, will begin at 10:00 a.m with her talk on "Blessed Mother Mary speaks to us - her Children". The morning ends with the Midday prayers upstairs in the church. All are welcome to attend, both men and women, from St John's and Our Lady of Guadalupe parishes. For further information please contact Leah at leahfriedrich04@gmail.com

ENGLISH SCHEDULE

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Saturday, November 21 **5:00 PM**
+Deceased Members of the Fortunato & Morabito Families

Sunday, November 22 **9:00 AM**
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

Tuesday, November 24 **11:00 AM**
Saint Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions
+Dot Kelly

Wednesday, November 25 **11:00 AM**
+Christine Duffenais

Thursday, November 26 **11:00 AM**
+Dolores Colford

Friday, November 27 **11:00 AM**
+Virginia Mac Kenzie

First Sunday of Advent

Saturday, November 28 **5:00 PM**
+Dolores Colford

Sunday, November 29 **9:00 AM**
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

HORARIOS EN ESPAÑOL

Solemnidad de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo, Rey del Universo

Sábado 21 de noviembre **7:00 PM**

Domingo 22 de noviembre **11:00 AM & 1:00 PM**
Por la Comunidad Parroquial

Martes 24 de noviembre **12:00 PM**
Santos Andrés Dũng-Lạc, presbítero, y compañeros

Miércoles 25 de noviembre **12:00 PM**

Jueves 26 de noviembre **12:00 PM**

Viernes 27 de noviembre **12:00 PM**
+Nestor Sánchez

I Domingo de Adviento

Sábado 28 de noviembre **7:00 PM**
+Carlos Garrido +Gloria Cecilia Romero

Domingo 29 de noviembre **11:00 AM & 1:00 PM**
Por la Comunidad Parroquial

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe - November 22, 2026

"Lord, when was it that we saw you …?" Have you heard the Lord as well? If God is calling you to serve as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. John Ha, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. **email** **vocations@hamiltondiocese.com** **hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/**

St. Agnes Education Cafe: ***"Do whatever He tells you."*** These beautiful words of our Blessed Mother help us to grow in holiness – to come closer to Mary as she helps us to come closer to Jesus. Join us for the **St. Agnes Education Café: Holy Mary, Mother of God**, ***Deepening our Catholic Devotion to Mary***, with guest speaker Fr. David Reitzel, who will teach us practical ways to grow in our relationship with our spiritual Mother. Sunday December 6th 2:00-3:30pm, St. Agnes, Waterloo.