



Our Parish COMMUNITY

November 22, 2020

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (A)

Ez 34:11–12, 15–17

1 Cor 15:20–26, 28

Mt 25:31–46

The Lord Is My Shepherd

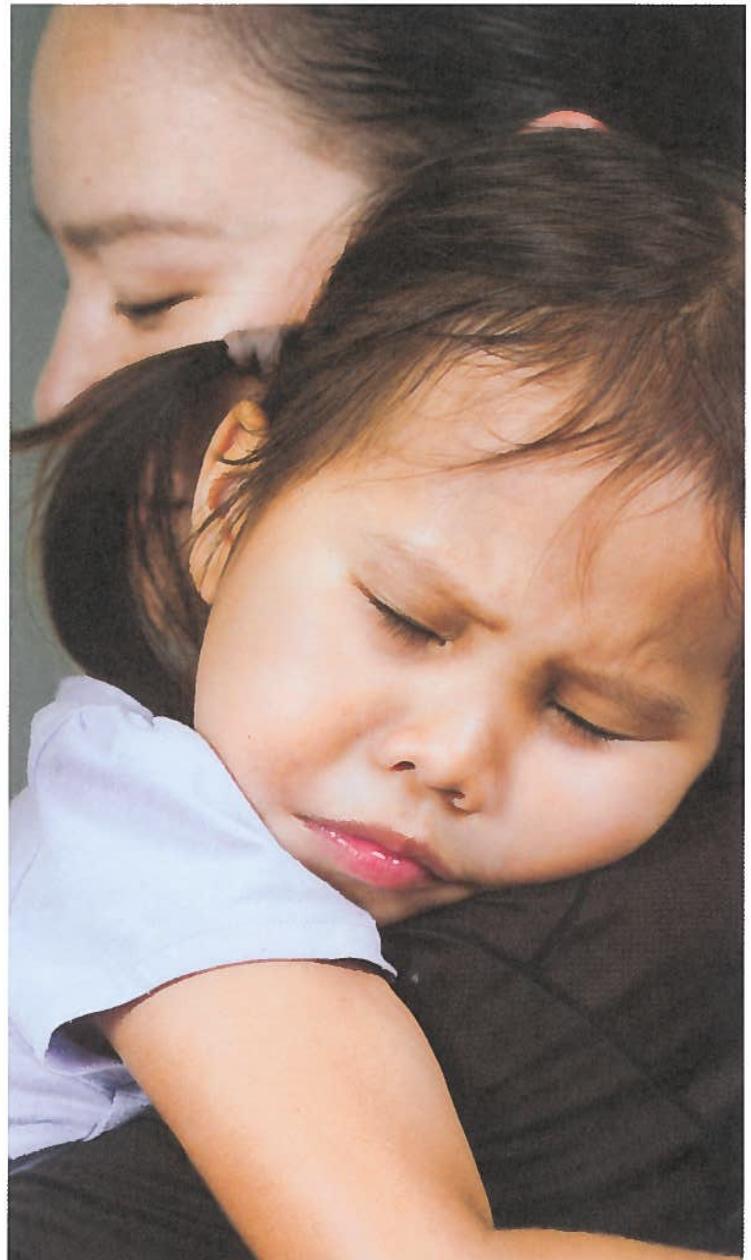
The prominent image for God in today's readings is the shepherd. This might be an unfamiliar image for city dwellers, but it is a very rich religious image. The Bible tells us that early Israelites were herders, so they know a lot about shepherds. They knew that shepherds follow the wandering of their sheep and attended to their needs—not the other way around. They knew that shepherds lived with their sheep in the hills for long periods, away from family, friends, and the comforts of life. They knew that shepherds helped birthing and dying. They knew that all of this is a messy, smelly business, and no job for the fastidious.

Many nations of the ancient world, Israel included, thought of their kings as shepherds of the people—leaders who should be willing to do for their people what the shepherd does for the sheep. This explains why, on the feast of Christ the King, we represent our king as a shepherd rather than a victorious military commander, as many kings are. But more than this, throughout his life—at his passion and death, and now in his risen glory—Christ cares for us and leads us as a shepherd does. He embraces the messy, smelly reality of life. He is a shepherd-king, intent on our needs, searching for us when we seem to be lost. How comforting it is to know he carries us on his shoulders.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ✦ *Recite today's responsorial psalm slowly and thoughtfully.*
- ✦ *Which images of Psalm 23 touch you the most? Why?*



*The lost I will search out,
the strays I will bring back,
the injured I will bind up,
and the sick I will heal.*

EZEKIEL 34:16

CHRISTINAROSEMIKSHUTTERSTOCK



**St. Martin of Tours
Catholic Community
at Fort Belvoir, Virginia**

Mass Schedule

Monday – Thursday, 1205 at Fairfax Chapel

Saturday, 1700 at Belvoir Chapel

Sunday, 0930 at Belvoir Chapel
1100 at Fairfax Chapel

Pre-Registration is required for weekend Masses.

The link to register is:

[https://einventions.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?
i=570065&k=076642097D52](https://einventions.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=570065&k=076642097D52)

**The Sunday 0930 Mass is live-streamed
and can be viewed from this link:**

<https://www.facebook.com/FortBelvoirRSO/>

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday – 1600-1645 at Belvoir Chapel
or by appointment. Contact Fr. Lindsay directly
to schedule.

For More Information

CH(MAJ) Michael P. Lindsay, Catholic Chaplain
571-266.2086
michael.p.lindsay.mil@mail.mil

Sister Michael Bochnowski, Dir of Religious Education,
703-806-3418
smary.m.bochnowski.civ@mail.mil
Office located at: Religious Education Center, next to
Belvoir Chapel, 5950 12th Street, Fort Belvoir

Mrs. Louise Oliver, Catholic Pastoral Life Coordinator
254-449-6417
FBCCInfo@gmail.com; louise.m.oliver.mil@mail.mil
Office located at: Religious Support Annex, Bldg 221,
10011 Middleton Rd, Ft Belvoir, near post office.

RE^{IG}IOUS EDUCA^TION

In these unusual times, the health, well-being and safety of our families, young people, and volunteers are our top priority. We are now ready to offer virtual religious education with an intent to offer on-site classes.

Families who participated in RE last year should receive a packet in the mail.

If you are new to the area or have not received a packet, please contact Sr. Michael ASAP to register for Religious Education classes.

Please contact Sr. Michael Bochnowski for more information or to submit your registration form.
Smary.m.bochnowski.civ@mail.mil,
or by phone at: 703-806-3418.

DIGITAL GIVING TO OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

**You can now make a donation to our
Ft. Belvoir Catholic Community ONLINE!**

**Simple, Safe, Secure Stewardship for our
Army Faith Communities**

To donate go to:

www.ArmyCTOFDigitalGiving.com

**Remember to choose:
Fort Belvoir, VA; Catholic – RCKA**

For more information, watch a video about this
new program by going to:

<https://vimeo.com/451294408>

Website: www.FortBelvoirCatholicCommunity.com

Facebook Page: Fort Belvoir St. Martin of Tours Catholic Community



**Join us for Mass
on Thanksgiving Day**
Thursday, 26 November 2020
0900 at Fairfax Chapel
No pre-registration required.



Due to the Thanksgiving Holidays,
the Religious Support Offices
will be closed
25-27 November 2020.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

FOOD COLLECTION, through 22 November
The Knights of Columbus Council 11170 is collecting canned and non-perishable foods in sealed containers at all weekend Masses from now to Thanksgiving.

Food items will be delivered to Christ House. The mission of Christ House is to provide comprehensive and compassionate health care to sick, homeless persons in the District of Columbia, and to assist them in addressing critical issues to help break the cycle of homelessness.

COAT DRIVE, through 6 December
The Knights of Columbus Council 11170 is collecting winter coats – both new and clean, gently used. Coats will be provided first to needy on-post families, then to local charities.

Collection boxes are located at the entrance of the both Belvoir and Fairfax Chapels.



Homily Notes

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose. Besides restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul.
(Psalm 23)

God sets the gold standard for leadership. God is selfless and generous in his love. His mercy and compassion are infinite. The kingship of Jesus Christ we celebrate today is one of self-giving and generous care. Today's reading from Ezekiel is filled with words and phrases which emphasize God's love as he 'looks after', 'tends', 'rescues', 'pastures', 'seeks out', 'binds the injured', and 'heals the sick'. In Jesus we see God's leadership fully lived out: "Though he was in the form of God, he did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a slave coming in human likeness, and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. (Phil 2:6-11)

2500 years ago, Ezekiel challenged the leaders of God's people, to repent of their sinful failure to be shepherds of God's people. In their pride, greed and desire for earthly power they abandoned the people they were called to protect and care for. Ezekiel called them to emulate the leadership of God, the good shepherd, who truly loved and cared for his sheep. The witness of holy leadership in the earthly ministry of Jesus so challenged and so threatened the civil and religious leaders, that they tried to destroy him through the crucifixion. The memory of those earthly leaders is gone, but the witness and love of the Christ, the Good Shepherd, will endure forever.

May each of us seek to reflect the humility, love and selfless service of Christ Our King, the Good Shepherd, as leaders and shepherds of his people. Vive Christus Rex!

Fr. Mike

Dear Padre,

Today we celebrate Christ the King.
Why isn't this changed to "Christ the Lord"?
The notion of "king" seems outdated.

Christ the King is not the easiest concept to get close to and celebrate. Kings, queens, and monarchies aren't part of our cultural heritage. With the current penchant for cutting celebrities and politicians down to size, a king or queen wouldn't fare well. With the turmoil of England's royal family, we frequently witness the demythologizing of the world's monarchies.

Christ's kingship obviously cannot fall into any of these woeful categories. Christ came to establish a different kind of kingdom, the kingdom of God, and that in itself puts Jesus on a different plane than all other concepts of earthly monarchies. Jesus came to proclaim God's reign, God's rule, in the manner in which God the Creator and Maker of all wants things to be.

We, however, are fiercely independent and freedom-conscious people. We don't want anyone telling us what to do. We want to participate in all decisions. We resent being pushed around by anyone. And that's fine. But in

this case of God's kingdom, we have nothing to fear. God's power is to serve and give life, not to exploit or corrupt.

God's kingdom is the redemptive presence of God. Whenever people love one another, forgive one another, bear one another's burdens, and work to build a just and peaceful community, God's redemptive and liberating presence is being manifested. That is the kingdom and kinship we celebrate.

—Fr. Joseph Morin, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



DMYTRO ZINKEVYCH/SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

The kingdoms of this world at times are sustained by arrogance, rivalries, and oppression; the reign of Christ is a "kingdom of justice, love and peace." For a Christian, speaking of power and strength means referring to the power of the cross, and the strength of Jesus' love: a love which remains steadfast and complete.

—ANGELUS, SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING,
NOVEMBER 22, 2015

Calendar

Monday

NOVEMBER 23

Weekday

Rv 14:1–3, 4b–5

Lk 21:1–4

Tuesday

NOVEMBER 24

St. Andrew Dŭng-Lac,
Priest, and Companion,
Martyrs

Rv 14:14–19

Lk 21:5–11

Wednesday

NOVEMBER 25

Weekday

Rv 15:1–4

Lk 21:12–19

Thursday

NOVEMBER 26

Weekday

Rv 18:1–2, 21–23;

19:1–3, 9a

Lk 21:20–28

Friday

NOVEMBER 27

Weekday

Rv 20:1–4, 11—21:2

Lk 21:29–33

Saturday

NOVEMBER 28

Weekday

Rv 22:1–7

Lk 21:34–36

Sunday

NOVEMBER 29

First Sunday
of Advent

Is 63:16b–17, 19b;
64:2–7

1 Cor 1:3–9

Mk 13:33–37