



Dear Parents and Carers,

This Sunday we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. In this Sunday's Gospel, the leaders, the soldiers and the people all mock Jesus as God's Chosen One and as king.

Jesus' kingship is not one of military or political power, but one of love and mercy. Jesus forgave those who crucified him. He also showed mercy to the criminal who was sorry and called him to share in his kingdom – an offer Jesus also makes to us today.

Wednesday 16th November 2022

Pope Francis reminds us that, "In life we all make many mistakes. Don't be afraid to ask God for forgiveness. God is pure mercy." Each one of us receives mercy as a gift from God – it is a gift which we are called to share with others.

Enjoy a special time together this evening exploring this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **MERCY**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



To see this week's Parish Version of The Wednesday Word: wednesdayword.org – Parents' Pages – Lectio Divina with Fr Henry.

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 20th November 2022



The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. "He saved others," they said, "let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One." The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself." Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals hanging there abused him. "Are you not the Christ?" he said. "Save yourself and us as well." But the other spoke up and rebuked him. "Have you no fear of God at all?" he said. "You received the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus," he said, "remember me when you come into your kingdom." "Indeed, I promise you," Jesus replied, "today you will be with me in paradise."

Adapted from

Luke 23: 35-43 (the Feast of Christ the King, Year C)

**Everyone can learn more about this Gospel
in Church – all are warmly invited.**

"Mercy is the very foundation of the Church's life. May every Church be a place of mercy." *Pope Francis*



Many people who came into contact with Jesus felt the healing power and joy of God's mercy. Today, the Church helps us to experience this mercy (especially through the Sacrament of Reconciliation) and encourages us to be 'merciful' to others - which brings us great peace.



1 Our Special Time Together

Enjoy reading the Gospel overleaf (or below for younger children)

While Jesus was on the cross, the leaders of the people insulted him saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One." The soldiers also mocked and made fun of him saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself." Above Jesus was a sign which said, 'This is the King of the Jews.' There were two criminals who were also on crosses alongside Jesus, and one of them said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus replied, "I promise you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

What did Jesus say to the criminal? Which word or words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? See the Gospel picture opposite. What does it make you think about?



2 Wednesday's Word is ...

MERCY



3 Loving God & Each Other

"Read the gospels! This way we will learn what is most essential in our lives: love and mercy." *Pope Francis*

Mercy is a virtue. Ask your child what the word 'mercy' means to them. You may want to share with your child what the word 'mercy' means to you. Ask your child who they know to be a 'merciful' person. Can you or your child remember a time when you have been merciful - when you gave someone another chance? How did it feel?

"God is so merciful towards us. We too should learn to be merciful." *Pope Francis*

Each time we show 'mercy', we open ourselves to receive mercy from God. Being compassionate, being patient with others even if we are being treated unfairly, forgiving others (even if we feel they don't deserve forgiveness), sometimes giving people more than they deserve, these are just some ways of showing mercy. Is there someone to whom you could show mercy? Each of you choose one way in which you will try to show mercy at home, at school or in the community in this coming week.

Dear Lord Jesus, please help us to grow in the virtue of **mercy** - to be open to receiving your mercy and showing **mercy** to others. Amen.

Gospel Gallery

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

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**



JESUS KING



CRIMINAL ASKED



REMEMBER TODAY



PROMISED PARADISE



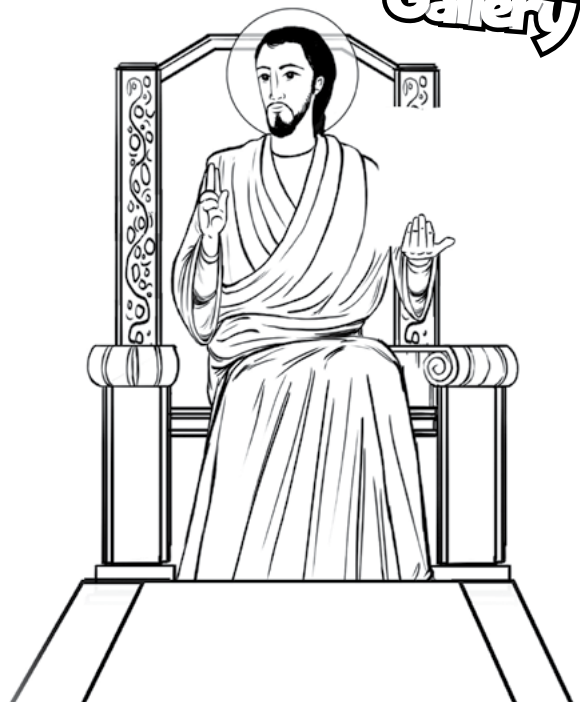
SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**

Cross out the letters **h n v** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

fondvahy Jevshuns Panravdishe provmishen

_____ said, "I _____ you, _____

you will be with me in _____."



Search for at least three differences between this picture and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring.

Throughout the gospels, Jesus reminds us that God wants us to forgive and show mercy - just like he did. Merciful people do things out of their love and care for others and this helps make the world a better place.

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

.....
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