

**Catholic Parishes of Our Lady and the Apostles, Shipston & Brailes.
And St Francis of Assisi, Kineton**

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The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No 234216



Week beginning 22nd November Solemnity of Christ The King

The God Who Speaks: The Year of the Word



My Dear People,

The liturgical year draws to a close with the Solemnity of Christ the King. This feast was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925 when the world had witnessed the massacre and carnage of the First World War and the emergence from the resulting chaos of Bolshevik, Fascist and Nazi organisations that would eventually bring about another terrible and devastating war. The feast day reminds us that Our Blessed Lord is true King of the Universe: A Servant King and the greatness of his kingdom is not in its power or influence or wealth but in its love, the love of God. In our Solemnity preface we pray: "For you anointed your Only Begotten Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, with the oil of gladness as eternal Priest and King of all creation, so that, by offering himself on the altar of the Cross as a spotless sacrifice to bring us peace, he might accomplish the mysteries of human redemption and, making all created things subject to his rule, he might present to the immensity of your majesty an eternal and universal kingdom, a kingdom of life and truth, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace" Traditionally this Sunday has also been the day when we pray for the Young People of the World: That they may dedicate their lives to serving the servant King.

We had a good turnout at Kineton on Sunday for private prayer: 10.30-11.30am. St Francis will be open at the same time this weekend and also next weekend. Our Lady's remains closed. Please note, that from next Saturday (28th November) the chapel at Brailes will be open for adoration- from 10.30-11.30am. I shall also be available for the sacrament of reconciliation.

Next Sunday our Advent season begins. I do have some Walk with Me Prayer Books available. Should you like one then please send me an email with your name and address and I shall post it to you.

Guild of Our Lady and The Apostles: If you are interested in joining then please call Steph on 01789750007 stephsmith59@gmail.com.

Christmas Masses: Seats are being taken in all places of worship. Please make sure you book your place asap.

*And finally: PROTOCOL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CRIBS FOR CHRISTMAS 2020**

1. A maximum of 4 shepherds will be permitted in the Crib.
2. All will have to wear a mask and observe social distancing
3. Joseph, Mary and Baby Jesus will be able to stay together as they form part of a family bubble
4. The donkey and the ox will have to obtain a declaration of non-contamination certified by the Department of Agriculture
5. The Three Wise Men will be subject to a 15 day quarantine, regardless of whether or not they have tested negative for Covid as they come from a non-Schengen Area
6. The straw, moss, palm branches and other decorations must be disinfected with alcohol
6. The angel flying over the Crib will not be allowed due to the aerosol effect produced by the batting of his wings
7. The choir will be restricted to one person because of the risk of contamination
8. No shepherd shall be more than 65 years old or in a vulnerable category
9. All non-essential participants (Romans, sinners...) are forbidden
10. *Pilate will explain to all authorised participants how to wash their hands.*

I hope this brings a smile to your face! Have a good week. God Bless. Fr David