

Christ the King – 23 November 2025

Hands, Heart & Crown

For the end of our liturgical year the Church gives us the Feast of Christ the King. And the Gospel for today is from Luke 23:35-43, Jesus on the cross. For this feast, I like to think of the Irish Claddagh ring, it is the supreme Celtic symbol of love, friendship and loyalty. The hands holding the heart are for friendship, the heart of course symbolizes love and the crown on top of the heart is loyalty to the king. This feast of Christ our King reminds us to be in friendship with one another since we are all created in God's image and likeness. We are to be rooted in the love of God that gave us Jesus his Son for our salvation. And finally, the crown reminds us there is first a crown of thorns before the crown of glory. And we are to be Jesus loyal followers and disciples in the world. So, indeed let us rejoice in this feast of Christ the King, that we all may say; "Jesus remember me when you enter upon your reign."

* * *

This weekend at the 4PM Mass at Saint Bernard's and the 11:30AM at Saint Irene's we will be offering the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. This Sacrament is for anyone with a chronic illness or suffering in any way. It is no longer consider the Last Rites or Extreme Unction. There is an anointing on the forehead with the Oil of the Infirm and tracing the cross on the palms of the hands. One's response to the Anointing when it is done is AMEN. All are welcome to receive this very special Sacrament.

* * *

Our Concord Carlisle Collaborative will celebrate a special vigil of Thanksgiving Wednesday November 26th 7PM in Saint Irene's Church. This celebration of thanks is a great opportunity to give back to others. Donations to Open Table are needed; vegetable cooking oil, ground coffee (no K-cups) tea, salt, sugar, flour and hearty soups or stews. Or you could help Rosie's Place for women in need; toiletries are needed shampoos, conditioners, lotions, toothpaste, toothbrushes soap and women's sanitary products. Finally, Friends from Afar Migrant Ministry is in need diapers and wipes for children. Please bring what you can to the Mass.

Pax Christi,

Fr. Dave
Pastor