❤️ Dear Church Family,

As we gather this Sunday, 22nd November, to celebrate the Feast of Christ the King, we reach the grand culmination of our church year. Before we turn our hearts toward the quiet anticipation of Advent next week, the Church invites us to pause and crown our year by proclaiming Jesus Christ as King of the Universe.

Yet, when we open our Bibles to today's Gospel reading—Matthew 25:31–46—we are confronted with a striking paradox. We are given a vision of the Son of Man coming in glory, seated upon a heavenly throne with all the nations gathered before him. We might expect a display of earthly majesty, royal robes, and resounding fanfare. Instead, Jesus reveals that his royal court is found in the most unexpected of places: among the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, and the imprisoned.

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40)

In the Kingdom of God, greatness is measured not by power or status, but by compassion. Christ the King does not rule from a distance; he chooses to identify himself completely with the vulnerable and the marginalised in our world. Therefore, to honour Christ as our King is to look for his face in our neighbours, and to serve him through everyday acts of mercy, generosity, and love.

⛪ Our Sunday Services – 22nd November

- **9:15 am | St Nicholas:** Holy Communion
- **9:30 am | Holy Cross:** Holy Communion
- **9:30 am | St Michael and All Angels:** Holy Communion
- **11:15 am | All Saints:** Holy Communion

Weekday Eucharist, Prayers & Open Church.

- **Monday, 23rd November | 9:30 am:** Morning Prayer, All Saints
- **Tuesday, 24th November | 3.00 pm:** Holy Communion at Holy Cross, with pop-up cafè
- **Wednesday, 25th November | No Holy Communion at St Nicholas**
- **Thursday, 26th November |9.30 am:** Morning Prayer at St. Nicholas
- **Thursday, 26th November | 3.00 pm:** Songs of Praise, St Michael and All Angels
- **Friday, 27th November | 12.00 pm-2.00 pm:** Holy Communion and Open Church at All Saints (TBC)

🎄 Upcoming Parish Events.

- **Sunday, 29th November | 10.00 am:** Parish Service at All Saints, presided over by the Right Reverend Andrew Rumsey, Bishop of St Albans.
- **Saturday, 5th December | 3.00 pm:** Christmas Memorial Service, All Saints

We look forward to sharing these special occasions with you and celebrating the fellowship that makes our Parish such a precious part of our lives.

🕊️ A Moment for Reflection

As we look back over the past year in our parish, let us give thanks for the many ways our community has already served Christ in one another—through our outreach, pastoral care, shared prayers, and quiet acts of kindness. As we prepare to step into a new liturgical year, may we ask the Lord to open our eyes even wider, so we never miss an opportunity to welcome him in those who need us most.

May we leave our worship this week with eyes wide open to the quiet majesty of Christ around us. As we step into a new week, may every small act of kindness, every shared word of comfort, and every gesture of generosity become a way of crowning Him King in our daily lives.

Amen.

With every blessing,

Alana

On behalf of the Parish of Elstree and Borehamwood

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