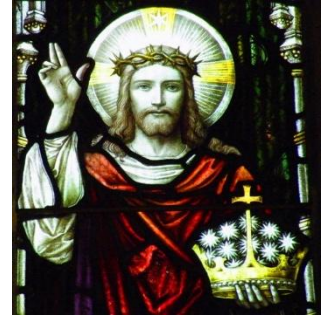




**Diocese
of Salisbury**
Making
Jesus Known

The Wylde and Till Valley Benefice



***Berwick St James, Great Wishford, Little Langford, South
Newton and Stoford, Stapleford, Steeple Langford, Stockton,
Winterbourne Stoke and Wylde with Fisherton de la Mere***

<https://www.wyldeandtillvalleybenefice.org/>

<https://www.wyldeandtillvalleybenefice.org/sermons>

Jeremiah 23.1-6; Colossians 1.11-20; Luke 23.33-43

Sunday 23rd November – Christ the King

09:30am	Little Langford	Holy Communion (BCP)	<u>AT STEEPLE LANGFORD</u>
11:00am	Stapleford	Holy Communion (CW)	
6:00pm	Steeple Langford	Taizé service for Christ the King	

Sunday 30th November – Advent Sunday

10:30am	Steeple Langford	Benefice Holy Communion for Advent Sunday
6:00pm	South Newton	Benefice Advent Carol Service

Dear friends,

On the last Sunday of each liturgical year, the Church celebrates the Feast of Christ the King. Pope Pius XI instituted this feast in 1925 as a response to the growing authoritarianism in Italy and more general secularism and atheism. Pius recognized that attempting to “*thrust Jesus Christ and his holy law*” out of public life would result in continuing discord among people and nations, reminding us that while governments come and go, Christ reigns as King forever.

Given the global political conflicts of the early twentieth century, militantly secularistic regimes threatened not just the Christian faithful but civilization itself. Pope Pius XI’s writings gave all Christians hope and—while governments around them crumbled—the assurance that Christ the King shall reign forever. Jesus Christ “*is very truth, and it is from him that truth must be obediently received by all mankind*”.

Christ’s kingship is rooted in the Church’s teaching on the Incarnation. Jesus is fully God and fully man ~ he is both the divine Lord and the man who suffered and died on the Cross. One person of the Trinity unites himself to human nature and reigns over all creation as the Incarnate Son of God. Pius concluded: “*From this it follows not only that Christ is to be adored by angels and men, but that to him as man angels and men are subject, and must recognize his empire; by reason of the hypostatic union Christ has power over all creatures*”.

The Church calls us to acknowledge Christ’s kingship with our whole lives:

Christ must reign in our minds, which should assent with perfect submission and firm belief to revealed truths and to the doctrines of Christ. He must reign in our wills, which should obey the laws and precepts of God. He must reign in our hearts, which should spurn natural desires and love God above all things, and cleave to him alone. He must reign in our bodies and in our members, which should serve as instruments for the interior sanctification of our souls, or to use the words of the Apostle Paul, ‘as instruments of justice unto God.’

We, the Church and individually, are called to acknowledge the reign of Christ, not just privately, but publicly. As one writer concluded: “*we are encouraged to celebrate and live out our faith in public. When our faith is repeatedly marginalized in public life, we can fall into the habit of compartmentalizing our lives.*

We love Jesus in our private lives, but we shrink from acknowledging the kingship of Christ in social life. When we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King, we declare to the world and remind ourselves that Jesus is the Lord of the Church and of the entire universe". Amen.

Please pray for

The long-term need for prayer	David Baldwin (South Newton), Joyce Binder (Steeple Langford), Thea Chalke; Pat Considine (Steeple Langford), Biddy Cox (Wyllye), Anton Funnell; Louisa Halliday (Great Wishford); Andrew Howes (Wyllye), Delia Napier (Wyllye); Valerie Palmer (Wyllye), Sheena Pratt (Stapleford),
Short Term Prayers	Daphne Smith (Great Wishford); Richard Tattersall (Great Wishford)
The Urgent Sick	
The Departed	Jean Hibberd (BSJ); John Summerhayes (W Stoke); June Howes (Wyllye)
Those being baptized	
Weddings	

From the Benefice Prayer Sheet

23	Sunday before Advent – Christ the King Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen
24	God of creation, may you cause us to look after and treasure the world you have given us and work together to address climate change. God of heaven, may we know that in eternity we will experience the perfect shalom. In Jesus' precious name. Amen
25	We give thanks for those who faithfully ring the bells of our Benefice and for the peals at Great Wishford, South Newton, Stapleford, Steeple Langford and Wyllye;
26	We pray for the church and village community of Great Wishford, the Oak Apple Club and for its local ministry team.
27	We remember all who are facing economic difficulty at this time and pray for the work and ministry of the Salisbury and Warminster Foodbanks. Amen.
28	Almighty God, you created the world and gave it into our care so that, in obedience to you, we might serve all people: Inspire us to use the riches of creation with wisdom, and to ensure that their blessings are shared by all; That, trusting in your bounty, all people may be empowered to seek freedom from poverty, famine, and oppression. Amen
29	We pray for the church, village community of Stockton, their Churchwarden Claudia James and the local church council.
30	First Sunday of Advent ~ St Andrew the Apostle ALMIGHTY God, who didst give such grace unto thy holy Apostle Saint Andrew, that he readily obeyed the calling of thy Son Jesus Christ, and followed him without delay: Grant unto us all, that we, being called by thy holy word, may forthwith give up ourselves obediently to fulfil the holy commandments; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. We pray for the church and village community of St Andrew's Church, South Newton, and their Church team. Amen

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Monday is Jonathan's day off