

MESSAGE NOVEMBER 22, 2020

Christ the King of the Universe.

Last Sunday of the Church year

This celebration encompasses all that we have celebrated during the past year. In an appropriate way, the readings speak to us of a kingship guided by the image of the shepherd, an image so dear to believers, revealed in the Scriptures.

From the prophet Ezekiel we hear of the Shepherd as one who searches, one who seeks out, one who rescues, one who brings back the stray, binds up the injured, one who strengthens the weak and feeds with justice. Actively doing this the Shepherd draws all to the experience of God's love for humanity. Jesus as the Good Shepherd reveals the intensity of this love. So strong is this ground breaking love, that St. Paul proclaims: "When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who put all things in subjection under him, so that God may be all in all." Drawing all to God, we too are participators in this great act of redemption. As the last few Sundays have told us, we are to be alert, vigilant and at work, building the Kingdom.

The great judgement is found in the Gospel passage from Matthew 25. "Truly I tell you, just as you did (or did not do) to one of the least of these sisters or brothers of mine, you did (or did not do) to me". As Pope Francis proclaimed last Sunday, World Day of the Poor: "Hold out your hand to the poor. It is Christ." The King of the Universe invites us to share in the ministry of Jesus – bringing good news to all of Good Will. May our sisters and brothers draw out our love and compassion for all.

Blessings of peace.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Don". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping flourish above the name.

Fr. Don