

A Poorly Protected King...



It has been several years since I wrote an article for this Sunday celebrating Christ the King. At that time my title was: *A Poorly Clad Kin*, which provoked several comments. Today my title is: *A Poorly Protected King...*

The Gospel presents a disturbing and scandalous image of Christ in agony, caught between heaven and earth, with the Latin acronym INRI nailed above his head: *This is the King of the Jews* (Lk 23:38). Our King was at the mercy of all bystanders: *And the people stood by watching...* Our King was sentenced to the same punishment as *two criminals or thieves*. The leaders and soldiers mocked him saying: *He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah* (v. 35). This scene could have tortured us forever, except we know what followed.

Against all expectations, one of the thieves comforted Christ and offered hope for the human race. Despite his suffering, one thief spoke words of profound repentance and confidence in Christ who hung in agony between them. He recognized that Christ was a King, not only of the Jews but of the world to come: *Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom* (v. 42). What a lesson in faith!

There are several possible ways to reflect on this. One teaches us that when we turn to Christ during our most trying times, we can ask for help, forgiveness, and mercy. When we confide our faults, our anxieties, we can always count on the promise made to the repentant thief: *Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise* (v. 43).

The second also brings us to the horrible scene of our crucified King. We acknowledge that Jesus wants to be surrounded by people who are consciously examining the reality of their lives - people who know they are saved by grace and have been forgiven. People of good will anticipate God's Kingdom and are assured that God will keep his promises.

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MASS INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 20, 2016

Please pray for:

Lea Guilbeault & Ferruccio Berardo
Carmela Galardo
Thelma MacDonald
Giacomo Faraggi
Catherine Khouzam
Giuseppe Miglialo
Giovanni Tamburri
Aldo Sbrissa
Patricia Nower
Nicola Petti
Evelyn Quiambao
Doris Besner
Ralph Salthouse

Requested by:

Family
Family
Léo-Paul & Mary Leclerc
Faraggi Family
Family
Family
Family
Family
Family
Donavan Family
Friend
Family
Family

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Bake Sale on Sunday, December 4!

Our annual bake sale will take place on Sunday, December 4th after mass.

Please contact Linda Glashan if you plan on baking or if you have any questions. This is an important fundraiser for our parish.

Please visit our new and improved web site at: <http://www.holyfamilyparishmtl.com>

Feel free to provide your comments / suggestions / or add to Joe Piazza at jpiazza@live.ca

If you wish to add you email address to Holy Family's address list, please send it to jpiazza@live.ca

Here is a picture of the **Bishop Crowley Memorial Award** presented to Father John Baxter on November 11th:



For those wishing to have a mass said for loved one or a friend, please see Sharon Murphy after mass.

Last Sunday's collection was \$1910. Thank you!

Two physicists are traveling in a hot-air balloon and suddenly realize that they're lost. They shout down to a guy in the meadow, "Where are we?"

The guy thinks for a bit and then replies, "You're in a hot-air balloon."

One physicist says to the other, "Well, he's definitely a mathematician."

"Why do you say that?"

"Well first of all, he took a while to think up a response. Second of all, his answer is logical. Third of all, it's completely useless."