The Valley Bulletin

THE REIGN OF CHRIST



November 22nd, 2026

WELCOME

If you are visiting, we welcome you into our midst.
Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey in faith, you are welcome.
It is a blessing to have you worship with us today!
The Parish of the Valley respectfully acknowledges that we gather for worship
on traditional Anishinaabe Algonquin territory.

THE REIGN OF CHRIST

"The Feast of Christ the King"

Our King is calling from the hungry furrows
Whilst we are cruising through the aisles of plenty,
Our hoardings screen us from the man of sorrows,
Our soundtracks drown his murmur: 'I am thirsty.'
He stands in line to sign in as a stranger
And seek a welcome from the world he made.
We see him only as a threat, a danger,
He asks for clothes, we strip-search him instead.
And if he should fall sick then we take care
That he does not infect our private health,
We lock him in the prisons of our fear
Lest he unlock the prison of our wealth.
But still on Sunday we shall stand and sing
The praises of our hidden Lord and King.

By Malcolm Guite, "Sounding the Seasons: Seventy Sonnets for the Christian Year" © 2012 Canterbury Press

The Reign of Christ, or the Feast of Christ the King, is the last Sunday of the Western Church's calendar year before we start all over, rehearsing (reharrowing) the great gospel story that begins with the precatory season of Advent.

To commemorate this feast, Malcolm Guite wrote a beautiful, unsettling sonnet riffing off of today's gospel reading in Matthew (25:31-46), which anticipates the day when Christ the King, upon coming in glory, will ask us whether we recognized him in the poor, the marginalized, the hungry, and the thirsty.

Rev. Dr. Randy Woodley, in his fine book *Shalom and the Community of Creation: An Indigenous Vision,* suggests that it may well be time for us to drop the language of *king* and *kingdom* from our Christian lexicon, as the metaphor no longer has direct relevance in our modern context and is also freighted with negative associations.

While Woodley's concerns resonate with me, the tension between ruler and ruled is precisely the point of this feast. Exactly what kind of king is this who volunteers obscurity, who condescends (with passion) to walk among the lowly, sharing their burdens and humiliations, and whose rule paradoxically accomplishes the liberation rather than the oppressive servitude of his servants?

What kind of kingdom is it where the lofty are brought down and the lowly lifted up, where the marginalized are brought into the centre, where the weak are heralded as its prized citizens? This passage describes an odd, counter-intuitive sort of kingdom and kingly glory, does it not?

Jesus radically redefined the nature of kingship when he said, "Whosoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served by to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:43-45).

I truly love, believe, and trust this story of the servant king and his upside-down kingdom. It causes me to weep tears of both awe and shame. I am complicit in the structures and systems that allow for wretchedness to exist alongside historically unprecedented privilege. Yet, what makes me get up in the morning, dust off my shame and jump back into the story is the firm conviction that the story isn't over. My belief and hope is that the Author, whose astonishing glory is embedded and foreshadowed in countless previous chapters of world history, may yet have a surprising ending.

Adapted from "Pilgrim Year: Ordinary Time" by Steve Bell, © 2018, Novalis Press

LET'S PRAY

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury. We pray for the Church of England. We pray for our companion diocese of Jerusalem.

In the Anglican Church of Canada, we pray for Shane Parker, our Primate. We pray for Anne Germond, our Metropolitan. We pray for Christopher Harper, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop.

In our Diocese of Ottawa we pray for Kathryn Otley, our Bishop. We pray for the Staff at Ascension House, including the Archives. We pray for St. Paul's, Hazeldean-Kanata.

In our Deanery of the Northwest, we pray for St. Margaret of Scotland, Rutherglen, part of the Parish of Mattawa-Rutherglen.

In our Parish of the Valley, we pray for Matthew Brown our Incumbent; and for Gillian Hoyer, Nicholas Forte, and Christine Muise our Associate Incumbents. And for the life and members of our Parish of the Valley Community, this week we pray for: Betty Sadler, Peter & Marilyn Saffery, Bob & Joan Sauvageau, Ben & Victoria Savage and Katherine, Ben & Meghan Schauer.

For those who are being baptized: Arthur Kidd - Pembroke.

For those who have died and all members of their family as they grieve:
Hildergard Farrell, Shawn Wootton, William Arnold, Pauline Smerdon.

For the sick , those who have asked for our prayers, and all others who are on our hearts…

Alice & Petawawa: Phil, Pierette, Joe, Susie, Doug, Ralph, Bill, Issy, Marion, Lynn, Wanda, Rose, Lois, Gloria, Trent, Sammy, Michael.

Barry's Bay & Whitney: David, Carolyn, Ewald, Joyce, Mary Ann, George, Poppy Joe & Penny Jane, Blake, Cathy, Susan, Patricia, Elspeth, Debra, Mary-Jayne, Fern, Shirley, Marilyn, David, Susie, Sharon, Theresa, Stuart, Katherine.

Killaloe/Tramore & Eganville: Adam, Teresa, Annie, Ralph, Judith, Gale, Carol, Lynda, Ed, Marg, Joan, James, Hilary, Heather, Jan, Harold, Dorothy, Betty, Ann, Sheila, Andrea, Sharon, Junior, Peter, Phyllis, Ethel, Anice, Paula, Rosemary.

Pembroke: Jim, Roger, Jim, Callum, Diane, Jolene, Heather, Bill, Bob, Jo, Connie, June, Lomie.

Stafford/Beachburg/Cobden: Nancy, Royla, Gwen, Elmor, John, Jean, Denver, Brian, Ruby, Janice, Susan, Ryan, Haley, Ruth, James, Sharon, Dave, Nicholas, Carolyn, Hillary, Ralph, Thyra, Sandra.

TODAY'S READINGS

NOVEMBER 22, 2026 - The Reign of Christ
Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100; Ephesians 1.15-23; Matthew 25.31-46

UPCOMING READINGS

November 29, 2026 - First Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 64.1-9; Psalm 80.1-7, 16-18; 1 Corinthians 1.3-9; Mark 13.24-37

December 6, 2026 - Second Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 40.1-11; Psalm 85.1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3.8-15a; Mark 1.1-8

OFFERINGS

We are grateful for your ongoing support of our parish's congregations.
Donations can always be placed on the offering plates located at the back of the church, or can be given during the offertory in congregations where an offering plate is passed. To learn more about Pre-Authorized Remittances (PAR), options for e-transfer, or how to donate online with credit card through *Canada Helps* or *Tithe.ly*, please visit our website: www.ValleyAnglicans.ca

This Valley Bulletin is offered to the greater glory of God
and in celebration of the arrival of my great-nephew Wyatt Kennedy, on November 8th, 2026
by Gay Tushingham.

SERVICES IN THE PARISH OF THE VALLEY

NOVEMBER 29, 2026

8 & 10am - Holy Trinity Pembroke
9am - St Anthony's Whitney
9am - Ascension Killaloe
9am - St Patrick's Lower Stafford
9:30am -St George's South Alice
11am - St Paul's Cobden
11am - St John's Eganville
11am - Epiphany Barry's Bay
11:15am - All Saints Petawawa
3pm - St John's Eganville (Evensong)

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Thursday, November 26th at 10am (LTC) and 10:30am (RH) - Caressant Care, Cobden
Thursday, December 3rd at 10:15am - Valley Manor, Barry's Bay
Wednesday, December 9th at 10:30am - Riverview Heights, Pembroke
Thursday, December 17th at 2pm - Supples Landing, Pembroke

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Pembroke Congregational Council - Wednesday, November 25th at 7pm on Zoom
- Eganville & Killaloe/Tramore Joint Congregational Councils - Thursday, November 26th at 10am in St. Mark's Hall, Eganville

NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

There will be a **potluck today at St. John's Eganville** following the 11am service to celebrate and give thanks for Rev. Christine's ministry in the Parish of the Valley prior to her taking up her new appointment to the parish of St. Mary's Navan. All are welcome!

Holy Trinity Pembroke ACW will meet on Tuesday, November 24th at 1:30pm in the church hall.

The Christmas Edition of *Revelations* will be published in December! We invite stories, notes, pictures, poetry, or anything you would like to share from the life of your congregation over the last few months. Please send submissions to revelations@valleyanglicans.ca by December 2nd. Thank you!

The **Annual Wine & Cheese** to support Epiphany Barry's Bay is happening on Saturday, November 28th from 2-5pm at the Barry's Bay Legion. Tickets are $55 and are available from Shawn & Dave Eagles (shdaeagles@gmail.com or 613-756-6356). Come on your own or get a table of friends together and enjoy delicious pairings of wine and cheese with appetizers and homemade goodies. Wines and cheeses sampled can be purchased in an auction at the end of the event.

On Sunday, November 29th at 11:30am, there will be a **special coffee time presentation by Mykayla Turner, PhD student at Saint Paul University, Ottawa, at Holy Trinity Pembroke.** This will be an opportunity to hear as Mykayla shares about what she learned from us last fall in her research visits and interviews with us in the Parish of the Valley with a time to engage in conversation and questions with Mykayla and each other. Parishioners from across the Parish of the Valley are welcome to attend!

Join the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Eganville for the **Celebration of Light Evensong** on the First Sunday of Advent: Sunday, November 29th at 3pm.
If you would like for the gathered community to remember a departed loved one in prayer during evensong, or if you would like to honour a community member who helps to share God's light in the world, please contact Joan Boldt by no later than Sunday, November 22. You can reach Joan by telephone at 613-628-6503 or by email at joan.boldt@live.com.

Give the Gift of Enhanced Images this Christmas! Support the St. Francis Valley Healthcare Foundation's *Tree of Lights Campaign* to help purchase a new X-ray machine for St. Francis Memorial Hospital. Visit the Foundation at 7 St. Francis Memorial Drive, online at www.sfvhfoundation.com, or call 613-756-3045 ext. 217 to donate.

CLERGY TEAM

Contact Information

The Rev. Matthew Brown (613-732-4658)
The Rev. Gillian Hoyer (613-687-9123)
The Rev. Nicholas Forte (613-629-9498)
The Rev. Christine Muise (613-883-8402)

Cover: *A Familiar Face,* Gary Bunt, from **The Man Who Found God exhibition 2022.**

"I knew I recognised your face
you are the son of God
I've come to ask for your forgiveness
and perhaps you could bless my dog
lead me from temptation
wash me of my sins
bless me with your Spirit
and the peace that God's grace brings"

www.valleyanglicans.ca
@valleyanglicans on Facebook, YouTube, & Instagram

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