

**ALCOHOL AWARENESS WEEK 19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**—Alcohol misuse has been identified as a significant public health and social issue in Northern Ireland over many years. Al-Anon Family Groups is there for families and friends of Problem Drinkers. Information Office Mon-Fri 10am-1pm 02890 682368 and our helpline is operated from 6pm -11pm 365 days per year.

**‘THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS’ CONCERT** - Will take place on Saturday 15th December @ 7.30pm in Good Shepherd Church, Ormeau Road, Belfast showcasing Marion Jordan accompanied by several performers including the Arco String Quartet, renowned local Tenor Greg Davidson and the Saint Michael’s Parent and Children’s choirs. Post-concert, the recently opened parish centre will host a small craft fair and guests can avail of mulled wine and nibbles. Tickets £15 are available from [www.marionjordan.com](http://www.marionjordan.com) and also available at venue. The ‘Spirit of Christmas’ EP and Marion’s debut album ‘The Prayer’ will be available to purchase on the night. Proceeds to St. Michael’s PTA and PIPS charity.

**STORMONT ROSARY FOR LIFE** - Please join us in praying the Rosary for the protection of Ireland’s unborn babies at **Parliament Buildings, Stormont** (Main Gates) Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast **at 3pm** on **Saturday 8th December, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**. For more information contact the Rosary Crusade for Ireland on **028 9027 8484**.

**HANNAHSTOWN HERITAGE AND CULTURAL SOCIETY** On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December the Lord Mayor of Belfast will officially open our heritage room at 7.30pm. This will be a very special night for our society and for Hannahstown. The opening will be followed by our annual Christmas Night of Music, Song and Storytelling. Admission is free so please come along and support us and enjoy a great night of celebration. Everyone welcome

**SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL** – Annual Christmas Collection will be taken up in the Parish on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December.

**SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL** – Senior Citizens Annual Christmas Dinner will be held in Ballymac Hotel on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 7pm. Please contact any member of SVP for further information.

Parish of Hannahstown - St Joseph’s & St Peter’s  
25th November 2018 – OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF  
THE UNIVERSE

**REFLECTION FOR THIS SUNDAY’S FEAST** Our faith is built on apparent contradictions or paradoxes. We end the liturgical year speaking of kingship, sovereignty, empire, majesty, might and power. Yet the Gospel shows Jesus about to take leave of the world looking very unlike a king.

Jesus takes leave of the world before his crucifixion. He is apparently powerless, abandoned, and humiliated. Yet, in answer to Pilate’s question he declares himself to be king: king of the truth. Jesus’ kingdom, he teaches, is not of this world and Pilate, being a man of the world of politics and power, fails to understand. His ideas of kings and kingship are altogether of a different order.

Jesus teaches a kingdom founded on his witness to the truth of God’s care and faithful love for his people. The royal power of Christ is the power of truth, and his throne is within the heart of each one of us, swept clean of sin. His kingdom is a way of living marked by mutual respect, recognition of the dignity of each person, justice, peace, forgiveness, mercy and faithfulness.

It is an upside-down kingdom, where the lowly and the last in the eyes of this world come first, where the weak are powerful and the mighty are cast from their thrones.

Christ’s kingdom is built up within and among us when we empty ourselves after the example of Christ and serve him in others. It is a kingdom growing and developing slowly and unseen among us: a kingdom which will come to its fulfilment and perfection in the presence of God. It is a kingdom we pray for, work for, hope for, search for. We share in its announcement and in its building here on earth, so that we may one day share in its reality.

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