



Liturgy Cycle C

# Thirty-Fourth Sunday Of The Year Messengers Of The King

## **Introduction**

Today we honour Christ as our King. We honour him best, however, by helping to spread his Kingdom. We should do this collectively, as members of the Church, and also individually. Christ wants us to be messengers of his love to others, but especially to the poor and the needy. What kind of a messenger am I? Christ, who forgave the good thief, will forgive us also.

## **First Reading (2 Samuel 5:1-3)**

David had already been anointed king of Judah. Here we read how the northern tribes also acknowledge him as king. Thus David became the king of a united country.

## **Second Reading (Colossians 1:11-20)**

Paul gives thanks to God for having delivered us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us to the Kingdom of his Son, who is not only head of the Church but head of all creation.

## **Gospel (Luke 23:35-43)**

This tells of the mockery Christ suffered as he hung on the cross, and how in the midst of it he brought hope and salvation to one of the thieves crucified with him.

## **Prayer Of The Faithful**

Let us pray to our heavenly Father who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us to the Kingdom of his beloved Son.

**R: May your Kingdom come.**

For the Church: that we its members may realize that we are spreading the Kingdom of God when we do our ordinary work well, at home and outside the home. We pray to the Lord.

**R: May your Kingdom come.**

For our political leaders: that they may help to spread the Kingdom by showing special concern for the weaker and disadvantaged members of society: the little ones, the old, the sick, the handicapped. We pray to the Lord.

**R: May your Kingdom come.**



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**For those who do not acknowledge Christ as their Saviour and King: that they may discover him in his followers. We pray to the Lord.**

**R: May your Kingdom come.**

**That we may allow Christ to enrich our own lives, and then gladly give ourselves to him as messengers of his love. peace and forgiveness to others. We pray to the Lord.**

**R: May your Kingdom come.**

### **Communion Reflection**

**Death - harvest time of the spirit.**

**On an autumn day  
I took up a handful of grain  
and let it slip slowly through my fingers.  
And I said to myself:  
'This is what it's all about.  
There is no longer any room for pretense.  
At harvest time the essence is revealed.  
The straw and the chaff are set aside.  
They have done their job.  
The grain alone matters - sacks of pure gold.'**

**So it is when a person dies.  
The essence of that person is revealed.  
At the moment of death a person's character stands out.  
Happy for the person if he has forged it well over the years.**

**Then it will not be the great achievements that will matter;  
not how much money or possessions a person has amassed.  
These, like the straw and the chaff, will be left behind.  
It is what he has made of himself that will matter.**

**Death can take away from us what we have.  
but it cannot rob us of what we are.  
We are children of our heavenly Father,  
and coheirs with Christ to the Kingdom of heaven.**