

## ALPHA AND OMEGA

We give Jesus many names: Son of Man, Son of God, Messiah, Rabbi, Lord, King, Alpha and Omega. None of them are middle of the road titles. They all proclaim our belief that Jesus holds sway over the whole of creation, that he is the be-all and end-all of what matters in life. They announce that Jesus is God in our midst, the Universal King. And so the feast of Christ the King concludes the 52 weeks of the Church's year and today sums up Christ's teaching with the parable of the sheep and goats. What is it saying? It is telling us that we cannot claim to love God if we do not love each other. It lets us know that each other includes more than the people we like; it encompasses the least "important" people around us. And it is about basic and practical action.

People who are hungry, thirsty, strangers and refugees, homeless, those without adequate provision to live, those who are sick and those who are imprisoned. These are the all-inclusive categories that Jesus uses to let us know that no one falls outside the claim of our charity. We are to love until it hurts.

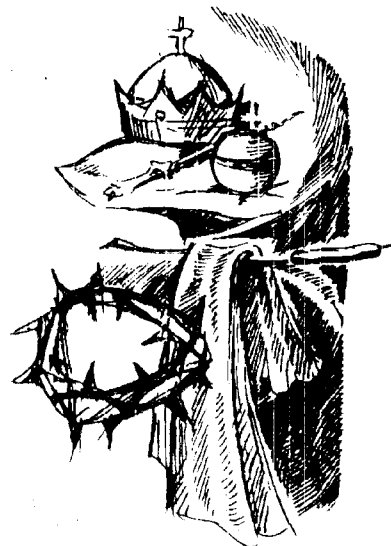
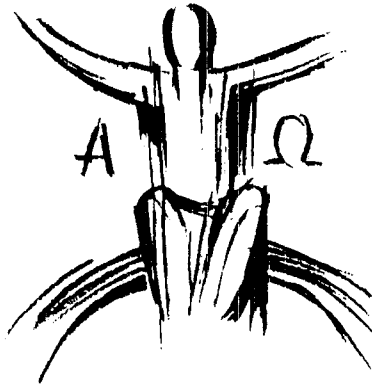
But the second aspect of today's gospel is one which strikes either joy or terror. The type of kingdom we each create here on earth is the one we will live in for eternity. It can be the kingdom of truth and life, of holiness and grace, of justice, love and peace. Or it can be full of goats.

### SCRIPTURE

When the Son of Man comes,  
he will place the sheep on his right hand  
and the goats on his left.

*(Matthew 25:33)*

Eternal Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne  
of heaven that he might rule over all things as  
Lord and King:  
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order to worship at  
his feet;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.



PARISH NEWS

November 20th, 1999

SEDLESCOMBE WITH WHATLINGTON

Vol.32 No. 47

Christ the King

10p

**TODAY Saturday 20 November** - Scouts Christmas Fair. New toys, cake stall, raffle and lots more, from 2 pm in the Scout Hut.

**SEDLESCOMBE PLAYERS** Calling all actors. for **Monday 22 November**. Plays this week. **PLEASE** can we have the full cast - just for once! (Village hall, 7.30 pm).

**SEDLESCOMBE GREEN W.I.** Monthly meeting will be in the village hall on **Wednesday 24 November** at 7.30 pm. The speaker will be Mrs Betty Bowe "Costumes Here and There". Tea hostesses Audrey Miller and Noreen Hipwell. Competition - Flower of the Month.

Visitors and new members always very welcome.

**SEDLESCOMBE & DISTRICT CLUB** The extremes of drug-taking - mental illness, deterioration of organs, near-death not far away - were some of the basic points described by Brian Graves, police drugs officer when he spoke about the crippling world of drugs at the last meeting. His talk on his experiences, particularly local ones, gripped the attention of members.

Brian, well known for his time on the Sedlescombe beat, transferred to the drug squad some years ago and is now recognised as an expert on the subject and is going to spend time in his retirement trying to help with rehabilitation of addicts.

Trying to keep young people from

entering the deadly game, dealing with pushers and dealers, is all part of a very complex routine in the drug squad. The international scene is always in view and Brian has seen the work of officers in America and Canada and knows Holland as the ever-active gateway for distributors. Members are hoping for a return visit to learn more of an on-going saga.

The next meeting, **25 November**, will see members on a self-entertainment programme.

**CHRISTMAS HUNGER LUNCH** will be on **Saturday 11 December** this year, in the Rectory from 12 noon until 2 pm. There will be home made soup and a bread roll for £3, and a raffle and Christmas fare cake stall. We would be very grateful for gifts of cakes etc so please ladies, when you are doing your baking do one extra item for us to sell. Everyone is busy preparing their own feast but please spare a little time and money to help those who are hungry or homeless. All proceeds to Christian Aid - do support us in this event.

**SEDLESCOMBE RANGERS JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB** Although the results have not been printed for the last couple of weeks, the Rangers have been in action! Results from last Saturday are: Under 9's 2 H'tings Town Youth Blue 1 Under 10's 2 Shinewater Assoc 2 Under 11's 2 St Leonards Youth 2 Under 12's 0 Hailsham 3 Under 13's 11 Little Common 3 Under 16's 3 Hastings Rangers 2

**HASTINGS & ROTHER VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND** are looking for help in running a new Charity Shop they have opened in Bexhill.

**The Theme:** We celebrate Christ's victory over suffering and death  
**The Readings:**  
**Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24** The Lord will look after his flock himself  
**Ephesians 1:15-23** To know and understand the significance of Christ's love  
**Matthew 25:31-46** The way we live our lives matters to God.

**Services and Meetings this week**

**Christ the King**

**November 21st, 1999**

**SEDLSCOMBE**

**WHATLINGTON**

**Christ the King [21]**

**Christ the King [21]**

8.00am Holy Communion

9.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion,  
Junior and Youth Church

**Monday S.Cecilia [22]**

7.30pm Holy Communion-*Rectory*

**Wednesday [24]**

10.00am Holy Communion-*Rectory*

6.30pm "Friends" Trustees Meeting

**Thursday [25]**

8.00am Holy Communion

**Advent Sunday [28]**

10.00am Parish Communion  
Junior and Youth Church

**Advent Sunday [28]**

8.00am Holy Communion

**The Chapel Hill Church {United Reformed}**

Morning worship and junior church, 10.30 am, taken by Mrs Cynthia Teal. No evening worship.

**Weekly meetings:** Men's Group, Tues 3 pm in the church  
 Coffee morning, Weds 10.30 am in the church  
 Home Group, Thurs 7.30 pm in a home  
 Art & Craft, Fri, 1 pm in the church

Volunteers with experience or no experience are sought. They also seek car drivers to bring blind/partially sighted people to Hastings or Bexhill where their needs can be addressed. Please contact the Secretary, Mrs Cope, on 01424 8537111.

**SEDLSCOMBE & WESTFIELD**

**SURGERIES**

Below are the details about opening arrangements for the surgeries over Christmas and the Millennium. This is likely to be the last time the information appears in the Parish News so do please keep this copy so that you can refer to it if you need help over the holiday period.

The surgeries will be closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day, the Bank Holidays after Christmas, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. There will be no appointments on Weds and Thurs but open surgeries instead. There will be Emergency Surgeries on the last mornings of each holiday period, i.e. Tuesday 28 December and Monday 3 January. Please telephone the surgery between 9 and 10 am.

If you are an asthmatic, please discuss before the holiday whether you need any emergency supplies of inhalers or tablets. If an insulin dependent diabetic, ensure you have a supply of glucagon injection which is in date and appropriate glucose rich foods for emergencies. If you are having visitors please remind them to bring ALL their medicines and inhalers with them. Consider having the flu vaccination when it is available if you are at risk - over 65, heart, lung (including asthma), kidney disease, diabetes. Please arrange transport for hospital appointments well in advance. The District Nurse will provide only emergency cover - please discuss any routine supplies well in advance. When the surgery is closed medical emergencies only may call the SEADOC service on 0345 626118. With the arrangements made you should not need to trouble the emergency service for routine matters.

**Sedlescombe & Westfield Surgeries Christmas & New Year Surgeries**

	MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Fri 24-Dec	Xmas Eve	Normal Surgeries	CLOSED
Sat 25-Dec	Xmas Day	CLOSED	CLOSED
Sun 26-Dec	Boxing Day	CLOSED	CLOSED
Mon 27-Dec	Bank Holiday	CLOSED	CLOSED
Tue 28-Dec	Bank Holiday	EMERGENCY SURGERY PHONE 9-10AM	CLOSED
Wed 29-Dec		SED OPEN SURGERY 9-10 SRS	OPEN SURGERY 2-3 PM TJB
		WEST OPEN SURGERY 9-10 TJB	OPEN SURGERY 2-3 PM SRS
		SED OPEN SURGERY 5-10 CDH	CLOSED
		WEST OPEN SURGERY 5-10 TJB	OPEN SURGERY 5.30-6.30 CDH
Thu 30-Dec		WEST OPEN SURGERY 2-10 TJB	CLOSED
		CLOSED	CLOSED
Fri 31-Dec	Bank Holiday	CLOSED	CLOSED
Sat 1-Jan	Bank Holiday	CLOSED	CLOSED
Sun 2-Jan		EMERGENCY SURGERY PHONE 9-10AM	CLOSED
Mon 3-Jan	Bank Holiday	EMERGENCY SURGERY PHONE 9-10AM	CLOSED
Tue 4-Jan		Normal surgeries	CLOSED