

(B33) SUNDAY 33 OF THE YEAR

(NOVEMBER 14TH, 2021)

Readings: *Daniel 12: 1 – 3; Ps. 15 (16); Hebrews 10: 11 – 14, 18; Mark 13: 24 – 32.*

As we move towards the end of the Church's year all three of today's readings speak of final realities – of the coming of the Son of Man *in the clouds with great power and glory*, and of the awakening of some of *those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace*. These things lie in the future – at a time which is known to *no one but the Father*.

The reading from *the Letter to Hebrews* also speaks of a final reality – but this is a reality already accomplished. Christ has already achieved the purpose for which he took our human nature. He did that by his death in which he *offered one single sacrifice for sins, by which he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying*.

Christ has already done everything that needs to be done to make all the saints there will ever be, all who will share in his kingdom.

To us human beings, still in time and space, much of this lies in the future. We cannot know how many of those yet unborn will turn out to be among Christ's holy ones. But in the eternal world, beyond time and space, this is already accomplished. Christ has *taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God*.

In today's mass, as in every mass, we celebrate the victory he has won, rejoice that our sins have been forgiven by his sacrificial death, and look forward with longing to the time when we shall take our place in his eternal kingdom.