

**SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**  
**The Feast of St. Edmund the King**  
**(2<sup>nd</sup> before Advent)**

**Collect**

**E**ternal God, whose servant Edmund kept faith to the end, both with you and with his people, and glorified you by his death: grant us such steadfastness of faith that, with the noble army of martyrs, we may come to enjoy the fullness of the resurrection life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading - Proverbs 20.28,21.1-4,7**

**L**oyalty and faithfulness preserve the king, and his throne is upheld by righteousness. The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will. All deeds are right in the sight of the doer, but the Lord weighs the heart. To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice. Haughty eyes and a proud heart - the lamp of the wicked - are sin. The violence of the wicked will sweep them away, because they refuse to do what is just.

**Psalm - Psalm 126**

**W**hen the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, Then were we like those who dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with songs of joy. + Then said they among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them. The Lord has indeed done great things for us, and therefore we rejoiced. Restore again our fortunes, O Lord, as the river beds of the desert. + Those who sow in tears shall reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed, Will come back with shouts of joy, bearing their sheaves with them. +



**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - Romans 8.35-39**

**W**ho will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Gospel Reading - John 12.20-26**

**A**mong those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to hilep, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour."

**Post-Communion Prayer**

**L**ord, may we follow the example of King Edmund, who did not turn away from his worship and true love for you. We ask this in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

