This Sunday is the last Sunday in Ordinary Time and is the Solemnity of Christ the King. Next Sunday will be the First Sunday of Advent. The theme this Sunday is the end of time and judgement, up to which our readings at +mass recently have been leading. Our Lord is the merciful judge to Whom, as the Introit says, belong glory and power for ever and ever and Who is the King of the Universe. The Collect also encourages us all to serve and praise the Holy Trinity.

The first reading, from Ezekiel, beautifully describes how God the Father seeks His scattered flock and then judges "between sheep and goats". We shouldn't presume that we shall all be found to be sheep! Psalm 22 then reminds us that IF we follow the Lord and his commandments we shall want nothing and St Paul in his letter to the church at Corinth describes the Last Judgement, after death, "the last enemy", has been destroyed.

In the reading from St Matthew's Gospel today, Our Lord describes how, at the Last Judgement, we shall be judged by the love we have or haven't shewn to God through our love for our neighbours on earth: the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick and the prisoner, that is those without either material or spiritual comfort.

Our Lady, we may imagine, was beginning to prepare for Her journey to Bethlehem which She would undertake with Her husband, St Joseph, and carrying in Her womb the Word of God, the future Christ the King. She went full of grace and faith. Let us ask Her to lead us to Her Son.