

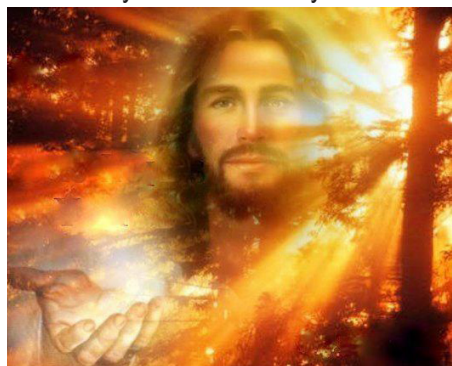
SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS *Christ the King of the Universe*

To Him be glory and power forever and ever! Amen.



REFLECTION ON THE WORD

On this last Sunday of the liturgical year we honor the victory of Christ over suffering and death, over evil and infidelity, over this world and all its lures. In this conversation Pilate questions Jesus about his identity and about why he is on trial. What unfolds



is a conversation about two very different worlds: that of Pilate and the chief priests, in which fighting, falsehood and obstinacy predominate and that of Jesus in

which life, truth, and openness prevail. Yes, Jesus is a King—but of a kingdom different from that of Herod's. What he has done is reveal a kingdom that “does not belong to this world”, but is meant to transform it: from evil to goodness, from sinfulness to salvation, from death to life

Jesus' kingdom is not of this world; not a place but an interior identity defined by our relationship to Christ the King. This Sunday we celebrate a King whose Presence and power we have already experienced: Christ, whose kingdom is not territory but virtue, not power but service, not wealth but grace. This King has loved us with his very life.

At the end of this liturgical year we are invited by the liturgy once again to fall in love with our King who has won for us eternal life. To him be glory and power forever and ever!

Words to reflect upon: two very different worlds, not power but service

**Praise the Lord! Kings of the earth and
all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
Young men and maidens together,
old people and children,
Praise the Lord!**

LIVING THE PASCHAL MYSTERY

The Suffering, Death And Resurrection Of Christ And Our Participation In It

Living the paschal mystery means that we don't count the cost, but always find strength, hope, encouragement in the glimpse of final victory that we are repeatedly given throughout the liturgical year.

Living the paschal mystery means that we see the victorious Christ even in the everyday trials and difficulties that we face.

Living the paschal mystery means that we are ever faithful to the rhythm of dying and rising as it unfolds in our everyday prayer, work and leisure.

Living the paschal mystery means that we are “priests” (mediators) for those whom we meet—that we are the Body of Christ leading others to holier lives and happier commitment. If someone should ask us “what have you done?” our answer would come quickly and surely—we have served out King. We have loved our King.

Words to reflect upon: we have loved our King

THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

which we are celebrating today was defined by the church at a time when the monarchies of Europe were beginning to disappear. This new feast reminded people that the King of the Universe was beyond any earthly system. It provided a sense of stability and authority in people as the old government structures collapsed and unknown systems were developing. Be serene, the feast says, whatever happens now and here and with people and in chaos, it is God who is ultimately in charge. Truer than ever and even more important now in the 21st century, wouldn't you say?



**Blessed are you, Lord,
creator and sustainer of life!**

PRAYING WITH SCRIPTURE

Psalm 93: 1,1-2,5 *The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty*



The ancient Hebrew community conceived of the earth as a platform balanced on the chaotic waters of the sea. The surging waters constantly threatened to overwhelm the earth and would have done so were it not for the equally constant intervention of a more stabilizing force—the hand of God. Psalm 93 uses this imagery to express the cosmic conflict going on between God and the forces of evil and assures us that God has the upper hand: “(God) has made the world firm, not to be moved.”


Psalm 93 is a fitting choice for today when we celebrate at last what we have hoped in and been faithful for-- the full coming of Christ's kingdom. We have trusted in Jesus' word and obeyed his call to discipleship. We have walked the journey of Ordinary Time, traveling with Jesus to Jerusalem and the cross. Today we celebrate the glory that awaits us beyond the cross. The Lord is King robed in majesty, and we stand robed with him not to be moved.

— reflection on *Christ the King*

GOD'S WORLD (fragment)

... Lord, I do fear
Thou'st made the world too beautiful this year.
My soul is all but out of me ...

— Edna St. Vincent Millay

 AS YOU ENJOY YOUR TURKEY with all the trimmings with family and friends, be sure to savor to the fullest the **birdsong**, **flower-smell**, **sky-color**, and **herb-taste**. Remember to bless God, The Giver of All Gifts. This is the God who gave us his Son, Jesus Christ, as our Savior who, in turn gave us the gift of Himself in that perfect act of Thanksgiving, the Eucharist. Let us rejoice and be glad!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

There will be a **Thanksgiving Day Mass** in English at 9:30 a.m and one in Spanish at 8:00 a.m.
The Parish office will be closed Thanksgiving Day.

FOR refugees in the camps, the people of Paris who



suffered so much last Friday and continue to suffer: the dead, their friends and families and all the Paris citizens who now must continue living under the threat of violence while they learn to forgive and to become Constructors of Peace.

—THE LITURGICAL CORNER

PREPARING FOR ADVENT

Advent is almost here! In just 1 week, on the 29th of November, that great liturgical season of great anticipatory joy will be upon us! It is time to prepare our minds and our hearts for doing the work required to **Becoming An Advent People**. What are we to do? How are we to do it? We can start with small steps. Lamentations gives us some good advice “It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord”.

We can all slow down. We can all breathe more deeply. We can let ourselves be who we are, and listen to the Scriptures; we can begin to quietly pray, **“Come, Lord Jesus”**. We might expand that prayer, in quiet moments of our days ahead (don't worry, you'll have a few).

“Come into my life. I trust you don't mind if it is still messy. I believe you love me. I need your love. I'm not afraid that you find your way into my heart. Come and fill me with peace and the love only you can give.”

Maybe you might even learn to cry out (maybe just a little?) *“Come Lord Jesus, come into this house, into my family, into our struggles. Come and heal us. Give us joy and unity in your love!”* And, before a single decoration goes up, we have prepared for Christmas' message with the foundation of faith, the mystery of **Advent's gift: GOD WANTS TO BE WITH US!** Let's start preparing today to welcome Him.

RESOURCES FOR ENTERING ADVENT WELL

There are excellent web source materials for Advent available today.

One good resource to consult is:
www.onlineministries.creighton.edu

Link: **Praying Advent**



November 25th is International No More Violence Against Women Day

... Violence against women exists today in all parts of the world, and it takes place at all social levels, political systems and cultures. This violence targets women just because they are women and considered culturally, socially and ethically inferior; they are considered legitimate targets for violence, especially at the hands of men and especially within the family. Let us remember these nameless and invisible women in our prayers on Thursday in a special way. For them, let us resolve to recognize and oppose all forms of violence against women in our world. As Advent approaches, let us renew our efforts to learn and integrate the practice of constructing peace in our own lives and communities. May the God of Peace bless you and keep you secure in His love.