

November 22, 2020

Good Sunday Morning!

We have a wonderful message today in our attachment. Not a lot of words but each one is power packed with truth!

We have another recommendation from "the St. Joseph family" on FORMED. " The Fourth Wiseman is a great movie for children at this time of the year. Closes with words from this weekend's gospel".

Fr. Gillespie will be praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet with Penitential Prayers at 3:00 in the church. Please consider joining.

1. Today's Readings: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/112220.cfm>

2. ***The RE Corner with Jan Heithaus: The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe***

Today is the last Sunday of the liturgical year. Why do we celebrate this Solemnity? Read the attached from usccb.org for a brief description why Pope Pius XI established it in 1925.

Catholic Prayer: Act of Dedication of the Human Race to Jesus Christ King (Iesu dulcissime, Redemptor)

A partial indulgence is granted to the faithful, who piously recite the Act of Dedication of the Human Race to Jesus Christ King. A plenary indulgence is granted, if it is recited publicly on the feast of our Lord Jesus Christ King.

Prayer:

Most sweet Jesus, Redeemer of the human race, look down upon us humbly prostrate before you. We are yours, and yours we wish to be; but to be more surely united with you, behold each one of us freely consecrates himself today to your Most Sacred Heart. Many indeed have never known you; many, too, despising your precepts, have rejected you. Have mercy on them all, most merciful Jesus, and draw them to your Sacred Heart. Be King, O Lord, not only of the faithful who have never forsaken you, but also of the prodigal children who have abandoned you; grant that they may quickly return to their Father's house, lest they die of wretchedness and hunger. Be King of those who are deceived by erroneous opinions, or whom discord keeps aloof, and call them back to the harbor of truth and the unity of faith, so that soon there may be but one flock and one Shepherd. Grant, O Lord, to your Church assurance of freedom and immunity from harm; give tranquility of order to all nations; make the earth resound from pole to pole

with one cry: Praise to the divine Heart that wrought our salvation; to it be glory and honor for ever. Amen.

Prayer Source: Enchiridion of Indulgences - June 29, 1968

3. Quote of the Day: Jesus wants to reign in the world, but how shall Christ reign in the world? "By allowing Him to reign in each one of us. And how will He reign in each one of us? By reigning in each of our actions, our desires, our thoughts" *St. Josemaría Escrivá*

4. Sunday Song: The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

The King shall come when morning dawns
And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills
And life to joy awakes.

Not, as of old, a little child,
To bear, and fight, and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun
That lights the morning sky.

O brighter than the rising morn
When he, victorious, rose
And left the lonesome place of death,
Despite the rage of foes.

O brighter than that glorious morn
Shall this fair morning be,

The Solemnity of Christ the King

Pope Pius XI instituted this feast in 1925 with his encyclical *Quas Primas* ("In the first") to respond to growing nationalism and secularism. He recognized that these related societal ills would breed increasing hostility against the Church. His encyclical reminds the faithful that while governments and philosophies come and go, Christ reigns as king forever.

The Kingdom is Holistic

The kingdom, already present and growing in our midst, engages us at every level of our being and reminds us of the principle of discernment which Pope Paul VI applied to true development: it must be directed to 'all men and the whole man'. – Pope Francis, Evangelii gaudium, 181

Secularism divides our public selves from our private selves. When governments limit the rights of religious ministries, secularists claim that religious freedom is not harmed because we still have freedom of worship – we are free in private but not in public. But the kingdom of God calls us to a whole life of worship and service in the public square. We cannot worship on Sunday and then deny Christ's teaching in the way we run our ministries throughout the week.

Nationalism, on the other hand, divides our loyalties. It is good to love one's country, but ultimate loyalty is due only to Christ and his kingdom. Ideologies that ask us to put our nation above Christ and his Church are incompatible with service to the kingdom.

The Kingdom Demands Discipleship

Jesus is the center of creation; and so the attitude demanded of us as true believers is that of recognizing and accepting in our lives the centrality of Jesus Christ, in our thoughts, in our words and in our works. – Homily of Pope Francis, Solemnity of Christ the King, November 24, 2013

We must work every day, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to draw closer to Jesus. In our own increasingly "post-Christian" society, we cannot be complacent in our spiritual lives. To acknowledge the kingship of Christ means that we should dedicate ourselves to prayer, to building up our families and our parish communities, and to bringing healing to a broken world.

The Kingdom is Humble

Jesus inaugurates a kingdom that grows through humble acts of service. Even as her freedom to carry out her ministries is threatened, the Church must patiently continue to serve the poor, educate the young, welcome the migrant, visit the prisoner, heal the sick, bury the dead, and love others.

*The kingdoms of this world at times are sustained by arrogance, rivalries and oppression; the reign of Christ is a 'kingdom of justice, love and peace.' For a Christian, speaking of power and strength means referring to the power of the Cross, and the strength of Jesus' love: a love which remains steadfast and complete, even when faced with rejection, and it is shown as the fulfillment of a life expended in the total surrender of oneself for the benefit of humanity.
– Angelus Address of Pope Francis, Solemnity of Christ the King, November 22, 2015*

Source: uscgb.org