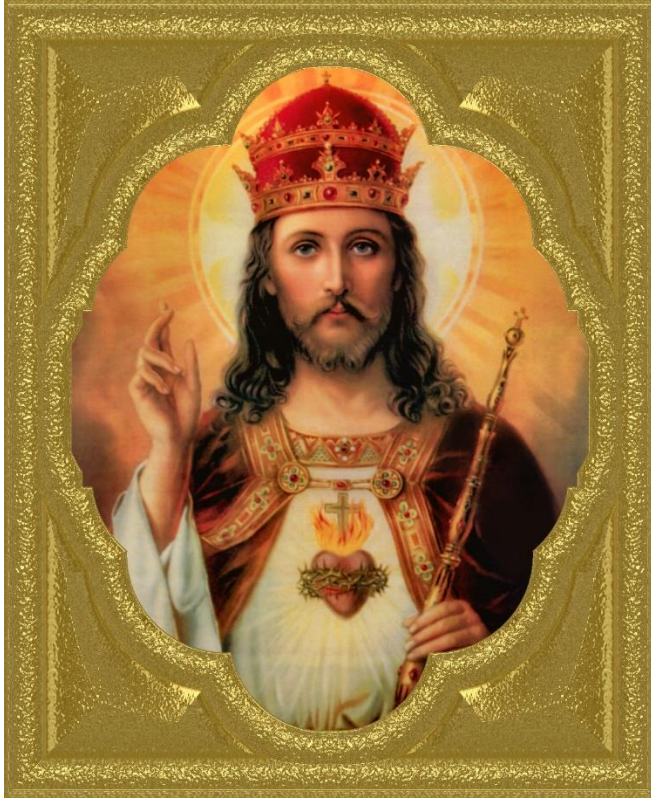


CHRIST THE KING



Today is the Feast of Christ the King. It is an interesting King we have – one who, in the gospel declares: “My kingdom does not belong to this world”.

It was Pope Pius XI who brought the Feast of Christ the King into the liturgy in 1925 to bring Christ as Ruler, and Christian values, back into lives of Christians, into society, and into politics. The Feast was a reminder to the totalitarian governments of Mussolini, Hitler and Stalin that Jesus Christ is the only Sovereign King. Although Emperors and Kings now exist mostly in history books, we still honor Christ as the King of the Universe by enthroning Jesus in our hearts, surrendering our lives to God. This feast challenges us to see Christ the King in everyone, especially those whom our society considers the least important, and to treat each person with the same love, mercy, and compassion Jesus showed.

The title “King” reflects Christ’s divine authority, not in a political sense, but as a spiritual ruler. His reign is characterized by love, humility, and service, as seen in his life, teachings, and ultimate sacrifice on the cross.

Polycarp, the second century bishop of Smyrna, was arrested and brought before the Roman authorities. He was told if he cursed Christ, he would be released. He replied, “Eighty-six years have I served Him, and He has done me no wrong; how then can I blaspheme my King, Jesus Christ Who saved me?” The Roman officer replied, “Unless you change your mind, I will have you burnt.” — But Polycarp said, “You threaten a fire that burns for an hour, and after a while is quenched; for you are ignorant of the judgment to come and of everlasting punishment reserved for the ungodly. Do what you wish, Jesus is my king forever”.

Yes, Jesus Christ is a different king. He is different because He had no servants, yet they call him master. He had no degree, yet they call him teacher. He had no medicine to offer, yet they call him healer.

Jesus Christ is different king, because he had no army yet kings feared him. He won no military battles and yet he conquered the world. He is an architect who built bridge between God and man. He is psychologist who reads the minds of the people (Mt 12:25). He is a climatologist who stills the storm (Mt 8: 23-27). He was not a criminal yet they crucified him

and buried in a tomb. And yet he conquered death, hell and the grave. And he lives today. He sits on the throne in Heaven at the right hand of God. And if you will believe in him and profess with your mouth, believe in your heart that Jesus is Lord you will be saved (JESUS CHRIST IS KING IN OUR LIVES).

1. Other kings are proud, but our King Jesus is Humble.
2. Other kings conquer people and makes them slaves; our King Jesus conquers Satan and sets people free.
3. Other kings need our help; our King Jesus needs no help and helps us.
4. Other kings try to change the future; our King Jesus controls the future.
5. Other kings rise up to look down on us, but our King Jesus came down to lift us up.
6. Other kings' rule from fear, but our King Jesus rules from love.
7. Other kings are selfish and cruel, but our King Jesus is selfless and compassionate.
8. Other kings do not repent or forgive, but our King Jesus forgives those who repent.
9. Other kings make their kingdom with human hands; our King Jesus has a Kingdom not built by human hands.
10. Other kings pray for their kingdom to come, our King Jesus taught us to pray, "Thy Kingdom come".
11. Other kings are not ruling today and will not be ruling tomorrow, but our King Jesus is ruling today and coming tomorrow to rule forever.

In the Bible, Jesus is given the title "King of kings and Lord of lords" in Revelation 19:16. This title indicates that Jesus has the power to exercise absolute dominion over all of creation.

You know, somebody had said, if we allow Jesus to be the king of our hearts, these are the very gifts which He longs to give us:

He gives us *power*; not the power to defeat our opponents or to control or manipulate the stock market and businesses, but the power of the **Holy Spirit** reigning in our hearts.

He gives us *privilege*. Not for special invitations to royal receptions but the privilege to be called God's children and His brothers and sisters.

He gives us *position*. Not the position of chairman of the board or a life of ease, but the position that comes with the promise of a permanent place in His kingdom. we give so much worth with positions and titles. But the Lord reminds us again that our worth lies in who we are, that we are God's children with dignity and is loved by Him and not in what we have.

He grants us the **gifts of possession**. Not a pocket full of money or unlimited charge accounts, but rather, a relationship with him through which we discover what truly is worth possessing.

He is a king who asks no taxes or service for himself. A king who gives, who shares, who tells us in every action that we, you and I, are the most valuable treasure in His kingdom.

Amen.