

Sunday Prayer at Home
Feast of Christ the King Sunday (A)

King of Glory



King of Peace



Introduction and Act of Repentance

Presider:

Today we are celebrating Jesus Christ as our King, and King of the whole wide world. He lives among us, and came not to rule but to serve. The best way to show our loyalty to him is by serving one another. [Pause]

Lord Jesus, you say to us: “Follow me and share your lives with one another.” Lord, have mercy.

You say to us: “Follow me and forgive one another.” Christ, have mercy.

You say to us: “Follow me and love one another.” Lord, have mercy



Opening Prayer

Let us pray (*that all people will acclaim Jesus as Lord of their lives*)

Almighty and merciful God, you break the power of evil and make all things new in your Son, Jesus Christ, the King of the universe. May all in heaven and earth acclaim your glory and never cease to praise you. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord

All: AMEN

Reader: A reading from the prophet Ezekiel (34:11-12, 15-17)

God is portrayed, not so much as a judge of the people, but as someone who cares for them as a good shepherd cares for his sheep

Thus says the Lord God: “I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I myself will be shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down,” says the Lord God. “I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy, I will feed my sheep with justice. As for you my flock,” thus says the Lord God: “I shall judge between one sheep and another, between rams and goats.”

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm : (23:1-3; 5-6)

All:

You are my shepherd;
There is nothing I shall want
Fresh and green are the pastures
Where You give me repose
Near restful waters you lead me
To revive my drooping spirit
You guide me along the right path
You are true to your name
You have prepared a banquet for me
In the sight of my foes
My head you have anointed with oil
My cup is overflowing
Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
All the days of my life
In God's own house shall I dwell
Forever and ever

Reader:

A Reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians (1 Cor 15:20-26.28)

At the end of time, Jesus Christ will reign as King of the universe, having overcome all evil forces, including death

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in its own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who put all things in subjection under him, so that God may be all in all. The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! .
Alleluia!

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew (25:31-46)

We don't know exactly how the last judgment will happen, but we do know what the followers of Jesus will be judged on .

Jesus said to his disciples: “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink. I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

The gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Faith-sharing:

- How have you experienced people during the Covid-19 restrictions?
More selfish than generous, or more generous than selfish?

- Name the values of Jesus that mean the most to you.
- What standards of judgment will Jesus our Judge be using when we come to him to be judged? Do those standards surprise you?
- What kind of society did Christ our King want and work to achieve?
- What is he like as our King? How have you found him?
- As his subjects, what are we like?



Prayer of the Faithful

Leader

Let us pray that we may be found worthy to be counted as true followers of Christ the King.

Reader:

For Christians everywhere. May they give an example of loving service to the poor. (pause) Lord, hear us. R.

For our state and national governments. May they work sincerely for a fair distribution of our nation's wealth. (pause) Lord, hear us. R.

For the members of the Society of St Vincent de Paul, and all those who work for the wellbeing of the poor. May they draw courage from the words of Jesus in the gospel today. (pause) Lord, hear us. R.

For all those who are with us today. May the words of Jesus, 'Whatever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters you do to me', influence how we respond to others and their needs. (pause) Lord, hear us. R.

For all who are being hurt by the effects of Covid 19, and especially for the victims of domestic violence. May others come quickly to their rescue. (pause) Lord, hear us. R.

Parish Prayer

God, Creator and Life-giver we thank you for the gift of one another in our Parish of St Paul Apostle. Bless us and our families with the power of your Spirit. Inspired and motivated by St Paul's courage and commitment to the person of Christ, may we continue to be open to change and challenge!
Make us passionate and courageous in our mission of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ

Presider:

God of love and mercy, your Son so loved the world that he gave his life for us. May we have the courage and generosity to practise that same love. We ask this through Christ our Lord

(All) Amen

Anima Christi Prayer (Spiritual Communion)

Soul of Christ, sanctify me; Body of Christ, save me;
Blood of Christ, inebriate me;
Water from the side of Christ, wash me;
Passion of Christ, strengthen me;
O good Jesus hear me; Within your wounds hide me;
From all harm protect me;
At the hour of my death, call me;
And close to you bid me; So that with your saints,
I may praise you forever and ever. Amen



CONCLUSION

Presider: Mother Teresa has said: “The biggest disease in the world today is the feeling of being unwanted and uncared for. The greatest evil in the world is lack of love, the terrible indifference towards one’s neighbour.” So, just as Jesus in his life and death was ever “the man for others” go now to bring his help and love to everybody you meet, and especially during this coming week

All: Thanks be to God

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