

JESUS CHRIST, OUR KING

To Christ be glory and dominion for forever and ever!

Revelation 1:4b-8

Christ the King is one of the names of Jesus derived from various scriptures. It is a moniker used by all Christians and celebrated as the



Feast of Christ the King by many denominations including, but not limited to, Catholics, Anglicans, Episcopalians, Presbyterians and some Lutherans and Methodists. It frequently is used as a name for churches, schools, seminaries and hospitals. The current feast will fall on the last Sunday of the Church year which is November 25, 2007.

The name is found in various forms in scripture: King Eternal (1 Tim. 1:17), King of Israel (John 1:49), King of the Jews (Mt. 27:11), King of kings (1 Tim 6:15; Rev. 19:16), King of the Ages (Rev. 15:3) and Ruler of the Kings of the Earth

(Rev. 1:5).[1]

Christ's Kingship was addressed in the encyclical *Quas primas* of Pope Pius XI, published in 1925. The Holy Father's encyclical tells us that Jesus' Kingship is not obtained by violence: "'Christ,' he says, 'has dominion over all creatures, a dominion not seized by violence nor usurped, but His by essence and by nature.'"

Pope Benedict XVI has remarked, as did his predecessor John Paul II, that Christ's Kingship is not based on "human power" but on loving and serving others.



PRESENCE OF GOD

We pause and remember that whenever two or three gather together in the name of the Lord, He promises to be there with us.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

FORGIVENESS

Come my friends; let us approach to the throne of grace, where more forgiveness awaits us than this world could ever contain. Let us pray.

Humble King of Love, Your grace reaches through races and nations, neither favoring the righteous nor despising the sinner;

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Humble King of Love, Your hopes for us are not deterred by human rebelliousness. indifference or ignorance;

Christ have mercy

Christ have mercy

Humble King of Love, You find us in our wandering and save us from all that would cut us off from the light of God;

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

PRAYER

Let us pray (that the kingdom of Christ may live in our hearts and come to our world): Father all-powerful, God of love, You have raised our Lord Jesus Christ from death to life, resplendent in glory as King of Creation. Open our hearts; free all the world to rejoice in His peace, to glory in His justice, to live in His love. Bring all people together in Jesus Christ Your Son, Whose kingdom is with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN: TO JESUS CHRIST OUR SOVEREIGN KING

To Jesus Christ our Sovereign King

Who is the world's salvation,

All praise and homage do we bring
and thanks and adoration

Your reign extend O King benign,
to every land and nation;

For in Your kingdom Lord divine

Alone do we find salvation

**To You and to Your Church, great King
We pledge our heart's oblation;
Until before Your throne we sing
In endless jubilation**

**Christ Jesus, Victor!
Christ Jesus, Ruler!
Christ Jesus, Lord and Redeemer**

PSALM 95

**Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord;
cry out to the rock of our salvation.
Let us greet Him with a song of praise, joyfully sing out our psalms.
For the Lord is the great God, the great King over all gods,
Whose hand holds the depths of the earth;
who owns the tops of the mountains.
The sea and dry land belong to God, Who made them, formed them by
hand.
Enter, let us bow down in worship;
let us kneel before the Lord Who made us.
For this is our God, Whose people we are,
God's well-tended flock.
Oh, that today you would hear his voice.**

SCRIPTURE: DANIEL 7:13-14

**I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there
came one like a Son of Man, and He came to the Ancient of Days and was
presented before Him. And to Him was given dominion and glory and
kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him; His
dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His
kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.**

SCRIPTURE: PHILIPPIANS 2: 9 - 11

**God greatly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above
every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those
in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

REFLECTION: DR. MARCELLINO D'AMBROSIO

From the dawn of civilization, kings have arisen who have dreamed of possessing a world-wide dominion, a universal kingdom that would last forever. Some have come close to conquering much of the known world—Alexander, Genghis Khan, Augustus Caesar, and Adolf Hitler, to name a few. And some kingdoms have lasted a very long time, such as Rome whose Eastern half lingered on for 2000 years.

But despite all their machinations, pretensions, and self-glorifying monuments, the great rulers of the earth all proved mortal like anybody else. They had their day in the sun only to disappear. Their kingdoms, too, ultimately passed away, leaving abundant ruins for generations of tourists and archeologists to explore.

There is another thing that these great ones of the earth had in common—they jealously guarded their glory, sharing it with no one. Their ascent to the pinnacle of power was made over the backs of others, and they did not hesitate to eliminate any and all rivals.

This feast celebrates the fact that there is One Who is remarkably different. He came to serve all, even His enemies. He truly was a Son of Man, with a vulnerable human nature. But He was also truly Son of God. Not in some mythological sense, like the Pharaohs, or the wishful thinking sense, like the Caesars, but really and truly, the Immortal, the Eternal, taking the form of a mortal man in a specific time in history.

Rather than executing His opponents, He forgave them. Rather than dominating His subjects, He exalted them. He even called them not servants, but friends, and bestowing on them a share in His priesthood and kingship. Though He died, like other kings, it was for a different purpose than Augustus in his bed or Hitler in his bunker. He died willingly to save His people, and His death was not a result of a battle lost or a plan gone awry, but of a glorious victory planned before the world began.

King, He rose in glory, which can't be said for the rest of them. And at His heavenly coronation, when He ascended to His Father, He was given what all the rest lusted for—a worldwide dominion that will not pass away.

But the world goes on oblivious, with corporate executives and statesmen still jockeying for position, exalting themselves at the expense of others. Still others crowd the cover of People magazine competing for other glories like the King of Rock'n roll.

The true King, however, is biding His time. He will return and suddenly things will be seen as they truly are. His coming will sweep away ambition, vanity, and pretensions, and much of what now appears important will look very empty. No longer will oppression be allowed

to stand; the innocent will finally be liberated from those who victimize them.

This dominion will truly be universal—there will be nowhere left where He is not recognized as Who He is, though in some quarters, that acknowledgment will be made with consternation and gloom.

Christ the King For His coming means doom—judgment for those who have for so long resisted Him. They will be allowed, of course, to cling to the evil that they have chosen, and hold it close to themselves for all eternity. But they may no longer afflict others with it.

This judgment, this kingdom, will have the last word. No election will overturn it in four years or four million years. There is no one stronger who can wrest the dominion from his Almighty hand.

The Church instituted this feast of Christ the King during bleak days, when fascist and communist clouds were darkening the earth with their ominous shadow. The feast serves as a reminder to us that we know the end of the story and should not be fooled by the braggarts who strut and the bullies who gloat. They'll be gone soon. And He'll be here soon. How soon no one knows.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Father, we pray for the holy Catholic Church;

– THAT WE ALL MAY BE ONE.

**Grant that every member of the church
may truly and humbly serve you;**

– THAT YOUR NAME MAY BE GLORIFIED BY ALL PEOPLE.

We pray for all ministers of the gospel;

**– THAT THEY MAY FAITHFULLY PROCLAIM YOUR WORD
AND ADMINISTER YOUR HOLY SACRAMENTS.**

**We pray for all who govern and hold authority
in the nations of the world;**

– THAT THERE MAY BE JUSTICE AND PEACE ON THE EARTH.

Give us grace to do Your will in all that we undertake;

– THAT OUR WORKS MAY FIND FAVOR IN YOUR SIGHT.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

– THAT THEY MAY BE DELIVERED FROM THEIR DISTRESS.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

– MAY WE ALSO COME TO SHARE IN YOUR HEAVENLY KINGDOM.

**Let us pray for our community
for our family, friends and benefactors
and for those whose needs are known to us.....**

– MAY YOU, O GOOD SHEPHERD, GUIDE AND DIRE



Of every woman, man and child,
Of every creature large and small,
Of every sinner, saint and angel,
Jesus Christ is King of all!

Yes He is King; yes, Christ is King!
No start or end and never failing,
His reign engulfs infinity
O'er all existing things prevailing.

Yet men are weak and often question
When many evil things they see.
Christ waits for them to realize
That He is wiser than are we.

He is aware of all that is,
He knows our problems, needs and
fears,
His Providence is now at work
And Jesus' final triumph nears.

Then let us rise in greater faith
To tell the world of His great name,
That when the King returns, we may
For lack of faith not blush with shame.
Amen!

-Father Frank Pavone

BLESSING

May the Reign of Jesus King of All Nations be recognized in your heart;

May the Reign of Jesus King of All Nations be lived in your heart;

May the Reign of Jesus King of All Nations be given through your heart to other hearts;

So that the Reign of Jesus King of All Nations may be lived in every heart all over the world.



**Saint John Baptist de La Salle
and all you holy Brothers who have gone before us,
help us to dedicate our lives and work to Christ.**

**Live Jesus in our hearts.
Forever!**

**Jesus Christ assures us that His kingdom
Are not of this world, but He wishes to establish His
reign within our souls. His kingdom is within us.**

**In order to do this, all your actions must be
consecrated to Him. Have the intention of uniting
yourself to Him and accomplishing His holy will.**

De La Salle