

Fr. Glenn's Pen - 34th Sunday in Ordinary time

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King! There are many images that we use to reveal the various aspects of Christ. Ordinary Time draws to a close with this feast and the Church invites us to reflect on the end of all things, even our own judgement. If we reflect on a life lived for Christ, as opposed to a life lived only for oneself, the contrast will be very stark. Some people seemingly live their lives without ever seriously reflecting on what is its meaning or ultimate purpose. We find real joy when we truly live for others. It makes perfect sense, if others know that you care about them, then it is quite natural for them to be moved to care about you. When people fail in their generosity it points to a wound that they have had, or from which they are still suffering.

Today we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. This feast was instituted by Pius XI, December 11, 1925, and used to be celebrated on the Last Sunday in October. Its purpose was to help people to know that Christ has dominion over all peoples and to establish peace among all the nations.

After the second Vatican Council the feast was transferred to the last Sunday in Ordinary time, namely the Sunday before Advent. It is on this day that the human race is consecrated to the Sacred Heart through the Litany of the Sacred Heart and a prayer recited before the Blessed Sacrament. [source, Dictionary of the Liturgy, Catholic Book Publishing Co.]

A prayer of Consecration: *Christ, Jesus, I acknowledge You as King of the universe. All that has been made has been created for You. Make full use of your rights over me.*

I renew the promises I made in Baptism, when I renounce Satan and all his pomps and works. I promise to live a good Christian life. Especially, I undertake to help, to the extent of my means, to secure the triumph of the rights of God and of Your Church.

Divine Heart of Jesus, I offer you my poor efforts so that all hearts may acknowledge Your Sacred Royalty and the Kingdom of your peace may be established throughout the entire universe. Amen. [from Treasury of Novenas, Catholic Book Publishing Co.]

May we know our Master's joy, a joy that He wants us to know!