

St. Martin de Porres

Domestic Church

On the last Sunday of the liturgical year, we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Following this solemnity, we observe one more week of Ordinary Time, and then begin a new liturgical year with the First Sunday of Advent. The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, which is also sometimes referred to as the Feast of Christ the King, was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925. Though it was originally celebrated in October, this feast was moved to the last Sunday of the liturgical year in 1969.

It is more than a coincidence that we close out the year with this particular feast. On this day especially, we celebrate the supreme kingship of Jesus over the entire universe. His is a kingship not like the secular monarchies of the past and present, but one that is pastoral, absolute, and desirous of bring us to himself. We await the coming of Christ in his eternal Kingdom, but we recognize that he is already King.

When we remember and reflect on Jesus Christ as King, we are better prepared to enter Advent. Though Advent is the beginning of a new liturgical year, the Church recognizes the cyclical nature of the calendar and ties its beginning with its end. During Advent, we wait in anticipation of the birth of Jesus, the Messiah. Today, after the world has witnessed the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we await his coming again, and we know that it is Christ the King who will come. Ending the liturgical year with the Feast of Christ the King helps us to look both backward and forward: backward, so that we might better celebrate the joyful incarnation and birth of Jesus; and forward, so that we might be vigilant servants waiting for the day Jesus comes again.

No matter what time of the year it is, however, it is good to reflect on Jesus as King. Remembering this helps us to submit to him, not out of fear or habit, but out of love for our Creator and Savior.

Article from: <http://www.catholictv.org/blog/catholic-classroom-our-lord-jesus-christ-king-the-universe>

Scripture Connection:

Micah 5:1 But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah least among the clans of Judah, From you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel; whose origin is from of old and ancient times.

Jeremiah 23:5 Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up a righteous shoot to David; As king he shall reign and govern wisely, he shall do what is just and right in the land.

John 18:37 So, Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

1 Timothy 6:13-17 I charge (you) before God, who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus, who gave testimony under Pontius Pilate for the noble confession, to keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ that the blessed and only ruler will make manifest at the proper time, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, and whom no human being has seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal power. Amen.

Revelation 17:14 They will fight with the Lamb, but the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and king of kings, and those with him are called, chosen, and faithful."

Remember, St. Martin de Porres "Domestic Church" is a tool for you to use to live your faith outside of Mass on Sunday. Light the candle and using this handout reflect how Christ is King in your home and family. Let us prepare our hearts for this Advent Season.

CHRIST THE KING

