



## The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

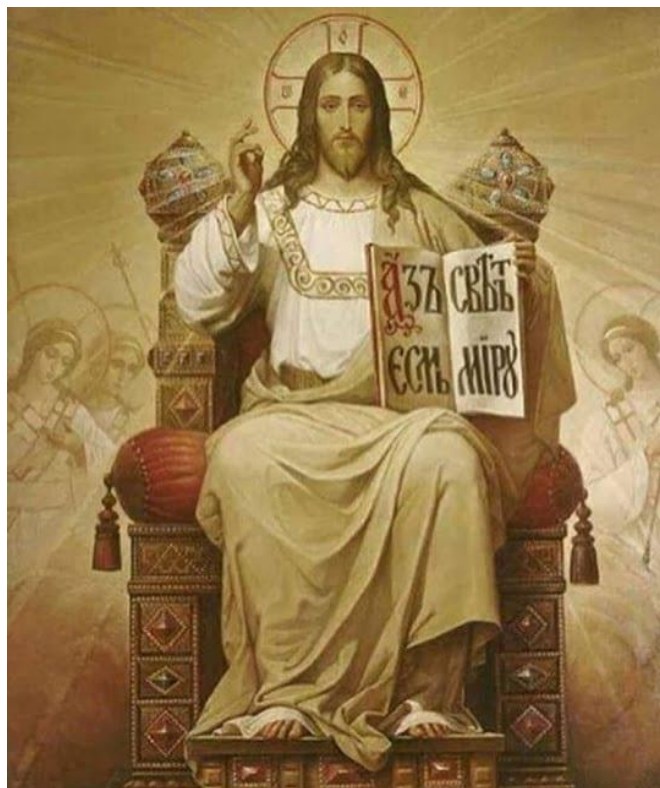
*The end of the liturgical year, He is the Alpha and the Omega!*

### *The Tale:*

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, formerly referred to as "Christ the King," was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as an antidote to secularism, a way of life which leaves God out of man's thinking and living and organizes his life as if God did not exist. The feast is intended to proclaim in a striking and effective manner Christ's royalty over individuals, families, society, governments, and nations.

Today's Mass establishes the titles for Christ's royalty over men: 1) Christ is God, the Creator of the universe and hence wields a supreme power over all things; "All things were created by Him"; 2) Christ is our Redeemer, He purchased us by His precious Blood, and made us His property and possession; 3) Christ is Head of the Church, "holding in all things the primacy"; 4) God bestowed upon Christ the nations of the world as His special possession and dominion.

Today's Mass also describes the qualities of Christ's kingdom. This kingdom is: 1) supreme, extending not only to all people but also to their princes and kings; 2) universal, extending to all nations and to all places; 3) eternal, for "The Lord shall sit a King forever"; 4) spiritual, Christ's "kingdom is not of this world." (Rt. Rev. Msgr.



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. (Catholic Classroom: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, 2020)

### ***Things to do to celebrate in the home:***

1. As a home Dedicate the Human Race to Jesus Christ King (Iesu dulcissime, Redemptor)

### **Prayer:**

Most sweet Jesus, Redeemer of the human race, look down upon us humbly prostrate before You. We are Yours, and Yours we wish to be; but to be more surely united with You, behold each one of us freely consecrates himself today to Your Most Sacred Heart. Many indeed have never known You; many, too, despising Your precepts, have rejected You. Have mercy on them all, most merciful Jesus, and draw them to Your Sacred Heart. Be King, O Lord, not only of the faithful who have never forsaken You, but also of the prodigal children who have abandoned You; grant that they may quickly return to their Father's house, lest they die of wretchedness and hunger. Be King of those who are deceived by erroneous opinions, or whom discord keeps aloof, and call them back to the harbor of truth and the unity of faith, so that soon there may be but one flock and one Shepherd. Grant, O Lord, to Your Church assurance of freedom and immunity from harm; give tranquility of order to all nations; make the earth resound from pole to pole with one cry: Praise to the divine Heart that wrought our salvation; to it be glory and honor for ever. Amen.

### **Another prayer for the home:**

O Jesus Christ, I acknowledge Thee as universal King. All that has been made, has been created for Thee. Exercise all Thy rights over me. I renew my baptismal vows, renouncing Satan, his pomps and his works; and I promise to live as a good Christian. In particular do I pledge myself to labor, to the best of my ability, for the triumph of the rights of God and Thy Church.

Divine Heart of Jesus, to Thee do I proffer my poor services, laboring that all hearts may acknowledge Thy Sacred Kingship, and that thus the reign of Thy peace be established throughout the whole universe. Amen.

Prayer Source: *My Catholic Faith: A Manual of Religion* by Most Rev. Louis Laravoire Morrow, S.T.D., My Mission House, 1965

2. Recipes for feast foods:
  - a. [Brazilian Kings Bread](#)
  - b. [King's Ring](#)
  - c. [Crown Cake](#)
  - d. Create your own as a new family tradition
  
3. Put a picture of Jesus Christ King on your family altar. We have included 3 images at the end of this hand that you could print out and use.

