

**Wednesday Nov 20th The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe**

OPENING PRAYER: Christ our King, you are the Ancient One promised from the beginning. Your earthly coming and Death on the Cross freed us from sin and made of us a royal nation in the service of God. Your Kingdom is an everlasting reign, steadfast and glorious. For you are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. You will come on a throne of glory and power to judge the living and the dead at the end of time. May the power of your kingship over the cosmos deeply touch our hearts today as we probe your word of life. Amen.

- In the words of Saint Benedict, “Listen with the ears of your heart.”
- Please note a word, phrase, or verse that seemed to really catch your notice.
- A volunteer slowly read aloud today’s passage Afterwards, we have a few minutes of silent reflection.

**READING OF THE ASSIGNED GOSPEL ACCORDING TO John
Jn 18:33b-37**

32* in order that the word of Jesus might be fulfilled that he said indicating the kind of death^a he would die.

33 So Pilate went back into the praetorium and summoned Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

34 Jesus answered, “Do you say this on your own or have others told you about me?”

35 Pilate answered, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?”^b

36 Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants [would] be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not here.”^q

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.”^r

Notes

* [18:32] The Jewish punishment for blasphemy was stoning (Lv 24:16). In coming to the Romans to ensure that Jesus would be crucified, the Jewish authorities fulfilled his prophecy that he would be exalted (Jn 3:14; 12:32–33). There is some historical evidence, however, for Jews crucifying Jews.

* [18:37] You say I am a king: see Mt 26:64 for a similar response to the high priest. It is at best a reluctant affirmative.

QUESTIONS FOR SHARING

1. Have you ever been falsely accused? If so, what was that experience like for you? If not, what do you think that experience must be like for others, some of whom end up in jail for 20+ years?
2. What does it mean to you to say that Jesus is the Lord of your life? What are some things we can do to make Jesus the Lord of our lives?
3. This weekend, we conclude another liturgical year. Was there one liturgical celebration or one event in your spiritual life that stood out for you?
4. Name one thing today’s Gospel says to us that we disciples of Jesus need to heed/act on.

Commentary

Today's Gospel is an excerpt from Jesus' trial before Pilate. The chosen verses are a dialogue between Jesus and Pilate on the nature of Jesus' kingship. When asked by Pilate if he is a king, Jesus points out that his kingship is not of this world but rather about "testifying and witnessing to the truth." Jesus' kingship is one that seeks "allegiance of the heart" from his people. Jesus wants to be "King of our hearts." Jesus' kingship does not seek to lord it over people but rather to serve. We know from watching Jesus that the only way to enter his kingdom is through trust in God and a life of service.

IS THERE A CAUSE FOR GRATITUDE THIS WEEK?

IS THERE A PRAYER REQUEST YOU HAVE?

CLOSING PRAYER - The Lord's Prayer

Bible Sharing Room 5 and Zoom
Wednesday, Nov 20 6:30 – 7:30pm
Weekly on Wednesday
Zoom Meeting

Description: Blessed Sacrament is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Blessed Sacrament's Zoom Meeting
Time: Nov 20, 2024 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9231234567?pwd=Z0ludisqD0sE923wHR0szXqNBSkCL57ORPq/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGhpjorHtKTthCORpx5Goj4d-jwpiFdj_oPzwjNMS9AeDvnGMBxOZFTRY

Blessed Sacrament is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85136740699?pwd=Q2pXLzdzZFdNNU1NajVpeEtKUohJQT09>

Meeting ID: 811 6265 5618

Passcode: 280607