

## **HOLY HALF HOUR FOR NOVEMBER, 2017**

### **CHRIST THE UNIVERSAL KING**

**OPENING HYMN:** Joyful Celebration no.220 Jesus is the joy of living ...

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

O Jesus Christ, I acknowledge you as universal King. All that has been made has been created for You. Exercise all Your rights over me. I renew my Baptismal Vows. I renounce Satan, his pomps and his works; I promise to live as a good Christian. And, in particular do I pledge myself to labour, to the best of my ability, for the triumph of the rights of God and of Your Church. Divine Heart of Jesus, to You do I offer my poor services, labouring that all hearts may acknowledge Your sacred kingship, and that thus the reign of Your peace be established throughout the whole universe. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READING: (1 Cor 15:20-26, 28)** To Be Proclaimed from the Bible - Silence

#### **REFLECTION:**

The question that we should ask ourselves today is simple: Is Christ the King of my life? If yes, how do I stand vis-à-vis his standard of living out his Kingship? How do I feel about my obligation to the least in our society? What am I doing to help meet the needs of the hungry and thirsty, the foreigner, those who are ill or who are in prison? Or am I among those who out of selfish interests frustrate all attempts to ensure that the needs of these very important personalities in Jesus' own Party are met?

To the extent that we are able to ask and seek genuine answers to these questions, to that extent do we acknowledge Christ as the King! Jesus is indeed the King of kings and Lord of lords, but only because of his great love of us. And we can only call him our King and our Lord, if we are ready to follow after his ways. That is what makes us Christian. To be Christian means to have Jesus as our King. To have Jesus as King means to live according to the principles of his Kingship and Lordship. To live according to the principles of Jesus Kingship means to help spread his love around, by our words and our actions, in our homes and places of work, before our friends and members of our family, before those who are of special interest to Jesus during his earthly ministry, the poor, the weak, the widow, the orphan and the strangers; or to use the language of Jesus in the gospels, to care for least of our brothers and sisters.

#### **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:**

**PRIEST:** Our King reigns from his Cross. He reigns in his eternal kingdom, where he intercedes for us. Through our loving Redeemer, let us make our prayers of intercession.

Our response is: Lord, hear our prayer.

1. For the Church, the body of Christ, that its royal head may draw all believers into the visible unity of the one body, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

2. For Francis, our Pope, Oswald, our Bishop, for all bishops, presbyters, deacons, and religious, may they continue to show others how to learn from the King who came to suffer and to serve, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

3. For all prisoners of conscience, may remain firm amidst sufferings, inspired by Christ who was unjustly condemned, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

4. For hope in the future, may we look forward to the final triumph of the reign of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

PRIEST: Father, grant our petitions, for you have called us out of darkness, and created a place for us in the kingdom of your beloved Son, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

### **CONCLUDING PRAYER:**

God our Loving Father, as we graciously buy into this philosophy of love, we pray that we gradually become free to trust the powerless power that is expressed in unconditional loving, in spite of how much evil there also. We do not need to live in mansions or command armies or be endowed with special gifts in order to be a loving presence in our world. Yet we can be certain that such loving has the potential to transform the universe. What is more? The readier and more willing we are to do this, the more like Christ we will become and our confession of Christ as Lord and Saviour, of King and Redeemer, will become increasingly clear and persuasive in the world. We make this prayer in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Master, our Universal King, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

### **BENEDICTION:**

**FINAL HYMN :** Joyful Celebration no. 385 The King of glory comes....

*Archdiocesan Liturgy Committee*