

November 21, 2021

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

ST BRIDGET CATHOLIC CHURCH

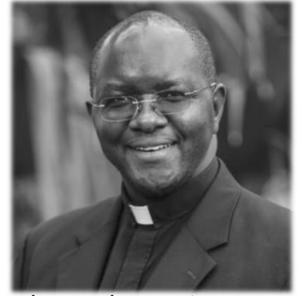
Jesus Christ is the faithful witness,
the firstborn of the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth.
To him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen.

~ Revelation 1:5, 6



My Dear People of God,

Today we celebrate the **Solemnity of Christ the King**. In the Gospel, Jesus tells Pilate that the sole purpose of His coming into the world was “*to testify to the truth*.” One such basic and most important truth is that **God is King**. He is the only king of the world. Psalm 47:8 said: “God is king over all the earth.” In this celebration, therefore, like the Israelites, we are being reminded that God is our only King. And the painful lesson of the Chosen People serves as a warning to us: doing it our way, against God’s way, will surely have tragic and fatal consequences. Let us embrace the path that leads to eternal life in the Kingdom of God as we live a life of ongoing conversion and repentance.



The words kingdom, dominion, king, ruler and such types of words help us understand that others can dominate or guide our lives. We humans are social beings and belong to social groupings. We may live in a town or a city; we might participate in various groups; we may have smaller or larger families. All of these groupings indicate some kind of tie to people outside of ourselves. None of us are alone in the world except by our own choosing. And even then, if we choose to be alone, we are still related in various ways.

The challenge of the Solemnity of Christ the King is to belong to Jesus. Belonging to Jesus does not cut us off from belonging to others but gives direction to that belonging. Perhaps too often today we make our social belonging more important than belonging to Jesus and thus our faith is weak. The invitation today is to make our belong to Jesus, our being part of the dominion of Jesus, the Kingdom of Jesus, the most important aspect of our life and all the other belongings that we may have only in terms of belonging to Jesus.

The first reading today from the Book of Daniel, recounts a vision of the Prophet Daniel. In that vision, all peoples, nations, and languages serve Him. This is a vision of what can be, not a vision of what is. Only by seeking the Lord faithfully will the world ever be this way. At the end of time, this is what will be.

The second reading today is from the Book of Revelation. In this reading, we are given a prophecy that at the end of time, everyone will see the Lord Jesus, even those who have pierced Him. That is to say that even those of us who have wounded Christ with our sins can see Him in the end. This is not a prophecy of universal salvation but a prophecy that at the end each of us will see the Lord. This is the judgment that is to come.

In the Gospel reading, Saint John makes clear to us that the Kingdom of Jesus is not a Kingdom of this world but a Kingdom in the world to come, life after death, life with Jesus forever—or life rejecting Jesus forever. We must choose to be in His Kingdom or we shall live forever away from God, in the Kingdom of Satan.

The choice is ours to make. We can have it our way. God will not prevent us from exercising our free choice. But we must be ready to face the dire and devastating consequences as we heard in the readings last Sunday: death and eternal damnation. Or we can have it God’s way, by faithfully obeying His will, which, according to St. Paul, leads to righteousness and salvation (Rom. 6:16). Jesus Christ is our true and only King. He demands obedience from us so that we may have the fullness of life and salvation. He has only one commandment: “Love one another as I have loved you” (Jn 13:34). And this commandment has only one expression: “The Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for the many” (Mk 10:45). Love and service: these are definitely the marks of the true followers of Jesus and members of his eternal and glorious kingdom.

My dear brothers and sisters, the great Solemnity wants us all to be aware that we must choose in this life to live with the Lord Jesus. We may perhaps not choose always and consistently, but the Lord who knows our hearts and our beings will know whether we truly seek Him in our own small and broken fashion or whether we have ultimately chosen Satan as our king. Strong words for the last Sunday of our liturgical year!

Let us choose the Lord Jesus as our Lord and King. Come, O Lord, and draw us to yourself.

Thanks and God bless,
Fr Simon Peter

Practical Implications

Jesus Christ is not valued at all until He is valued above all.

St Augustine.

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In 1991 a Gallup poll showed that 78 percent of Americans expect to go to heaven when they die. However, many of them hardly ever pray, read the Bible, or attend church. They admit that they live to please themselves instead of God. I wonder why these people would want to go to heaven.

In an article title, "Are We Ready for Heaven?" Maurice R. Irwin points out that only 34 percent of the American people who call themselves Christians attend church at least once a week. He says, "We sing, 'When all my labors and trials are o'er, and I am safe on that beautiful shore, just to be near the dear Lord I adore will through the ages be glory for me.' However, unless our attitudes toward the Lord and our appreciation of Him change greatly, heaven may be more of a shock than a glory."

Daily Bread, July 31, 1992.

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Bruce Larson, in Believe and Belong, tells how he helped people struggling to surrender their lives to Christ:

"For many years I worked in New York City and counseled at my office any number of people who were wrestling with this yes-or-no decision. Often I would suggest they walk with me from my office down to the RCA Building on Fifth Avenue. In the entrance of that building is a gigantic statue of Atlas, a beautifully proportioned man who, with all his muscles straining, is holding the world upon his shoulders. There he is, the most powerfully built man in the world, and he can barely stand up under this burden. 'Now that's one way to live,' I would point out to my companion, 'trying to carry the world on your shoulders. But now come across the street with me.'

"On the other side of Fifth Avenue is Saint Patrick's Cathedral, and there behind the high altar is a little shrine of the boy Jesus, perhaps eight or nine years old, and with no effort he is holding the world in one hand. My point was illustrated graphically.

"We have a choice. We can carry the world on our shoulders, or we can say, '**I give up, Lord; here's my life. I give you my world, the whole world.**'"

Richard A. Hasler.

TODAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING | (Daniel 7:13-14)

PSALM | (Psalm 93)

SECOND READING | (Revelation 1:5-8)

GOSPEL | (John 18:33b-37)

CHRIST THE KING

The selection from the book of Daniel presented in today's first reading was part of an attempt to weave a vision of ultimate success for the Jews under persecution. Exactly whom the author had in mind when he refers to "one like a Son of Man" is hotly disputed by scholars today. The fact is, we simply do not know if the author meant anyone in particular or if this is a collective, figurative image of Israel's triumph. What we do know is that the early Christian community seized upon this passage and recognized it as a messianic prophecy, a foretelling of the ultimate triumph of Jesus as the Christ of God. The Lectionary's juxtaposition of this text with today's Gospel narrative of Jesus before Pilate is a wonderful example of how the liturgy "layers" passages with new meaning by inserting them in a particular context.

The celebration of Christ the King allows us to hear these passages with a new depth of meaning in light of our contemporary understanding of how, in Jesus and his resurrection and ascension, we have seen the fulfillment of Daniel's vision of ultimate deliverance. The veiled admission of Jesus before Pilate that he did indeed have a kingdom "not here" takes on new meaning against the cosmic vision of Daniel, who allows us to glimpse the "Ancient One" on his heavenly throne. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

FEAST OF FAITH

Procession

"The Mass is ended, go in peace." At the beginning of Mass, the ministers entered in solemn procession, an emblem of the diverse community that comes together around the altar each week to celebrate the Eucharist. As Mass ends, another procession forms, and the ministers go forth from the church. This concluding procession also acts as an emblem of the entire assembly, who, nourished by the Eucharist, will now go forth to our scattered homes and places of work to be a transforming leaven of the gospel in the world. At the beginning of Mass, the priest kissed the altar as a sign of greeting, a gesture of reverence for Christ. Now, the priest reverences the altar again, this time in a gesture of farewell. We gather our things and go forth as we entered—but not quite. Through our celebration of the Eucharist, we have renewed our commitment to service of Christ our King, and we go forth nourished, strengthened, renewed—changed. —Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

MONDAY | Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Dn 3:52-56; Lk 21:1-4

TUESDAY | Dn 2:31-45; Dn 3:57-61; Lk 21:5-11

WEDNESDAY | Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Dn 3:62-67; Lk 21:12-19

THURSDAY | Dn 6:12-28; Dn 3:68-74; Lk 21:20-28 Thanksgiving Day, Suggested: Sir 50:22-24; Ps 145:2-11; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19

FRIDAY | Dn 7:2-14; Dn 3:75-81; Lk 21:29-33

SATURDAY | Dn 7:15-27; Dn 3:82-87; Lk 21:34-36

SUNDAY | Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14; 1 Thes 3:12 — 4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

PRAYER LINE

To be added to the prayer line, call Nina Richard at 446-1206 or the rectory at 446-6801. In the charity of your prayers, please pray for the sick, elderly, and homebound. Please pray for: Elaine Ables, Susan Arce-neaux, Donnie Aucoin Jr, Jacob Aucoin, Jeannie Aucoin, Sara Aucoin, Elvin Babin, Tommy Badeaux, Chad Barri-leaux, Ronnie Bednarz, Chuck Beebe, Gertrude Benoit, Fr. Paul Bergeron, Mitzy Bettridge, Gretchen Bilello, Preston Billiot, Alvin & Gail Blanchard, Dennis Blanchard, Ronald Blanchard, Lynn Bonneval, Aline Boudreaux, Delores Bourgeois, Emile “Jay” Bourgeois, Patricia Bourgeois, Connie Bouterie, Emma Del Broussard, Susan Caillouet, Gary & Sheila Cavalier, Bessie Chiasson, Randy Chiasson, Jane D. Clement Bryce Comeaux, Huey Cor-tez Sr., Martha Cortez, Randy Davis, Cary Davis, Jr., Dorothy Didier, Barbara & Ronni Duhon, Linda Ekiss, Avery “Brother” and Sonja Fonseca, Melissa Fontana Darin Fonz, Robin Ford, Marie Fournier, Alisa Frederick, Dante Galliano, Toby Gambarella, Leigh Ann Gardner, Carrie Gibbens Belinda Gil, Brandon Gil, George Gil, The Gil Family, Carrie Mae Givens, Austin Gros, Chad Gros, George Gros, Rosebella Gros, Kendra Guillot, Myles Harris, Joy Hebert, Katie Hebert, Jerrell Hebert, Sr., Cheryl Henderson, Jessie Hoffpauir, Samara Holland, Kristen Kop-pel, Eldine LaFleur, Jackson LaFleur, Mona Lambert, Elmay Landry, Joyce Landry, Craig Landry, Mark Landry, Barbara Nell Lapeyrouse, Allie LeBlanc, Emily LeBoeuf, Evelyn Leger, Tammy Babin Loney, Tim Long, Payton Martin, Keith Matherne, Rick Melancon, Asher Miller, Savannah Miller, Emma Mire, Bethany Moore, Meghan Naquin, Misty Naquin, Shannon Naquin, Eric Olivieri, Annie Ordoyne, Kara Pellegrin, Sherry Pennison, Lisa Pennison, Kenneth Pitre, James Pierce, Kip Pierce, Sharon Prejean, Ed Raidl, Kerri Reynolds, Bryce Richard, Ella Richard, Gladys Richard, Lorita Rodrigue, Susan Rodrigue, Cynthia Rogers, Danielle Samanie, Chester Sanchez, Karla Saunier, Kathy Savoie, Earline Simmoneaux, Penny Simmons, Brenda Sonier, Mike Stegall, Louis Stevens, Melissa Tardiff, Trish Templet, Pierre & Mary Theriot, Cammie Thibodaux, Lacey Thibodeaux, Thibodaux Fami-ly, Chris Touns, Joyce Touns, Ricky Turner, Sara Day Vignes, Allison Walters, and Wanda Wawrose, Freddie Webre, Mike Wiley, Anna Wooten. **Please notify the office when names can be removed.**

God is good — All the time

“
O, heavenly Father:
We thank thee for food
and remember the hungry.
We thank thee for health
and remember the sick.
We thank thee for friends
and remember the
friendless. We thank thee
for freedom and remember
the enslaved. May these
remembrances stir us to
service, that thy gifts to
us may be used for others.
Amen.

ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

women's day

Welcome All!

WEEKDAY MASSES
MONDAY—FRIDAY 8 AM

WEEKEND MASSES
SATURDAY | 4 PM
SUNDAY | 8:30 AM
10:30 AM

CONFESSIONS
SATURDAY | 3 PM — 3:50 PM
SUNDAY | 7:30 AM — 8:20 AM
10:00 AM — 10:20 AM

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THE SANCTUARY LIGHT | IN MEMORY OF

November 21st—November 27th

Paul and Pearl Hebert by Children

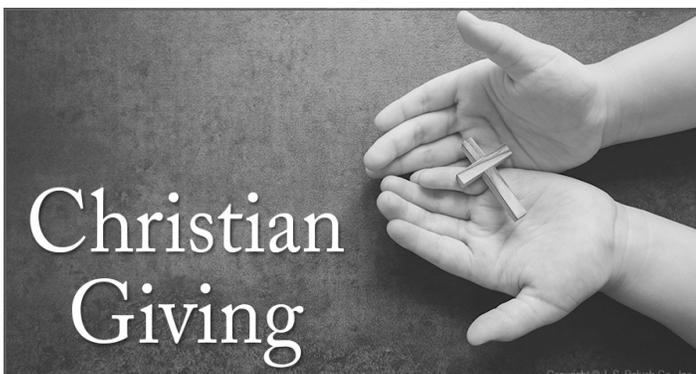
Ernest, Betty, Jacob and Sadi Mabile by Bernadette Mabile

Laurie Hebert by Mom and Dad

Arthur Landry

MASS INTENTIONS

November 20th	4:00 PM	Rudy Thibodaux by Family Ernest, Betty, Jacob and Sadi Mabile by Bernadette Mabile Tristan Ables by Phyllis Ables and Family John L Ables by Phyllis Ables and Family
November 21st	8:30 AM	Marion Knight by Godfrey Knight Brett Savoie by Mom, Teli and Family Joanne Frederick by Richard and Joann Ledet
	10:30 AM	Ronnie Thomas by Steven and Brenda Arceneaux Alicia Weimer by Cindy Poencot
November 25th	8:00 AM	Irvin and Hattie Babin by Children Paul and Pearl Hebert by Children Agnes and Ernest Breaux by Family Katie Ann Boudreaux and Boudreaux, Theriot, and Ordoneaux Families by Aline and Craig Boudreaux
November 27th	4:00 PM	Ernest, Betty, Jacob and Sadi Mabile by Bernadette Mabile
November 28th	8:30 AM	Anthony "Rod" Rodrigue Ronnie Thomas by Michael and Sylvia Langlinais Theogene Dugas by Phyllis Ables and Family Patricia Olivier by Phyllis Ables
	10:30 AM	Claire Babin by Bobette Talbot Gary Gauthreaux by Karen Dufrene Allen "Cou" Frederick by Family



Christian Giving

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NOVEMBER 14TH 2021

Envelopes \$ 2,712

Collections \$ 361

Total \$ 3,073

Thank you for your generosity!

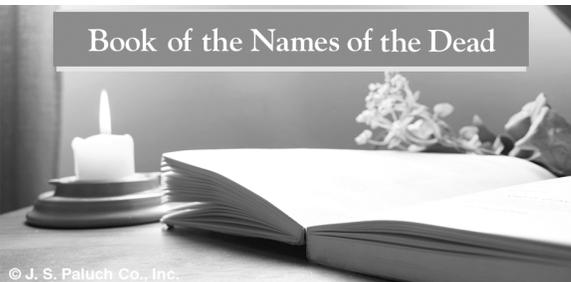


Catholic Daughters to Help the Needy

The Catholic Daughters are collecting new blankets, new toys, and gift cards for needy families in our diocese. Many families have lost everything due to Hurricane Ida, any way that you can help will be greatly appreciated. Items can be dropped off in the foyer of the annex before Mass from now through December 5th. All items are to be unwrapped. No donation is too small. Gift cards can be from retail stores, grocery stores, and/or restaurants. The Catholic Daughter motto is "Unity and Charity". Please unite with us as we provide these much needed items to the less fortunate. Thanks for your generosity.

CDA Christmas Meeting – December 9th

The annual CDA Christmas social will be held Thursday, December 9th at 6:30 pm. Catholic women age 18 and above are encouraged to attend the Pot Luck Finger Food Christmas Celebration. Members are reminded to bring items (blankets, toys, gift cards) to the December meeting. Ladies interested in joining the group should attend the December meeting or contact any officer for more details. Officers are Bernadette Mabile, Faie Duplantis, Bridget McElroy, Nina Billiot, and Mary Louviere.



In the month of November, we pray in a special way for those who have died before us. Our book of the dead remains open for you to add the names of your departed loved ones.

May they be granted eternal rest.

#iGIVECATHOLIC

St. Bridget Church needs your help.

We have been using the same sound system for many years and the quality has suffered. With your financial assistance, we can purchase a new sound system that will go hand-in-hand with our newly renovated church.

It is important to us that you "hear" the word. Help us to make this sound quality even better. If you are unable to offer a financial gift at this time, please pray for our continued success as a community, a church, a family. However, if you are able to offer a financial gift, please know that 100% of your gift will go directly towards our new sound system. We are excited to proclaim the word of our Lord!

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