



**November 21, 2021**

## **Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

*The Lord God said "I am the Alpha and the Omega" (the beginning and the end of the Greek alphabet)  
Revelation 1:8*

Dear Friends;

This image entitled "Resurrection" by Fr John Giuliani (who died this year). It presents the Risen Christ as an indigenous chief wrapped in a chief's blanket. The blanket is open to reveal the mark of his pierced side. Fr John was from an Italian immigrant family and painted from a young age. He studied traditional icon painting. Later in life he became very interested in Indigenous Peoples of North America. He began painting Christ Jesus, his Mother Mary and the saints and angels incarnated in various indigenous tribes. His work invites us to see that the Gospel is for all people but especially to those who have been pushed to the peripheries.

The Christ is not the same as Jesus. Jesus is the historical person who has been around for 2,000 years. The Christ, who is King of the Universe, is the word or pattern of all things that exist, since the beginning of the universe for about 14.6 billion years ago.

Franciscan Friar Fr Richard Rohr, coming out of the spirituality of St Francis of Assisi, likes to say that the first Incarnation (physical expression) of God comes in the creation. God is so filled up with love that God desires to share Godself with something. The start begins with the Big Bang this is the Alpha point. The Universe has been expanding out ever since. The creative Word which set the expanding universe in motion accompanies it all. St. Paul tells us in the Letter to the Romans (8:19) that the mystery of Christ is unfolding along with a hope filled universe.



We do not know when the universe will stop expanding or how all things will come to an end. Last week Jesus told us that no one knows when the end will come, only the Father knows. But we do not need to know. All we have to know is the beginning (Alpha) and the end (Omega) are the same. We begin with God's love and we end in God's love.

What God reveals is the Christ. The Christ reveals who God is in the universe, in creation, in every creature, everything on our planet and every planet reveals the mystery of God. In the fullness of time that Christ took flesh in the person we call Jesus. Creation is the timeless Incarnation we call Christ, and Jesus is the personal Incarnation born in time so that we can understand and love the Christ as a person.

Fr. Rohr asks, *"Do you realize what a daring belief system we have?! Can you really believe that one ordinary looking man, born in a tiny dusty town in Palestine, is the eternal blueprint of what God has been doing since the beginning of time "in Christ"? That is what we believe when we say we believe in both "Jesus" and "Christ."* That Jesus Christ now has no limits of time and space but is present everywhere and in everyone!

Peace,

*Fr Ron*

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