

Homily Summary – Christ the King 2024

Main Themes:

- **Needed and Known:** Every person is deeply known and uniquely needed in God's kingdom. Jesus Christ, our King, desires a personal relationship with us and invites us to share our talents and love selflessly with the world.
- **Humility in Service:** As Christ, the King of the Universe, modeled humility, we are called to serve others selflessly, avoiding entitlement or self-centeredness in our ministries and relationships.
- **The Church as Christ's Kingdom:** The Church is the extension of Christ's kingdom on earth, ruled by Him and guided by the Pope, His vicar, as a servant-leader of the people.
- **Vigilance in Faith:** As the liturgical year ends, we are reminded to live with purpose, ensuring our actions reflect the reign of Christ in our lives.

Key Scripture Passages:

- **Daniel 7:14:** *"His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and His kingdom one that shall not be destroyed."*
- **Matthew 25:34:** *"Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."*
- **Mark 10:43-45:** *"Whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant."*

Reflection Questions:

1. Do I truly feel needed and known by Christ?
2. In what ways do I extend Christ's reign in my daily life—at home, work, or in my community?
3. How do I guard against selfishness or entitlement in my service to others?

Catechism of the Catholic Church:

- **CCC 786:** The faithful share in Christ's kingly mission through selfless service and love.
- **CCC 1897:** Authority in the Church and society is important, yet must mirror the service of Christ.

Rap Summary:

Jesus Christ is our friend and also our king,
Jesus Christ, I want to give you everything.
Even though I am weak, I am *needed*, and *known*.
Help me love selflessly to honor your throne.
O God ensure my intentions are true.
I want all the glory to come back to you.
Don't let me stray, or hurt any of your friends.
And if I have in the past, let me make amends.
Jesus help me have a servants' heart.
In selfishness or egoism, I want no part.
Help me follow the Church that you've made.
I know it's your kingdom, here I'm under your shade.
Jesus don't ever let me betray you at all.
I know that I'm weak, that I'm likely to fall.
Yet I'm needed and known, loved and adored.
For you're my God and my king, my friend and my Lord.

Takeaway: As we end this liturgical year, we are invited to reflect on Christ's kingship in our lives. Let us recommit to serving others with humility and purpose, spreading the light of His love and ensuring His kingdom grows in our hearts and communities.

Reasons to come to Mass each weekend

Hebrews 10:24-25 - "And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Exodus 20:8 - "Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy."

Luke 22:19 - "Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'"

Acts 2:42 - "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

John 6:53-54 - "So Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day.'"

Psalms 122:1 - "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'"

Matthew 18:20 - "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Colossians 3:16 - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God."

Additional resources to learn more about God and the Catholic faith

- Check out the resource list available on www.frmerkley.com
- Catholic Answers: <https://www.catholic.com/>
- Word on Fire: <https://www.wordonfire.org/>
- Formed: <https://formed.org/>
- The Coming Home Network: <https://chnetwork.org/>
- Catholic Exchange: <https://catholicexchange.com/>
- Dynamic Catholic: <https://dynamiccatholic.com/>
- The Augustine Institute: <https://augustineinstitute.org/>
- Ascension Press: <https://ascensionpress.com/>
- EWTN: <https://www.ewtn.com/>
- The Catholic Company: <https://www.catholiccompany.com/>
- Busted Halo: <https://bustedhalo.com/>
- CatholicCulture.org: <https://www.catholicculture.org/>
- The Thomistic Institute: <https://thomisticinstitute.org/>
- Ignatius Press: <https://www.ignatius.com/>
- Catholic Education Resource Center (CERC): <https://www.catholiceducation.org/>