

# FROM THE DESK OF **Fr. Julius**

Brothers and sisters in Christ,



With today's culmination of Ordinary Time Year B, our faith community rejoices alongside in this exceptional Feast of Christ the King! With this Solemnity, we acknowledge our Lord as king and head over all creation, and by design make the choice to actually live our lives within this new liturgical cycle. In wrapping up our secular Thanksgiving observances, I extend warm gratitude toward all of our guests who came to participate in the Holy Eucharist with us.

The source of our feast day dates back to 1925, whereupon a rising tide of secularism — and even a global economic uprising — prevailed in the European nations on the heels of World War I. At that time, Pope Pius XI sought to prevail upon the Church and the world just who *is* the true leader of the nations. In fact, his motto became '*Christ's Peace in Christ's Kingdom*,' thus establishing this new feast. As our nations continue that very condition, what better reminder have we than today's Feast of Christ the King? It is concurrently observed by some of the Protestant communities as Advent is ushered in, and all of us kneel in homage to Him.

In today's Gospel, Jesus faces Pilate. Although Jesus' adversaries have tried to portray Jesus only as a "king of the Jews," a messianic impostor to the throne of David, Jesus states "My kingdom does not belong to this world." It is a kingdom that has come to "testify to the truth and everyone who belongs to the truth." In fact, Jesus' whole life has been a revelation, defense, and witness to this truth — His central message since the beginning of His ministry. Jesus' kingdom is not one of power, of imposed authority or domination. It is a kingdom where the chief goal is to bring all people to fullness of life and humanity according to the original design of God; of the Beatitudes, "for theirs is the kingdom in heaven."

As we currently read through the Book of Revelation, there is a clear and universal battle that plainly declares who the victor is. There are two kingdoms, two armies, two sides to serve. Our King Jesus Christ, Lord of all Creation, has already won, and it is up to us to decide who to serve.

— Happy Feast of Christ the King!

