

ST MARY'S CHURCH



14833 Kutztown Road ▪ Kutztown, PA 19530

www.StMarysKutztown.com

www.facebook.com/stmaryskutztown

Church, Meeting Rooms, Business & Parish Offices:

Phone : 610-683-7443 ▪ Fax : 610-683-7625

Email: Parish@StMarysKutztown.com

Religious Education Center: 610-683-6454

Email: RelEd@StMarysKutztown.com

PASTORAL MINISTRY

Pastor	Fr John Maria
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Msgr Walter T Scheaffer
Transitional Deacon	Rev. Mr. N. Romero Brelinsky
Permanent Deacon	Dcn. Howard Schultz
Coordinator/Religious Educ	Mrs. Ann Pergosky
Director of Music Ministry and Parish Secretary	Mrs. Anne Sitarik

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Ladies Auxiliary	Theresa Bieak & Deb Massa
Men of St. Mary's	Mr. Tom Cengeri
Pro-Life Committee	Mr. John Tucker, O P
R C I A	Fr. John Maria

DIOCESAN INFORMATION

Diocesan Policies and Procedures on Youth Protection:

www.allentowndioocese.org

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Wendy S Krisak, Direct Telephone: (800) 791-9209

Office of Safe Environment Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services: Pamela Russo, MSW, MS ; PO Box F, Allentown, 181-5-1538 Telephone 610-871-5200 xt 2204

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service: If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service: www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or 800-276-1562



*Our
Lord Jesus
Christ
Is King of the
Universe*

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil	4:30 pm
Sunday	8:30, 11:00am
Daily Masses	7:30am (Monday – Friday) 8:00am (First Saturdays)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Every

Wednesday, 7-8 pm *and* First Friday of the Month, 8 until 9am

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM – Baptism is celebrated at various times, often 11a Mass, the 1st Sunday of the month. Baptisms are also scheduled privately upon arrangement with families. Parents must contact the Religious Ed Office to arrange Baptismal Prep sessions and learn all the details.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - Saturday, 3:30-4:20p, Sundays 8:00-8:20; 10:30-10:50 am, Wednesdays 7:00-8:00p and by appointment

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK – Those who are dangerously ill or facing serious surgery may receive this healing Sacrament. Please contact Father John Maria to make arrangements

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY – Congratulations! Couples must contact Father John at least six months in advance of desired date. Marriage Preparation is required for proper celebration of a valid and Sacramental marriage

PROSPECTIVE GODPARENTS/SPONSORS asked to serve as Baptismal Godparents or Confirmation sponsor must request an eligibility certificate from the parish priest. To serve in this special role parishioners must: Be in full communion with the Catholic Church; Attend Mass weekly; have received Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation & Confirmation; Married individuals need be validly married in the Catholic Church.

Please contact the Parish Office and allow 2 weeks to process
HOMEBOUND – Parishioners homebound and unable to attend Mass please contact the Parish Office to arrange visitation, to receive Holy Communion

HOSPITALIZED - Call the Rectory to notify of someone in the hospital so we can pray for and possibly visit them. Each hospital in our Diocesan boundaries is either covered by a local parish or has a priest on call at the hospital

PARISH MEMBERSHIP - Welcome to St. Mary's Parish! Please contact the Parish Office to meet with Father John and become registered. We also ask those who move to notify the parish

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Education for parish children occurs September 10 through April. Contact Religious Education office: 610-683-6454 for registration.

Center-based

- Levels 1 to 5 meet every week, Sundays, 9:40-10:50am
- Level 6-8 meet the 2nd & 4th Sundays, 6-8pm
- Youth Group (9-12) Stay tuned for upcoming events.

Home-based Arrangements may be made for select grade levels, contact Ann Pergosky

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE, NOV. 26, 2023

We are a welcoming community called to deepen and share our faith

0195-1

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE, NOV. 26, 2023

MASS Intentions

Mon	11-27	7:30a	Venceslaus Fernando
Tue	11-28	7:30a	Joe Furst, Jr.
Wed	11-29	7:30a	George A. Kopchick
Thu	11-30	7:30a	Rose and Michael Kwasnyca
Fri	12-01	7:30a	Regensburger family
Sat	12-02	8:00a	Intentions of Gregorio Pilandas
		4:30p	Mary Ehrets
Sun	12-03	8:30a	Sue Fry
		11:00a	People of the Parish

Altar flowers in memory of Tom and Jane Quirk this week

READINGS and CELEBRATIONS for the WEEK

Sun	11-26	Solemnity Our Lord Christ, King of the Universe- Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; 1 Co 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46
Mon	11-27	Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Lk 21:1-4
Tue	11-28	Dn 2:31-45; Lk 21:5-11
Wed	11-29	Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Lk 21:12-19
Thu	11-30	Ro 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22
Fri	12-01	Dn 7:2-14; Lk 21:29-33
Sat	12-02	Dn 7:15-27; Lk 21:34-36
Sun	12-03	1 st Sunday of Advent- Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; 1 Co 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

MUSIC MINISTRY

	THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK
4:30p	Moore, Mark Casey, Peggy	Sitarik, Anne Casey, Peggy
8:30a	Skoronski, Nathan Cebenکو, Steve	Sitarik, Anne Cebenکو, Steve
11:00a	Thomas, Cathy Talarico, Tim	Pirnot, Tom Skoronski, Katherine

Collection info Online In Church Expenses

	Info not	available	at print date
Regular Collection			
Building Fund			
Capital Campaign	See the	Dec. 03	bulletin
Parish Partnership			
Other Regular Income			

HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR ONLINE GIVING?

1. Visit our church website at www.stmaryskutztown.com
2. Click on the Online Giving link
3. Complete the online registration form.
It's that simple! For more info or help setting up your account please contact the parish office: 610-683-7443



Please Pray for the Sick, and their loved ones:

Logan Alkons	Ken Gorski	Joanne O'Connell
Caleb Bauer	Bijou Greenwood	Benedicta Otchere
Christopher Bennett	Muriel Hadnagy	Rick Padilla
Claudia Berg	Devon Hanna	Ed Pilarski
Greg Bradford	Jacqueline Hartz	Pat Regensburger
Monica Bradford	Linda Haurus	Rosemarie Reimert
Bradford family	Hannah Hayduk	Bill Pettit
David Byer	Kathy Henry	Megan Roth
Nadia Cahill	Lillian Karch	Nina Hertzog
Drew Cengeri	Michael Karch	Rundle
Meaghan Clark	Joanne Kear	Richard Rusconi
Colleen Wolff	Patricia Keeney	Sr. Mary Sapanara, MSC
Jerome Costanzo	Jane Kern	Tina Scatamacchia
Kim Costanzo	Milton Kern	Jim Sherman
Nancy Devlin-Litinsky	Cena Knowles	Barbara Shidisky
Dave Ebling	Henry Kryeski	Tracy Snyder
Trent Eidle	Edward & Rosemary Law	Nicole Sosik
Patricia Farabaugh	Harry Lewellen	Todd Tanis
Paula Fehlinger	Julie Lindsey	Ralph Touch
Kathleen Fink	Eva Malanczuk	Amy Turko
Joey Flecher	Dennis Martinsen	Christine VanDoorn
Tammy G.	Barry, Sharon Miller	Phillip Vazquez
Joe Galantino	Elaine O. Miller	Joseph Wawrzak
Michelle Galantino	Nikolette Nolte	Bonnie Wessner
Sandra George	Diana Novi	Emily Wickle
Lucy Ginsiorsky		

Contact office to update list: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com

Please Pray for all those serving our nation

Keenan Albright	Anthony DiPietro	Nick Marakovits
Kyle Albright	Charles Douglass	Melissa Marks
Michael Barron	Joseph Douglass	Laura Miller
Andrew Barthol	Keith Essig	Spencer Morris
Frank M. Bieda	Ryan Flanagan	Heather O'Donnell
John Boyer	Kale Follweiler	Menaka Nayyar & Anthony Pirnot
Matthew Boyer	Michael Allen Haak	Jake Schmeck
Jonathan Cardé	Diane Henry	Phillip Talarico
Ryan Cengeri	Joshua Joseph	Steve Ziegler
Eric Cunningham	Dan King	
Timothy DeVall	James Knight	

Contact office to update list: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com

EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Sun 11.26 SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD, CHRIST THE KING
2nd Collection-Parish Partnership
No Religious Educ.- Thanksgiving Break
- Tue 11.28 Faith Sharing, 10a
- Wed 11.29 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7p
- Thu 11.30 Music ministry, 7p
R.C.I.A., 7p
- Fri 12.01 1st Friday Adoration, 8-9a
- Sat 12.02 1st Saturday daily Mass, 8a
Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – Christmas Flowers

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

- Sun 12.03 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Children's Liturgy of the Word, 8:30a
Advent Family Session, 9:40a
- Tue 12.05 Faith Sharing, 10a
Ladies Auxiliary Potluck Christmas lunch, 12n
- Wed 12.06 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7p
- Thu 12.07 Handiwork from the Heart, 7p
Vigil Mass of the Immaculate Conception, 7p
- Fri 12.08 SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION, Mass at 12n and 7p
- Sat 12.09 Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – Christmas Flowers

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE: Thru Jan. 07, send items by 12n ten days early; full-page items two full weeks in advance

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: Welcome! Please register for parish membership. Call 610-683-7443 for an appointment. Learn about all the parish has to offer! *Please inform us if moving.*



OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: To begin receiving offertory envelopes, please contact the parish office: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com



ARE YOU a SNOWBIRD traveling south for the winter? Tell the parish office, we'll hold mailings and envelopes until your return. Call/email the office. Bon voyage!

SPAM MESSAGES: Should you receive a "personal" style email or text message asking for money or gift card appearing to come from Fr. John and/or parish staff, please disregard them and even block the sender. Fr. John and the staff will *never ask you for money or gift cards.*



LADIES AUXILIARY CHRISTMAS SEASON COVERED DISH LUNCH MEETING: 12n Tue. Dec. 05. All women of the parish are welcome. Please bring a covered dish to share. Small denomination gift cards for Mary's shelter donation accepted.

BAPTISM PREP: The next meetings are 6p, Dec. 04 and 11. Call Ann Pergosky: 610-683-5454 to register.

GIVING FROM OUR BOUNTY: This *bountiful* project is supported by our JR High Rel Ed, **Nov 12-Dec 03.** Cost of living increases have made an especially difficult time for many. The organizations that support families in need struggle. Visit the Gathering Area to choose gift and/or food item tags. Gifts support Lifeline, Friend, Inc., and Willow Brook.

☆Lifeline requests mother and baby items

☆Friend, Inc. seeks food donations for Christmas and children's Christmas clothing and toys.

☆Willow Brook residents in long-term care can feel isolated. A little cheer goes a long way to boost morale and aid recovery. You may even include a letter or care for a more personal connection.

Please visit Gathering Area table to select an item(s) and return gift items by Sunday, **Dec 03 (NEXT WEEK)**, with tags securely attached, into the Gathering Area large boxes. Please do not wrap Gifts. *However, gift bags and wrapping paper donations welcomed.*

If you take a gift tag do please return it by the Dec. 03 due date so it can be handed to recipient families. *Thank you!*

In November We Pray for Our Beloved Dead

O Mary, Queen of heaven and earth,
remember our brothers and sisters, the faithful departed,

and guide them by your prayers to your Son.

Allow us to unite our prayers with yours

as we ask for your intercession.

Holy Mary, Mother of God and our Mother,

pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION- FR JOHN MARIA

The Solemnity of Christ the King originated in 1925 by Pope Pius XI, in response to a wave of secularism sweeping across many nations, eroding their faith in Jesus Christ, the King of Kings. It's interesting and instructive that in our readings - from Ezekiel to Matthew, the role of King merges with images of Shepherd and Judge.

As we reflect upon the stark reality of judgment, let's be sure to reflect upon the nature of Christ, our King. We have a judge who so identifies with us when we are in need, that acts of kindness done for us ... are done for Him.

We have a shepherd prophesied by Ezekiel, who before judging between the sheep and goats, seeks after them when they're lost, rescues them, heals them, and feeds them.

We have a king who has clothed us with a new garment in Baptism, and given us His grace, heals us in Reconciliation, feeds us with His own Body and Blood, and who visits us and remains with us, in our darkest hours. We have a king who desires that we inherit a kingdom prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

This week, invite Christ the King to reign in your heart, and in your family. As you look upon Jesus truly Present in the Blessed Sacrament, give Him the reverence due to the King of Kings.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS: Next week, Dec. 03 is the Christmas Flowers collection. Please remember include memorial names on envelope.

- † If you use St. Mary's Online Giving, you may include names in the Online Giving form.
- † If you do not receive envelopes, you may make an offering in a plain env.; write names on and include names in a plain offering envelope.



POVERTY RELIEF FUND

Diocesan Poverty Relief grants are funded by a special annual second collection. These grants, made possible through your generosity, support a wide range of local projects and services that alleviate and address poverty in Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton, and Schuylkill counties.

Thank you for your support of the Poverty Relief Fund

ST. MARY'S NEXT SOUP KITCHEN project approaches **Dec 23/24**. The Soup Kitchen serves 200-400 people. Visit gathering area donation table. Return All items by Dec 21. Soup kitchen prep: 10a Dec. 15. A few volunteers would help. Questions? Mary Alkons 610-683-5443



As often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me.

CHRISTMAS OPLATKI: The parish has purchased a limited supply of "oplatki" - the wafer bread included in many family gatherings with East European traditions at Christmas. We ask \$3 per package to cover expenses. First come, first serve! We may order more if our supply is depleted quickly. To purchase Oplatki, contact: 610-683-7443 or parish@stmaryskutztown.com



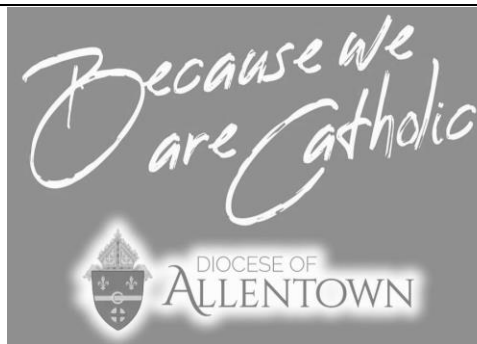
BAMBINELLI SUNDAY: 8:30a Mass, Dec. 17. Join in a Vatican tradition here at St. Mary's. With parishes around the world, celebrate Bambinelli Sunday. All families are invited to bring the Baby Jesus from your family Nativity (crèche) to Mass when the Infant Kings will be blessed. **Look for complete details in Dec. 10 bulletin flyer.** Questions: Ann Pergosky reled@stmaryskutztown.com



COR JESU: 7-9p, Thu Dec 07- a weekly diocesan worship event for Young Adults, starting in Advent. Each night will incorporate Adoration, Benediction, Confession, and Mass. Followed by fellowship afterwards. Dec. 7, 14, 21 at St. Ursula Parish, Fountain Hill

RETIRED AND INFIRMED PRIESTS ANNUAL FUND, "CHOSEN, BLESSED, SHARED"

Thank you to those who have given so generously to the "Chosen, Blessed, Shared" annual fund. If you haven't given, it isn't too late to support the retired priests of our Diocese by making a gift to the Endowment Fund for the Care of Retired Priests. This special fund is used to directly support retired priests in good standing including the future costs of their healthcare, insurance, and housing and sustenance. Please return your gift using the envelope you received in the mail. These envelopes may be returned in the mail or in the collection basket at Mass. Your generosity supports retired priests from all 5 counties of our Diocese!



APPEAL IS UNDERWAY! visit BecauseWeAreCatholic.org to watch a video about the program. Thank you to every generous person who has supported the appeal already. Every penny helps!

DATE NIGHT AS FOLINO ESTATE: 6-9p, Friday Dec. 1, Folino Estate Winery, Kutztown. Wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres, appetizers, open bar, desserts and an Advent Reflection with the married couple Tim and Ashley Wood. Each couple will receive the book AWAITED-an Advent devotional for Catholic couples! Tickets \$100/couple. Register by 11/24: allentowndiocese.org/date-night

ADVENT DAY OF PRAYER: 9:30a-4p, Dec. 09, Mariawald Renewal Center, Reading. Advent is the time of promise! Explore the doors that await us during Advent with Sr. Nancy Iampietro as guide. 1094 Welsh Rd, 19607. Cost: \$40; Register 610-777-0135; mariawaldcenter@gmail.com

FRANCISCAN CHRISTMAS MINI-RETREAT: Dec. 11, 6p dinner; 7-9p desserts, music, presentations, fellowship and prayer. You are invited! Register: stfrancisretreathouse.org or 610-258-3053 x0. Onsite \$35/virtual \$20.

ST. MONICA MINISTRY Buffet Dinner and Bilingual Holy Hour in Honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe: 6p, Dec 12 Tue., Dec. 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, at St. Theresa Church, Hellertown, and will be preceded at 4p by

a buffet dinner and basket raffle in the parish's Friendship Hall. Presider: Deacon Miguel Ramirez, of Our Lady of Mercy and St. Anthony of Padua Parishes in Easton- Our Lady of Guadalupe's maternal love for her children, and on her constant intercession for those who've left the Church. Register dinner: allentowndiocese.org/stmonicamistry

WOMEN'S ADVENT RETREAT: A SEASON OF JOY: 9a-12n, Dec. 16, St. Mary's, Hamburg, Church Hall, 94 Walnut Rd. For women of all ages, enjoy breakfast, fellowship, Keynote by Fr. Stephan Isaac, and prayer. Register by Dec. 01: Allentowndiocese.flocknote.com/signup/141991

HGA REGIONAL SCHOOL COUGAR CASH RAFFLE! thru Feb. 02 visit holyguardianangelsregionalschool.square.site for tickets. Last year's prize nearly \$4,500!

RETROUVAILLE: Rediscover the Love in your Marriage. Thousands of couples have healed their marriages at Retrouvaille (*retru-vee*). Get help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. Learn to build communication skills and increase intimacy. **Next program: Feb. 16-18 weekend** at the Family Life Center in Malvern. Info or Register: 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. *All inquiries strictly confidential.* www.HelpOurMarriage.org

Word of Life: "Having received the gift of the Gospel of Life, we are the people of life and a people for life. It is our duty to proclaim the Gospel of Life to the world. To proclaim Jesus is to proclaim life itself. Gratitude and joy at the incomparable dignity of the human person impel us to bring the Gospel of life to the hearts of all people and make it penetrate every part of society." ~ USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities; The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary"

REFLECTION... by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

One of the appeals of "The Chosen" online show is its use of creativity and imagination where the actual gospels leave tantalizing gaps in their recount of Our Lord Jesus' earthly life. The 4 gospels can't be "blamed" for omitting desired details because they were never written as biographies of Jesus. So we can delight in what the screenplay presents as what might have happened two thousand plus years ago when Jesus walked.

All such appeals are absent in St. Matthew's account of Jesus' description of the Last Judgment. It is stark and scary. Real and reasonable about what that ultimate judgment will be like. The Church presents the description Our Lord gives at this final weekend of the Liturgical Year to remind us of three different truths: the world as we know it will one day end; that we ourselves will one day end our lives here below; and that Christ alone as King and Judge will determine how our lives will continue.

I said that the whole scene is scary. But I did not mean that in the sense of "Halloween scary." Just about a month ago our near pagan culture was all about graveyards and skeletons and all manner of monsters.

How that deviation from the original celebration of the eve of All Saints' Day, when we recalled and honored "all the hallowed ones" that is, the saints, is a long story.

The "fear of the Lord" is quite different. In simple terms it means that we are so respectful and loving of God that we fear to offend Him by how we live. I think that is a healthy fear. It keeps us bound to our belief in His goodness and love for us just as we are, faults included. No need to be afraid of His Judgment if we have really tried to do our best here on earth. And when we have failed, as we all inevitably do, then our sorrow and resolve to do better stand us all in good stead before Christ's heavenly throne.

Vance Havner, a renowned Protestant preacher, once said this: "There are a lot of questions the Bible doesn't answer about the Hereafter. But I think one answer is illustrated by the story of a boy sitting down to a bowl of spinach when there's a chocolate cake at the end of the table. He's going to have a rough time eating that spinach when his eyes are on the cake. And if the Lord had explained everything to us about what's ours to come, I think we'd have a rough time with our spinach down here."

EXPLORE *NEW* DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT NEEDS

Visit: www.allentowndiocese.org/about/employment

Prayer to Christ the King

This is a traditional prayer which honors Jesus Christ as the king of the universe. It can be prayed as a single prayer or as a novena. See the instructions for the novena below the prayer.

O Lord our God, You alone are the Most Holy King and Ruler of all nations.
We pray to You, Lord, in the great expectation of receiving from You, O Divine King, mercy, peace, justice and all good things.
Protect, O Lord our King, our families and the land of our birth.
Guard us we pray Most Faithful One.
Protect us from our enemies and from Your Just Judgment.
Forgive us, O Sovereign King, our sins against you.
Jesus, You are a King of Mercy.
We have deserved Your Just Judgment.
Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.
We trust in Your Great Mercy.
O most awe-inspiring King, we bow before You and pray,
May Your Reign, Your Kingdom, be recognized on earth.

To Pray a Christ the King Novena

Start with the sign of the cross.

Pray the Christ the King prayer given above.

Mention your specific prayer intention for this novena.

Say an Our Father, a Hail Mary, and a Glory Be.

Close with the sign of the cross.

About Christ the King

On the last Sunday of each liturgical year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, or Christ the King.

Pope Pius XI instituted this feast in 1925 with his encyclical *Quas primas* (“In the first”) to respond to growing secularism and atheism. He recognized that attempting to “thrust Jesus Christ and his holy law” out of public life would result in continuing discord among people and nations. This solemnity reminds us that while governments come and go, Christ reigns as King forever.

During the early twentieth century, in Mexico, Russia, and some parts of Europe, militantly secularistic regimes threatened not just the Catholic Church and its faithful but civilization itself. Pope Pius XI’s encyclical gave Catholics hope and—while governments around them crumbled—the assurance that Christ the King shall reign forever. Jesus Christ “is very truth, and it is from him that truth must be obediently received by all mankind” (*Quas primas*, 7).

Christ’s kingship is rooted in the Church’s teaching on the Incarnation. Jesus is fully God and fully man. He is both the divine Lord and the man who suffered and died on the Cross. One person of the Trinity unites himself to human nature and reigns over all creation as the Incarnate Son of God. “From this it follows not only that Christ is to be adored by angels and men, but that to him as man angels and men are subject, and must recognize his empire; by reason of the hypostatic union Christ has power over all creatures” (*Quas primas*, 13).

The Church calls us to acknowledge Christ’s kingship with our whole lives:

He must reign in our minds, which should assent with perfect submission and firm belief to revealed truths and

to the doctrines of Christ. He must reign in our wills, which should obey the laws and precepts of God. He must reign in our hearts, which should spurn natural desires and love God above all things, and cleave to him alone. He must reign in our bodies and in our members, which should serve as instruments for the interior sanctification of our souls, or to use the words of the Apostle Paul, ‘as instruments of justice unto God.’ -Quas primas, 33

Today, religious freedom for many people means that we can believe whatever we want in private, but when we enter

the public square or the marketplace, we may not speak of

anything that relates to our faith. However, the Church

acknowledges the reign of Christ, not only privately, but publicly. This

solemnity encourages us to celebrate and live out our faith in public. “Thus by sermons preached at meetings and in churches, by public adoration of the Blessed

Sacrament exposed and by solemn processions, men unite in paying homage to Christ, whom God has given them for their King” (*Quas primas*, 26).

For Christians, when our faith is repeatedly marginalized in public life, we can fall into the habit of compartmentalizing our lives. We love Jesus in our private lives, but we shrink from acknowledging the kingship of Christ in social life. When we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King, we declare to the world and remind ourselves that Jesus is the Lord of the Church and of the entire universe.

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