

## **Bishop Richard's Weekly Reflection for the Solemnity of Christ the King (Year B) 21<sup>st</sup> November 2021**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This Sunday, the last in the Church's year, brings us to the Solemnity of Christ the King. We are called to reflect on the kingship of the One who died for us, and the Gospel readings take us to the moment when Pontius Pilate questions Jesus. Jesus is unequivocal when He responds to Pilate, proclaiming His kingship – but a kingship that is not of an earthly nature. It is not about the kind of power that Pilate wielded, the kind of power we see used so often in every part of society – including, sometimes and so tragically, the Church – that is about power over others, monetary or political gain. No, the kingship of Christ places truth above all these things. This is the objective truth that comes with Divine Revelation, a truth that cannot be contested, a truth that, ultimately, overcomes all things – for Christ Himself is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Daniel, in this Sunday's first reading, writes of sovereignty of the Son of Man. This is picked up so clearly in the Book of the Apocalypse, where it is made clear that Jesus, the One who dies for us, is the One on whom this sovereignty is conferred. It is the death of Christ that is the victory over all sin and death. It is Jesus who is the truth.

It is this Kingdom, which is of a different kind, which we are called to live, that we are called to proclaim, bringing others to the truth who is Christ our King.

We rejoice in His kingship and we rejoice in his death and resurrection, the victory that He has won for us – for with Him, as St Paul reminds us, we are co-heirs to the Kingdom of God.

There is never a time in the history of the world when we can abandon our task as the Body of Christ to proclaim the Truth Who is Christ. Our world

needs this message in every place and in every aspect of the human condition. As we celebrate this wonderful feast – and look, very soon now, to the beginning of the next Church Year, let us put behind us anything that would keep us from Him who is truth, and re-commit ourselves to the proclamation of His kingship.

With every Blessing,

+ Richard