

Feast of Christ the King

***“To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, who has made us into a kingdom, priests for his God and Father, to him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen.” --
Revelation 1:6***

This solemnity makes a statement about Christ, but also about our own self-identity: He has made us into a kingdom. Jesus was born to be king and “to testify to the truth.” The truth of His earthly existence led to the cross. Only through the cross is Jesus brought to glory; only through the cross are we brought to glory.

The contrasting images from the Book of Revelation sum up the Paschal Mystery character of this solemnity: first-born, ruler, glory, power versus pierced, lament, by His blood. We all like the positive images invoked by this feast. In our own moments of truth we admit to our very human propensity for power and wealth. We would like to avoid the reality of the challenge offered by the contrasting images that remind us to embrace the cross. One last time, on this last Sunday of the liturgical year, we say: the road to glory is through the cross.

Prayer: Lord, accept the prayers of your people and strengthen them in power to serve others as servant-kings of your kingdom. Amen.

Readings:

Daniel 7:13-14; <http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/daniel/daniel7.htm#v13>

Psalms 93:1, 1-2, 5 <http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/psalms/psalm93.htm>

Revelation 1:5-8; <http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/revelation/revelation1.htm>

John 18:33-37; <http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/john/john18.htm#v33>