

EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW

Jesus was sentenced to death and crucified on the charge of claiming to be a king. This is underlined by the sign that was nailed onto the cross: "the King of the Jews". ("King" is the Roman equivalent of "Messiah")

CHRIST THE KING

This Solemnity was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 to respond to a world that was rejecting Christ and becoming dominated by secularism.



During his lifetime Jesus bears the title of ruler only at his most vulnerable moments. Fr. David Lonsdale



SEEDS FOR CONVERSATION

How do you understand strength, power, authority and glory as it relates to Jesus?

We often sing "Let us build the City of God..." What kind of city would that be?

In what ways do you think is Jesus misunderstood and/or misrepresented today?

The Feast of Christ the King reminds us that Christ and His truth deserves our loyalty. How do you show this? How might you have failed to show loyalty to your King?



Christ the King

As this feast day is relatively new, there is no set of long-standing traditions associated with it, so let's start some!

Food is always a good start.

How about some crown-shaped cookies (with appropriately sparkly sprinkles)?



The most important thing is to go to Mass, of course, but making the whole idea of Christ as our King, and generating conversation is more festively done with things we can taste and see.



Children can make a paper crown to decorate the dinner table (or prayer table)

Make a "Crown Cake"....or, perhaps individual "crown" cupcakes.

Chicken a la King would be a good choice of main dish.



If you have a white candle that you lit at Easter that represents Jesus on your prayer table, consider giving it a central place at dinner. Whatever you do, make it enjoyable....and do it all with love.

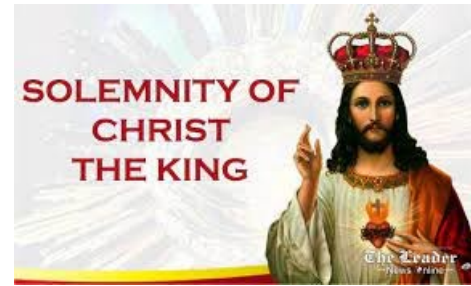


"The root of joy is gratefulness...It is not joy that makes us grateful; it is gratitude that makes us joyful."
-- David Steindl-Rast

Christ the King is a SOLEMNITY What's that?

We celebrate lots of special days throughout the year, but they are spoken of differently - what does that mean?

Technically, the divisions are as follows:

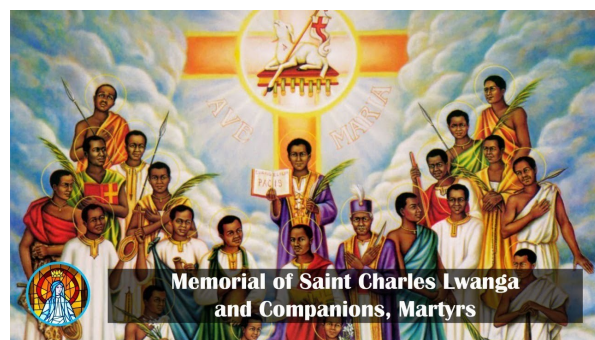


Solemnities are the celebrations of greatest importance. Each Solemnity begins on the prior evening with first vespers (evening prayer) and several of the solemnities have their own Vigil Mass. On these days, both the Gloria and the Creed are recited.

Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation (which in the United States are the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God, Ascension, Assumption, All Saints, Immaculate Conception, and Christmas) are always considered solemnities. Other

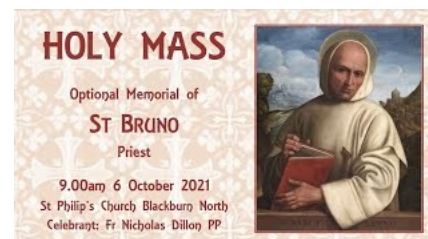
examples of solemnities include the Solemnity of St. Joseph (March 19), the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (Friday after the Feast of Corpus Christi), and the Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul (June 29).

Feasts are of second importance in our liturgical calendar and are celebrated on a particular day. These feasts typically do not have a first vespers or Vigil Mass the prior evening. On these days, the Gloria is recited but not the Creed. There are 27 feasts during the Liturgical Year.



Next in line are **memorials**, which are classified as either obligatory or optional. Memorials commemorate a saint or saints. Obligatory memorials must be observed whereas optional memorials do not have to be observed. For example, the memorial of St. John Bosco (January 31) is obligatory while the

memorial of St. Blaise (February 3) is optional. Only the memorials of those saints who are of "universal significance" are observed by the whole Church and marked in the general liturgical calendar.



GROWING CATHOLICS

Leaflet 

The Solemnity of Christ the King Sunday Gospel • November 21, 2021 John 18:33b-37

Pilate said to Jesus,
"Are you the King of the Jews?"
Jesus answered, "Do you say this on your own or have others told you about me?"
Pilate answered, "I am not a Jew, am I?
Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me.
What have you done?"
Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world.
If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not here."
So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?"
Jesus answered, "You say I am a king.
For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth.
Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

