

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Yr.B. 20/21 November 2021.

After the time of great change and chaos, something we considered last weekend, the Son of Man, Our Lord, returns to us. He will come with the glory and authority of Kingship conferred upon Him by God. Daniel tells us that this will be the end and that it will all end happily. Nations and peoples, races and cultures, languages and ways of life that have long been divided will all come together to serve the Lord in the perfect reign of God will never be destroyed.

Though our story here on this earth is one endless movement and change, of growing, living and dying that isn't all of our story, nor is it going to be the end of our story or of us. God's plan includes using these changes so as to bring about a renewed creation and a new humanity. This is the becoming Kingdom over which Jesus reigns even now. He merited His Kingship by embracing all of the changes that came His way, converting their dark, destructive energies into life and healing.

Pilate asked Jesus if He was a King? He said that He was, but not the kind of King that Pilate imagined. There were no army's fighting to save Him from the Cross, for His is a Kingdom beyond this world's imagining, a Kingdom of truth, where God reigns supreme and where the rule of love, service and respect for each other is the only law. When you listen to the Preface of this Solemnity you'll hear the values of the Kingdom way of Christ beautifully expressed as truth, life, holiness, grace, justice, love and peace.

No earthy Kingdom or power structure has been, or ever will be like this. Our frail egos, ever fearful of changes that we can't control and dictate, are in the middle of everything we do preventing us from achieving such wholesome outcomes. It had to be via the way of the the Cross then, the inevitable and best way God used to lift up all that changes, converting them into life, making a throne out of its wood and a crown of glory from those bloody thorns.

This is how God's new vision comes to birth, turning dying into a passage way towards something new and richer, death out of for love of others into a chosen path to life and sacrifice and service an open door into the discovery of our true selves in the heart and glory of God powerful love. What I'm talking about and what we're celebrating here of course is nothing less than the Pascal Mystery of Christ in which we share, the new covenant of life sealed forever in the blood of His loving gift to us and for us all.

There was nowhere left for Pilate to turn when deep down he realised that he was dealing with the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, the most real King of them all who was, who is and who is to come. After all, this was the Almighty on trial before him, suffering on our behalf. We needn't look any further either, but simply keep our ears, eyes, minds and hearts firmly fixed on Jesus the King of creation who, by making His Cross into a hinge, has swung open the gates of hope and mercy that cannot now ever be closed to us.