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PETITION & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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## Yes, I Am A King

The mission of Jesus was to bring forth the Kingdom of God in the world. From the start he announced: *I must proclaim the good news of the Kingdom of God to the other cities also; for I was sent for this purpose.* (Lk. 4:43) The constant and recurring theme in his teaching and preaching was the coming of the Kingdom. He taught us to pray: *Thy Kingdom come.* (Mt. 6:10) He urged us: *Strive first the Kingdom of God and its righteousness.* (Mt. 6:33) When he sent out the disciples on their first mission he said: *As you go, proclaim the good news, "The Kingdom of Heaven has come near."* (Mt.10:7)

With all his talk about the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Heaven, it comes as no surprise that the first question Pilate asks him when he is on trial is: *Are you the king of the Jews?* In reply Jesus declares openly: **Yes, I am a king....** However, he makes it very clear that his Kingdom is not of this world. He reigns in an entirely different way.

Yes, he is a king, but he sits not on a glorious throne. He hangs on the wood of a cross.

Yes, he is a king, but he wears not a crown of gold. On his head is pierced a crown of thorns.

Yes, he is a king, but where he reigns every worldly expectation is turned upside-down - the least becomes the greatest; the last becomes the first; the poorest becomes the richest; the weakest becomes the strongest; the slave becomes the master.

Even though his Kingdom is not of this world, Jesus makes use of worldly and secular images to teach us the spiritual truths about it. He tells us that the Kingdom of God is like a seed a sower plants in our hearts; the Kingdom grows in the midst of evil and conflict like wheat among weeds; it starts off small like a mustard seed yet it grows into a big shrub; it is worth sacrificing everything in order to have it, like a merchant selling everything he owns so as to have the pearl of great value; it comes upon us unexpectedly like someone finding treasure buried in a field; it is like a dragnet that takes in everything; it is like workers going into the vineyard at different times of the day but are all given the same just wage at the end of it; it is compared to wedding feast of a king to which all are invited.

In these and other parables Jesus assures us that in his Kingdom these are all possible because God's love and mercy are generous and boundless. As one author says, "All Jesus' worldly stories have a heavenly ending."

Yes, he is our heavenly king and his only law is to love.

Yes, he is our heavenly king and his banquet here on earth is the Eucharist to which we are invited and in which he offers us the finest food and drink - his own Body and Blood.

Yes, he is our heavenly king and his coming again in glory we await now in joyful hope.

**Reflection by Clement Lee, CSSR**

# Novena notes



34<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

Year B

Feast Of Christ The King

25<sup>th</sup> November 2018

## Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 25 November Feast Of Christ The King	Dan 7:13-14; Rev 1:5-8; Jn 18:33-37 The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed.
Mon, 26 November	Rev 14:1-5; Lk 21:1-4 Such are the men who seek your face, O Lord.
Tue, 27 November	Rev 14:14-19; Lk 21:5-11 The Lord comes to rule the earth.
Wed, 28 November	Rev 15:1-4; Lk 21:12-19 How great and wonderful are all your works, Lord God almighty.
Thu, 29 November	Rev 18:1-2,21-23; 19:1-3,9; Lk 21:20-28 Happy are those who are invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb.
Fri, 30 November St. Andrew, Apostle	Wis 3:1-9; Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22 Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
Sat, 1 December	Rev 22:1-7; Lk 21:34-36 Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus.

WEEKDAY MASS (MON - FRI)

Time: 6.30am, 12.15pm, 6.30pm

Confession: Half an hour before Mass

SUNSET MASS (SAT)

Time: 6.30pm

SUNDAY MASS

Time: 8am, 10am, 12noon, 5.30pm

PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Time: 8am, 6.30pm

SATURDAY MORNING MASS

Time: 7am

SATURDAY NOVENA DEVOTION

English: 8am, 9.30am, 11am, 1pm, 4pm, 5.30pm

Mandarin: 2.30pm

Confession: After every Novena Service except after the 11am service.

DAYS OF OBLIGATION

Time: 7pm (Eve of Day of Obligation)  
6.30am, 12.15pm, 7pm

# Novena notes

## Advent Novena

Our Advent Novena to prepare for Christmas has begun. We are now in the 5<sup>th</sup> week. The Theme for this special Novena is, **“His Name shall be....”** All are welcome. Bring along your family and friends.

27 Oct : Jesus (Introduction)

3 Nov : Son of David

10 Nov : Son of the Most High

17 Nov : Mighty God

### **24 Nov : The Christ**

1 Dec : Wonderful Counselor

8 Dec : Prince of Peace

15 Dec : Saviour

22 Dec : Immanuel

## World Youth Day 2019 Fund-Raising Project

To help subsidise the cost for our Novena Church youth leaders to go for the World Youth Day in January 2019, they will be selling various items over the next 1 month. They are selling Christmas Gift Wrappers and Christmas Ornaments. Please give them your generous support.

## "DAWN"

Registration is open for two courses **"DAWN"** is offering:

a. The first is a **Skill Development Programme for Foreign Domestic Workers** on Baking, Cooking, Cake Decoration, Sewing and Handicraft. The course is from January till June 2019.

b. The second is a **Care-Giving** course scheduled to begin on 25 Nov 2018. It will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month.

Please follow the registration schedule below.

Dates : 4, 11, 18 & 25 Nov 2018.  
Time : 10 am to 2 pm  
Venue : DAWN,  
Good Shepherd Place,  
9, Lorong 8, Toa Payoh,  
Singapore 319253.

Contact : 8269 4546 (Rowena) or  
8233 3728 (Sr. Barbara)

## Tagalog Mass

Please take note there will be a Tagalog Mass on 9<sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon.

## 25<sup>th</sup> November, Feast of Christ The King

The Feast of Christ the King is celebrated in the Roman Catholic Church in honour of Jesus Christ as Lord over all creation. It was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925.

Originally, it was celebrated on the last Sunday in October, but in the revised liturgical calendar promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1969, it was moved to the last Sunday of Ordinary Time (immediately preceding Advent) when we wait for the promised Messiah (King).



When we celebrate Christ as King, we are not celebrating the reign of an oppressive ruler, but one willing to die for humanity and whose “loving-kindness endures forever.”

## The Kingdom of Jesus

Jesus said, “My Kingdom is not of this world.” Jesus does not rule as earthly kings rule. He has no palace, no throne, no crown, no army. Yet we give him an allegiance and a loyalty, which we would not give to any other person or institution on earth.

Alone and unarmed he stood before Pilate. Pilate, had thousands of soldiers to call upon. Yet Jesus was incomparably the greater of the two. Jesus is the hope of the human race. He rules, not by force, but by love. Lord Jesus, may your kingdom come, and may you remember me on that day.

## World AIDS Day Mass

Staff and volunteers from the Catholic AIDS Response Effort (CARE) will be here on 1<sup>st</sup> December (Saturday) from 3pm onward and 2<sup>nd</sup> December (Sunday) morning.

There will be a display of materials to create HIV/AIDS awareness. Articles such as candles, crucifixes and rosaries made by the residents of CARE shelter will be on display. When you take home one of their craft items, you acknowledge their work, affirm their self-worth, assure them they are not forgotten and give them hope.