

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Daniel 7:13-14 Apocalypse 1:5-8 John 18:33-37

HOMILY

This feast was created by Pope Pius XI in 1925. The Pope was very much aware of the problems affecting the world around that time – especially what was happening in Europe. Fascism and dictatorships of various kinds were on the rise. In creating this feast, in a way, Pius XI was challenging the totalitarian governments of Mussolini, Hitler and Stalin and preaching that Jesus Christ is the only Sovereign King. The pope was aware that power was always dangerous. Power, in fact attracts the worst among people but it also corrupts the best among people. The best figure to look out to was Christ who did not rule by power but one who ruled by truth and love.

This is what he declares to Pilate in today's gospel reading today, *'I came into the world for this, to bear witness to the truth.'* In these times of so much fake news and conspiracies of one kind or nother, it is so refreshing to hear Jesus solemnly proclaim that he was born and came into the world to testify to the truth. Jesus is King of truth and everyone who is on the side of truth hears His voice. This is the voice of justice, compassion and love.

As King Jesus is the defender of the poor. He is the King who prays. He did not come as king in robes of royalty or with a fine palace and a royal court. Instead, Jesus came as the King of Truth in simplicity attracting a band of 'everyday folks' called apostles. As Christians, we can quickly fail at being witnesses to the truth. We see oppression but doing nothing. we see all sorts of prejudices, discriminations and bigotry but we escape in silence and prefer to remain in the comfort of ignorance and avoidance. This feast today calls us to be on the of truth and to hear his voice