

A Message from Deacon Ed

November 22, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One thing many of us may find ourselves doing at the end of every December is taking stock of our past year, (even 2020) and making resolutions for the new year. For myself, I sometimes feel that the “New Year’s resolutions” take the form of some sort of perfunctory exercise in futility. Some form of grand goal like to run a marathon or give up coffee. Obviously, for me, a not-so-thought out plan, with no real chance of success.

How many of our New Year’s resolutions fall victim to lack of planning, as they are afterthoughts to the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season?

This weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King! As a community we are called to recognize that we are all called to follow Jesus Christ as our King. His way should be the law for us.

It is our Lord Jesus who is the “Alpha” (first letter of the Greek alphabet) and “Omega” (the last letter), He is the beginning and the end. In this weekend’s feast, we recognize that Christ should be our true ruler. I have read commentary that equates this feast as the championship game, Christ’s coronation.

With this Sunday’s Feast of Christ the King, we are at the “Omega”, or end, of our Church Year. We have an opportunity to examine our past year and take stock of whether, or not, we truly have lived our lives following our true King.

Jesus tells us in Matthew’s Gospel that the righteous will “Inherit the kingdom of prepared for you from the foundation of the world”. This is accomplished through service and charity to others for “whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.”

As we approach a new “Alpha”, in Advent, we can all reflect on if we have lived our lives striving to emulate Christ’s example. Can we do more? I know I can.

In the Church’s New Year, let us make a resolution to embrace the opportunities Christ presents to us to serve one another. To care for our neighbor. To help our faith community. To embrace the good news of Jesus and salvation through thought and deed. Advent is perfect for this.

While this past year has certainly been challenging for most of us, let us not forget God’s blessings as well. Let us try and get ourselves prepared, not just for the holiday celebrations, but for the true celebration Jesus has promised the righteous at the heavenly banquet.

Again, Happy New Year!

Deacon Ed