

Fr. Curtis Miller    November 21-22, 2020    Homily for the Solemnity of Christ the King

As I'm still recovering from my sickness, forgive me for preaching a bit shorter this weekend.

On this day we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King of the Universe. We recognize that our true head and ruler is Jesus Christ Himself.

In ancient times, the Israelites saw that the nations around them had kings and they wanted to be like them. Up until that time, God Himself had governed them personally, protecting them and providing for their needs. Yet He granted the request of His people, warning them that they would be disappointed in their kings, and so they were. Even the best of their rulers, King David, was an imperfect sinner.

But God promised them, as we hear in today's first reading from Ezekiel, that He Himself would come to shepherd His people. He fulfilled that promise by sending us His Son, Jesus, to become man and live among us. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who defends us from danger, seeks out the lost, heals the wounded, and leads us all to good pasture. At Mass, we are blessed to have Jesus, our shepherd and king, come personally to serve us in the Eucharist.

And how do we serve Christ our King? As today's Gospel teaches us, by serving Him in the poor and the needy.

All worldly leaders will sometimes disappoint us, even the leaders of the Church, even me. But Jesus will never disappoint us.

If we have any positions of leadership or authority, at home or work, let us humbly pray that Jesus will help us to fulfill that role as true shepherds after the heart of Jesus.