

# FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Outside of Rockefeller Center in New York City stands a bronze statue of Atlas, a titan from Greek mythology that carried the heavens. Atlas appears to be carrying the weight of the world.

Atlas stands on one side of 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. facing and, right across, from one of America's greatest cathedrals, Saint Patrick's.

Inside of Saint Patrick's is the Most Blessed Sacrament, the Eucharist, the King of Kings, the creator of the world, Jesus Christ.

The two men, Atlas, and Christ who is enshrined in a grand cathedral, face each other as in a face off. Who will win? A priest, during a homily at Saint Patrick's, brought attention to a little statue inside Saint Patrick's of the Infant of Prague. The Infant of Prague is the Christ child, dressed as a King, and holding the world in his hands. The priest mentioned the irony and contrast between Atlas and the Infant King. Atlas, a grown man, a titan, struggles in carrying the weight of the world. The Infant King, a mere child, easily holds the world in the palm of his hand and with his other hand grants a blessing.

The priest asked the people the question, "Why won't Atlas cross the street, cross 5<sup>th</sup> Ave?" If only he would walk a few steps, he could bring the weight that he is carrying into Church and give it to Jesus, give it to the Infant King.

Is this man just the King of the Jews or is He the King of Kings and, thus, my king.

The year is 1925 and Pope Pius XI was in a knock down drag out fight with secularism, which is nothing more than living life without God as a crucial influence on everyday life and activities. Just as in today's society, we often take for granted the royal authority that Christ Jesus has over us as individuals, our families, our society, government and the entire world.

Pope Pius XI instituted the Solemnity or Feast of OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING to declare once again the prominence Christ has as the center and ruler of our lives. Pope Pius XI knew that when we live for ourselves we accomplish nothing but only gain a small amount of self-gratification for our life. When we live for Christ, letting Him guide our lives, we can achieve great victories for Christ's Kingdom and be wholly satisfied with our own lives, something we cannot do without Christ. We celebrate Christ's authority over our lives and we proclaim Christ as King to a world in need of leadership, in need of salvation.