

November 25, 2018 Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

From the Desk of Fr. Anthony C. Ekanem, MSP:

Today, the last Sunday of the month of November in our regular calendar is very significant in our Liturgical calendar. It marks the end of our Christian Calendar Year with a Solemnity called The Reign of Christ Sunday or Christ the King Sunday.

On this great feast we rejoice in calling Christ our King. We owe Him an allegiance we would not give to any other power on earth. We recognize that Jesus Christ should reign in our lives, guiding our thoughts, our decisions, and our conduct. When our sisters and brother from other churches ask us whether Jesus is our Lord and Savior, what exactly is our response? This celebration gives us an idea of the kind of relationship we should have and in with Christ. In other words, what kind of witnesses are we?

Sometimes, we might think that idolatry belongs to primitive peoples and to the past. People today have idols too especially when we look at our priority in life considering money, possessions, pleasure, success, fame, power etc. Any of these, can lead us to a very superficial type of life thereby pushing the true God aside.

In John Gospel today, the dialogue between Jesus and Pilate shows us Jesus standing alone and unarmed speaking the truth to the powerful man, the governor of a Roman province. In spite of Jesus' vulnerability, He is the one who was in control. Standing for the truth. Like the Letter of St John says, that which is within you is greater than what is outside of you. The Spiritual power residing in Jesus is greater and stronger than all those political figures and position of authority.

Sometimes, we need to take some time to distinguish authority and influence on one hand, and power and control on the other. Some of the people with greatest moral authority are quite powerless, and the most influential have no need to control those have influence. So, it was with Jesus. Pilate had power over people; Jesus had influence on them. Jesus made His presence felt simply by the kind of person He was. A man of sincerity, a man of trust, a man of love for all even to love our enemy. Jesus came to bear witness to the truth of God's eternal and universal sovereignty. Is Jesus Christ your Lord and King?

There will be a Ushers Meeting on Friday, November 30, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Parish Rectory All Ushers must attend .

Collection: Last Sunday, November 18, 2018 was \$3,209.

2nd Collection: Last Sunday November 18th was for Catholic Charities Campaign for Charity and Justice yielded \$1,033.00

The 2nd collection this Sunday is for the upkeep of our Organ; Next Sunday we will have our Christmas Flower Collection.

Christmas Flowers: The Christmas Flower Collection helps to defray the cost of decorating our altars for Christmas and the names on the back of your envelopes will be placed on a Christmas plaque in the rear of the church in memory of your loved ones.

- Large Poinsettia Plants: \$50.00
- Medium Poinsettia Plants: \$25.00
- Small Poinsettia Plants: \$20.00

Food Collection: Next Sunday will be our monthly food collection for the needy in our community. So please remember those in need when you grocery shop this week. As always thank you for your generosity.

Parish Notice: Please be aware that on Saturday, December 8, 2018 at 6:00 pm we at St. Mary's will have the Mass of Installation for Fr. Anthony C. Ekanem, MSP as the new Pastor of St. Mary's. There will only be one Mass that Saturday and it will be co-celebrated by Fr. Anthony, Fr. Felino and Fr. Fares. All are welcome to attend the Mass of Installation and a small reception following the Mass at the Parish Hall. Please let us know if you would like to attend by filling out the slips of paper that the ushers will hand out and returning them to the ushers at the end of Mass. Thank you.

Parish Membership: Every family or single adult to be considered active members of St. Mary's must be properly registered in the parish, receiving and regularly using the weekly donation envelopes. Only in this way can the parish issue documents attesting to parish membership and Catholic practice, e.g. a letter to be a Godparent or Sponsor. Also if you have moved and still want to continue as a parishioner of St. Mary's please stop by the office with your new address so that we may make the appropriate changes. Thank You

December 2018:

1st: Religious Education Classes 9:20 to 11:00 am

8th: Religious Education Classes 9:20 to 11:00 am

15th: Religious Education Classes 9:20 to 11:00 am

22nd: NO Religious Education Classes Christmas Recess

29th: NO Religious Education Classes Christmas Recess

Mass Schedule for the week of

November 25, 2018 to December 2, 2018

Mass are daily at 8:15 and 12:05 in English and in Spanish on Thursdays at 7:00pm

Below are the Special Intentions for this week

Sunday, November 25, 2018:

7:30 am- Joann Mastronardi
John and Josephine Mastronardi
9:00 am- Alejandro & Altigracia
Family
11:00 am- Patricia Zambrosky
William Zambrosky

Monday, November 26, 2018:

12:05 pm- Aida Abiles
Martha Vaga

Tuesday, November 27, 2018:

12:05 pm- Dermot Kenny
Rita Cormican

Thursday, November 29, 2018:

7:00 pm- Zenida Rivera & Estevan Zuniga
Juaquina Ruiz

Saturday, December 1, 2018:

12:05 pm- Joseph Iacovetti
Daughter Angelina
5:00 pm- Dennis M. Mchan
The Bonano Family
7:30 pm- Onesimo Tovar
Joaquina & Torivo Tovar

Sunday, December 2, 2018:

7:30 am- For the Parishioners
9:00 am- German Tareo
Lilia Talero
11:00 am- Celio Rodrigues
Eduardo & Alejandra Rodrigues