

November 25, 2018

**SOLEMNITY OF
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING**

GOSPEL JOHN 18: 33 – 37

Pilate said to Jesus, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

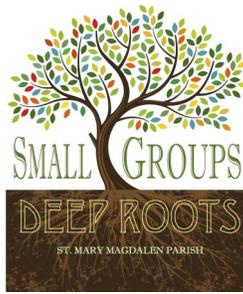
Jesus answered, "Do you say this on your own or have others told you about me?"

Pilate answered, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?"

Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not here."

So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?"

Jesus answered, "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

GOSPEL JOHN 18:33-37

Cited from AscensionCatholic.net

On this last Sunday of the liturgical year, the Church celebrates the feast of Christ the King. Instituted by Pope Pius XII in 1952 to combat the growing secularism and atheism of his time, it is one of the so-called “idea feasts” that do not celebrate an event in the life of Jesus but rather some aspect of his identity. In it, we recognize and honor Christ as ruler of all.

Today’s Gospel is an excerpt from Jesus’ trial before Pilate. The chosen verses are a dialogue between Jesus and Pilate on the nature of Jesus’ kingship. When asked by Pilate if he is a king, Jesus points out that his kingship is not of this world but rather about “testifying and witnessing to the truth.” Jesus’ kingship is one that seeks “allegiance of the heart” from his people. Jesus wants to be “King of our hearts.” Jesus’ kingship does not seek to lord it over people but rather to serve. We know from watching Jesus that the only way to enter his kingdom is through trust in God and a life of service.

- **Have you ever been falsely accused? If so, what was that experience like for you? If not, what do you think that experience must be like for others, some of whom end up in jail for 20+ years?**
- **What does it mean to you to say that Jesus is the Lord of your life? What are some things we can do to make Jesus the Lord of our lives?**
- **This weekend, we conclude another liturgical year. Was there one liturgical celebration or one event in your spiritual life that stood out for you? In the last year? This fall?**

CLOSE WITH PRAYER & PERSONAL RESPONSE

Lord, please help me to make you the King of my life, by _____.

Lord, help me to always listen to your voice, especially when I _____.