



[If you haven't already, begin your meal with meal prayer, then take turns reading these boxes aloud, following the directions where applicable]

## Christ the King

## The Church Year

The solemnity of Christ the King is celebrated on the final Sunday in ordinary time before Advent begins. This year it falls on November 20. The celebration was instituted in 1925 by Pope Pius XI. He wrote: "When once men recognize, both in private and in public life, that Christ is King, society will at last receive the great blessings of real liberty, well-ordered discipline, peace and harmony."

This solemnity reminds us that while governments come and go, Christ reigns as King forever. We may live on earth right now, but our earthly life is not our final home - we belong first to the Kingdom of God.

The solemnity of Christ the King reminds us that Christ is the king of the universe, and he should also be the king of our hearts.

Did you know that the Church has its own calendar? The church calendar, called the "liturgical calendar," gives the year a rhythm through the seasons: Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time, Lent, Easter, and more Ordinary Time. These seasons determine the prayers and readings at Mass and help set the tone for Catholics. For example, we wait joyfully in Advent but are more somber during Lent. Following these seasons helps us ponder the birth, life, death and resurrection of Christ each year.

Having a universal church calendar also ensures that Catholics all around the world celebrate feasts at the same time and hear the same readings no matter where they are in the world.

The Church calendar doesn't follow the regular calendar - in the Catholic Church, the year starts with Advent. This means that the last Sunday of the Church year is Christ the King Sunday!

## Discussion

[These questions are a spark for conversation, not a strict outline. Allow the Spirit to lead. Try to at least discuss the starred questions each week.]

- \* As the last Sunday of the church year, Christ the King Sunday is like Catholic new years eve. What faith-related New Church Year's Resolutions would you like to make?
- \* How do we want to make Jesus the King of our home?
- What other things distract us from keeping Jesus first in our hearts or threaten to rule over our lives? How can we keep them in their place?

## Activity & Prayer

[For this activity section, you will need the packet provided by the parish. If you don't have it, you can download it on our website]

Jesus is the King of the Universe - use the additional packet to give him glory and "adorn" his crown with your gifts.

Once your crowns are prepared, it's time to offer them to the King. As a family, pray the dedication prayer included in the packet.

\*\*Note: the solemnity of Christ the King is on Sunday Nov 20 - you might choose to save this dedication step and complete it on Sunday, instead (or repeat the prayer on Sunday). If so, continue to the step below.

Finally, as we begin the new Church Year, the first season is advent. Advent is a time of preparing before the celebration of Christmas. This is the perfect time to take on a special family practice that helps prepare your hearts for Christ's coming. Review the ideas in the packet and discuss what your family will do as preparation during Advent. Choose one or two.

### Extras

- Sunday is the Solemnity of Christ the King - make your family meal a feast fit for a King!
- Raise a toast to the King - get everyone an age appropriate fun beverage and make toasts to Jesus
- Play Pin the Crown on Jesus - add a little tape to your crowns and see who can get the crown on Jesus without looking. Use the image from the packet.
- Listen to a Christ the King playlist

[https://open.spotify.com/playlist/Oeq2uCyXZS8DXVKOEAA65s?go=1&utm\\_source=embed\\_player\\_m&utm\\_medium=desktop&nd=1](https://open.spotify.com/playlist/Oeq2uCyXZS8DXVKOEAA65s?go=1&utm_source=embed_player_m&utm_medium=desktop&nd=1)

### Sacramental Life

This week's confirmation work is:  
The Prayer Process

Watch Decision Point Video  
<https://youtube.com/MBq466CXOHQ>

Journal Questions:

1. Has anyone ever taught you how to pray? Who? When?
2. Which of the 7 steps in the prayer process intrigued you the most? Why?
3. If you were going to set aside 10 minutes to pray each day, what time of day would work best for you?

<https://staugustinedward.org/confirmation-preparation/>

## Looking Ahead

For Next Week, Nov 23:

- There will not be a COR guide next week Nov 23 due to Thanksgiving - pray some prayers of gratitude during your family time.
- There will be Mass on Thanksgiving at 9am at St Augustine

Upcoming Events:

- Confirmation AND First Reconciliation/Communion Students - your whole family should plan to attend on Jan 11 6-8 pm at St Augustine for a formation night.

