

**The last Sunday in Ordinary Time we celebrate: Christ King of Universe / What does this fully mean? St. Paul tells us, but before we explore this: This day is a perfect primer for Advent. Christ the King reminds us to stay awake and prepare for this coming Kingdom.**

**St. Paul's letter to the Colossians: 12-20: On The cross Christ reconciled all things to God / Recapitulation: All creation is redeemed thru Jesus Christ / St Irenaeus of Lyons & The Catechism: "Christ's whole life / All Jesus did, said and suffered had for its aim restoring fallen man to God / To restore our dignity, and to give value and purpose to our lives.**

**-Colossians gives us St. Paul's Theology / THROUGH HIM, AND WITH HIM, AND IN HIM...(The priest says this at every Mass after the Eucharistic Prayer).**

**-Do we live as if we believe this / The Word Spoke all into existence / The Word HOLDS all of this in existence / Jesus is truly King of all things / The Universe / Our very happiness and lives and fulfillment depends on being connected to His eternal kingdom.**

**-This Saturday I Heard Confessions for a youth retreat at a neighboring parish: These youth longed for something more / When I told them they were created for love, purpose, and their lives had meaning / Some had tears in their eyes / For their penance, I gave them 7 Hail Marys (7 in Scripture means completion & Fulfillment) = Jesus' work is being completed in them / The look they gave me / They so want this / Want Hope / Meaning & Purpose / That they are loved / They want to belong to A Kingdom.**

**-So How do we join? / Well certainly at our Baptism / But also like Dismas: Simply ask: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.**

**Luke: The good thief is only found in Luke's Gospel.**

**-Many today (like the bad thief) seem to be ridiculing the Kingship of Jesus / Laughing and jeering at Him and His church / Or simply ignoring Him / Thank goodness there are many in the world like the good thief / asking, like Dismas, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." We sing these words often on Good Friday as we (venerate the Cross).**

**-Are we at times the good or the bad thief (trusting in Jesus or denying Him).**

**-If we, and the world, would start asking the right questions about our origins, how all this comes into being / our existence / our purpose / It leads us to God and Christ, who is King over it all / For He holds all things into existence.**

**-And when we make the simple statement, in faith, like Dismas, look what Jesus always does / He not only responds / (Ambrose) But He wants to give us more than we ask for when our prayer is for our salvation and/or is aligned with His perfect Will for our lives.**

**-Pray for our nation / the world at large / And when we ask / We will receive more than we ask for / And the world will flourish in true freedom / finding our true meaning and fulfillment.**

**-We can never outdo the generosity of Christ the King / May our last words be:**

**-“Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”**