**SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING [23rd November, 2014]**

READINGS: Ezek. 34:11-12, 15-17 / 1 Cor. 15:20-26, 28 / Matthew 25:31-46

THEME: CHRIST WILL COME AS KING AND JUDGE

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According to today’s gospel, Jesus will come again, not as a humble baby of Bethlehem, but as a King in glory, accompanied by the angels. Indeed he is coming as the King of kings! On that day, all people including all kings and presidents, dead and alive, will bow and acknowledge that Jesus is the King of kings, the Lord of lords! Yes he who is coming is great. Indeed, he is the greatest!

Jesus is greater than all and has power to defeat and subject all powers of darkness. Thus, the second reading says Jesus will defeat every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be King until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death (1 Cor. 15:25-28).

* May, Jesus the King of kings destroy all powers of darkness in our life! Amen!

Jesus will come not only as the King of all but also as the Judge of all. Thus, according to the gospel reading, he will separate the sheep from the goats. How then do we dispose ourselves so that he will count us among the sheep? A right step in this direction is to make Jesus the KING of our personal and daily lives. When we allow Jesus to rule our personal lives every day we will not be afraid of meeting him on the last day; rather, we will be eager to meet him, whom we please every day.

How then do we make him the KING of our personal lives every day? BY FAITH AND ACTION. What kind of faith? Faith in the Father, in Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, and in what Jesus has taught us about eternal life (John 14:1-6, 15-16; 17:2-3) – a faith which influences our actions. What kind of Actions? Mt. 25:31-46 tells us the sort of actions Jesus our King expects of us:

* + To feed the hungry;
  + To give drink to the thirsty;
  + To care for the stranger;
  + To cloth the naked;
  + To care for the sick; and
  + To visit the imprisoned.

We please our King by these six actions and similar ones. May we always be eager to help the needy! Amen! And may every help we give put a smile, not only on the face of the beneficiary, but also on the face of Jesus! Amen! And may every help we give increase the credit in our heavenly account! Amen!