

Sunday – Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King

Collect:

Almighty ever-living God,
whose will is to restore all things
in Your beloved Son, the King of the universe,
grant, we pray, that the whole creation, set free from slavery,
may render Your majesty service
and ceaselessly proclaim Your praise.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Lk 23:35-43

Today's prayer:

O Jesus Christ, I acknowledge You as universal King.
All that has been made has been created for You.
Exercise all Your rights over me.
I renew my Baptismal Vows.
I renounce Satan, his pomps and his works;
I promise to live as a good Christian.
And, in particular I pledge myself
to work to the best of my ability,
for the triumph of the rights of God and of Your Church.
Divine Heart of Jesus, to You I offer my poor services,
labouring that all hearts may acknowledge Your sacred kingship,
and so the reign of Your peace be established throughout the whole universe.
Amen.
Christ conquers! Christ reigns! Christ commands!
To him alone be authority, praise and rejoicing, endless ages of ages!

Pope Pius XI instituted the feast of Christ the King in 1925 to combat the disturbing growth of secular as well as atheistic thinking around the world. Many rulers and elites in various countries had fallen dangerously prey to the notion that mankind could manage without God. They sought to relegate God to an insignificant role in public life or to no role at all. When we remove God out of our lives our world becomes more turbulent and dangerous, not less, as we wind up worshipping the false Gods of money, power, and fame instead. As St James said in his New Testament letter "where there is envy and contentiousness there is instability and every wicked deed" (James 3:16).

Monday – St Andrew Dũng-Lạc and his Companions

Martyrs - *patron saints of Vietnam*

Collect:

O God, source and origin of all fatherhood,
who kept the Martyrs Saint Andrew Dũng-Lạc and his companions
faithful to the Cross of Your Son,
even to the shedding of their blood,
grant, through their intercession,
that, spreading Your love among our brothers and sisters,
we may be Your children both in name and in truth.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Matthew 10:28-33

Today's prayer: A Prayer to the Vietnamese Martyrs

O Vietnamese Martyrs, with the Grace of God,
you had victoriously implanted the mustard seed of Faith
that grew into the Church of Vietnam.
Your courageous sacrifice had reserved your Heavenly rest.
United with you, we offer our gratitude and thanks to God and the Holy Mother,
for all of your martyrdom and your lives that we now celebrate.
We beseech you to follow your Faith in humility, charity and love.
When we are in despair and danger,
please aid and console us in fulfilling the Father's Will
and carry our crosses to Eternal Glory. Amen.

O all you holy Vietnamese Martyrs, Pray for us and for your native land

St Andrew Dũng-Lạc and Companions. St Andrew Dung-Lac, was a convert, ordained to the priesthood, and was one of 117 people martyred in Vietnam between 1820 and 1862. His companions gave their lives for Christ in the 17th – 19th centuries and were beatified in four groups between 1900 and 1951.

Tuesday - Week 34

St Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr - *Patron saint of young girls, students, philosophers, and craftsmen working with wheels!*

Collect:

Stir up the will of Your faithful, we pray, O Lord,
that striving more eagerly
to bring Your divine work to fruitful completion
they may receive in greater measure
the healing remedies Your kindness bestows.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Luke 21:5-11

Today's prayer:

Almighty and eternal God, with lively faith and reverent worship,
I bow before You and invoke, with absolute trust, Your supreme power and
mercy.
Illumine the darkness of my mind with a ray of Your heavenly light
and inflame my heart with the fire of Your Divine love,
so that I may contemplate the great virtues and merits
of Saint Catherine of Alexandria in whose honour I make this prayer,
and following her example imitate, like her, the life of Your Divine Son.
Moreover, I beseech You to graciously grant,
through the merits and intercession of St Catherine,
the petition that I humbly place before You today, devoutly acknowledging,
“Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

(Make your request of the Lord...)

Merciful God, graciously grant my request,
if it is for Your greater honour and glory, and the salvation of my soul.

St Catherine, Pray for us

St Catherine of Alexandria, or Saint Catherine of the Wheel, was, according to tradition, martyred in the early 4th century at the hands of the emperor Maxentius. According to her hagiography, she was both a princess and a noted scholar who became a Christian around the age of 14, converted hundreds of people to Christianity and was martyred around the age of 18. More than 1,100 years after Catherine's martyrdom, St Joan of Arc identified her as one of the saints who appeared to and counselled her.

Wednesday - Week 34

Collect:

Stir up the will of Your faithful, we pray, O Lord,
that striving more eagerly
to bring Your divine work to fruitful completion
they may receive in greater measure
the healing remedies Your kindness bestows.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Luke 21:12-19

Today's prayer:

O Lord our God,
You alone are the Most Holy King
and Ruler of all nations.
We pray to You, Lord,
in the great expectation of receiving from You,
O Divine King, mercy, peace, justice and all good things.
Protect, O Lord our King, our families and the land of our birth.
Guard us we pray Most Faithful One. Amen.

Christ conquers! Christ reigns! Christ commands!
To him alone be authority, praise and rejoicing, endless ages of ages!

Thursday - Week 34

Collect:

Stir up the will of Your faithful, we pray, O Lord,
that striving more eagerly
to bring Your divine work to fruitful completion
they may receive in greater measure
the healing remedies Your kindness bestows.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Luke 21:20-28

Today's prayer:

Forgive us, O Sovereign King,
our sins against you.
Jesus, You are a King of Mercy.
We have deserved Your Just Judgment
Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.
We trust in Your Great Mercy.
O most awe-inspiring King, we bow before You and pray;
May Your Reign, Your Kingdom, be recognized on earth. Amen.

Christ conquers! Christ reigns! Christ commands!
To him alone be authority, praise and rejoicing, endless ages of ages!

Friday – Week 34

Collect:

Stir up the will of Your faithful, we pray, O Lord,
that striving more eagerly
to bring Your divine work to fruitful completion
they may receive in greater measure
the healing remedies Your kindness bestows.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Luke 21:29-33

Today's prayer:

Protect, O Lord our King, our families.
Guard us we pray Most Faithful One.
Protect us from our enemies and from Your Just Judgment.
Forgive us, O Sovereign King, our sins against You.
Jesus, You are a King of Mercy.
We have deserved Your Just Judgment.
Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.
We trust in Your Great Mercy.
O most awe-inspiring King, we bow before You and pray,
May Your Reign, Your Kingdom, be recognized on earth. Amen

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Saturday – Week 34

Collect:

Stir up the will of Your faithful, we pray, O Lord,
that striving more eagerly
to bring Your divine work to fruitful completion
they may receive in greater measure
the healing remedies Your kindness bestows.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Luke 21:34-36

Today's prayer:

*Today is the last day of the Church's liturgical year.
Tomorrow a new year begins with the Season of Advent.*

O God, the beginning, and the end of all things,
You are always the same, and whose years fail not,
we now, at the close of another year, come in adoration before You,
and offer You our deepest thanks for the fatherly care
with which You have watched over us,
for the many times You have protected us from evils of soul and body,
and for the numberless blessings, both temporal and spiritual,
which You have showered upon us.
May it please You, Lord, to accept the homage of our grateful hearts
which we offer You in union with the infinite thanksgiving of Your
divine Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Christ conquers! Christ reigns! Christ commands!
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