

# CHRIST the King

## THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

Sunday, November 26, 2017

On the last Sunday of each liturgical year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Christ the King.

Pope Pius XI instituted this feast in 1925 with his encyclical Quas Primas ("In the first") to respond to growing nationalism and secularism. He recognized that these related societal ills would breed increasing hostility against the Church. His encyclical reminds the faithful that while governments and philosophies come and go, Christ reigns as king forever.

"The kingdoms of this world at times are sustained by arrogance, rivalries and oppression; the reign of Christ is a 'kingdom of justice, love and peace.' For a Christian, speaking of power and strength means referring to the power of the Cross, and the strength of Jesus' love: a love which remains steadfast and complete, even when faced with rejection, and it is shown as the fulfillment of a life expended in the total surrender of oneself for the benefit of humanity." —*Angelus*  
Address of Pope Francis, Solemnity of Christ the King,  
November 22, 2015

## SHAREABLE IMAGE DAY OF PRAYER

### SOLIDARITY in SUFFERING



A DAY OF PRAYER FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS  
NOVEMBER 26, 2017

A WEEK OF AWARENESS  
NOV 26 - DEC 2, 2017

## PRAYER DAY OF PRAYER FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

November 26

*Today we pray for persecuted Christians around the world:*

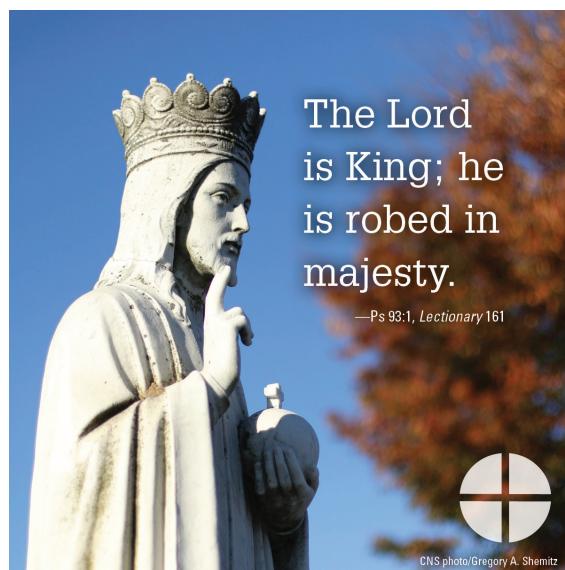
O God of all the nations,  
the One God who is and was  
and always will be, in your providence  
you willed that your Church  
be united to the suffering of your Son.  
Look with mercy on your servants  
who are persecuted for their faith in you.  
Grant them perseverance and courage  
to be worthy imitators of Christ.  
Bring your wisdom upon leaders of nations  
to work for peace among all peoples.  
May your Spirit open conversion  
for those who contradict your will,  
that we may live in harmony.  
Give us the grace to be united  
in truth and freedom,  
and to always seek your will in our lives.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.  
Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

*Prayer composed by Archbishop William E. Lori, Baltimore*

## SHAREABLE IMAGE CHRIST THE KING

The Lord  
is King; he  
is robed in  
majesty.

—Ps 93:1, *Lectionary 161*



CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz