

Give thanks to the LORD,
for he is good

- Psalm 107:1 NIV

THANK YOU, LORD!



St. Mary's Parish



Our Mission:

"To know Christ and to make Him known."

Mass Schedule:

Monday through Friday
9:00 AM

Saturday Vigils
5:00 PM
7:30 PM

Sunday
7:30 AM
9:30 AM Family Mass
(C.L.O.W. Sept. - May)
11:30 AM Sung Mass

Holy Days: Announced

Adoration Schedule:

Every Thursday, 7-8 PM
First Fridays, 9:30-10:30 AM

8 Church St., Holliston, MA 01746

Website: www.stmarysholliston.com

Email Address: St.marys1870@gmail.com

Rectory Phone: (508) 429 - 4427

Religious Education Phone: (508) 429 - 6076

Fax: (508) 429 - 3324

Dear Visitors: Welcome! We are delighted that you chose to worship with us this day. Please introduce yourself to the priest, and if you are interested in becoming a member of the parish then please call the rectory to register. Please also be aware that for generations it has been the custom at St. Mary's to kneel together for a silent Hail Mary at the end of Mass.

Please join in!

Confession: Saturdays from Noon to 12:45 PM, or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick: Any time by appointment. Please call as soon as you are aware of a serious illness or upcoming surgery.

Baptism: The 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month. To register for Baptism Preparation call 429-4427.

Marriage: Please call at least 6 months in advance of your desired wedding date. Congratulations!

2021 ST. MARY'S PARISH GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

"What return can I make to the Lord for all He has done for me?" Psalm 116

2021 Grand Annual goal to cover operating expenses:	\$150,000.00
Grand Annual parishioner support received to date:	- \$ 87,880.00
Parishioner support still needed to reach 2021 Grand Annual goal:	\$ 62,120.00
% of 2021 Grand Annual achieved to date:	59 %
% of St. Mary's families who have now made their Grand Annual gift:	24 %



As the Grand Annual continues, contributions may be placed either in the gold G.A. envelope you received in the mail, or in a separate envelope clearly marked "Grand Annual." G.A. envelopes may be mailed to 8 Church Street or dropped through the Rectory Office Door Mail-slot. The wooden offertory boxes at Mass may also be used.

As explained in the special mailing to all parishioners, the \$150,000 goal will fund staff salaries, the replacement of the Church sanctuary lighting system, the exterior church door repairs and threshold replacements (completed), and electrical safety upgrades and repairs for office space in Sr. Ricci House. Your generous support will assure the financial health of our parish continues.

Thank you for your support of this most important annual collection!

PARISH STAFF:

- Rev. Mark J. Coiro, Pastor
- The Xaverian Fathers, Weekend Assistance
- Deacon John D. Barry, Permanent Deacon
- Deacon Ronald A. Dowding, Permanent Deacon
- Deacon Martin Breinlinger, Senior Deacon
- Mrs. Fran Crespi, D.R.E., Grades K-7
- Mrs. Theresa Virzi, Grades 8-11 and Youth Minister
- Mrs. Mary Beth Harris, Parish Secretary
- Mrs. Paula O'Brien, Religious Education Secretary
- Ms. Mary Sanning, Business Manager
- Mrs. Najat Whalen, Sacristan
- Mr. Billy Hanson, Parish Facilities
- R & R Landscaping, Cemetery Car

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND:

For Retired Women Religious (nuns). Please give generously in recognition of the important role religious sisters have had in the Archdiocese of Boston.

LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:

Automatic Giving:	\$ 3,632.00
WeShare:	\$ 2,472.32
Offertory Envelopes Dropped/mailed to the office:	\$ 7,780.00
Total Offertory:	\$ 13,884.32
Shortfall:	\$ 1,115.68

PRAYERS AND MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday	November 20
5:00	Dr. James Boyd
7:30	Thomas Fleming
Sunday	November 21
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Evelyn Tomacelli
11:30	Megan Schulman
Monday	November 22
9:00	Jeanne Miley
Tuesday	November 23
9:00	Gertrude Klocek
Wednesday	November 24
9:00	Maria Apuzzo
Thursday	November 25
9:00	Thanksgiving Mass
Friday	November 26
9:00	Franco DiCenso
Saturday	November 27
5:00	Joan Brown
7:30	John and Helen Shannahan
Sunday	November 28
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Janice Hathaway
11:30	Dolores Triquet and Dolores Wilverding



THANKSGIVING DAY MASS: Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 AM Thursday, November 25. A collection basket will be placed and funds donated to the Holliston Food Pantry. Coffee and goodies in Fr. Haley Hall after Mass.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Members of the St. Mary's Parish Family,

As Thanksgiving fast approaches, I would like to offer my great thanks to Ms. Saeah Lee and Mr. David Mather, who have respectively provided emergency organ and conducting coverage for our Music Ministry since October 14. They have both done an excellent job maintaining our program at a high level until our new Artist in Residence begins ministry next weekend.

Thanks also to Karen Magrini, Jennifer Schiller, Lisa Dufault, and Mary Beth Harris for their amazing efforts organizing and pulling off last weekend's 150th Anniversary Gala. The celebration was a joyful moment for all who took part, and I thank everyone who contributed to it by their presence.

Even as we mark the Anniversary of our parish, let us remember that above all it is the people who constitute the Church, the Living Body of Christ. It is our parishioners who by their prayers, presence and participation keep this community of faith so vital and flourishing. And so, on this Thanksgiving week when we offer gratitude to God for all the many blessing in our lives, I thank God for all the good people of St. Mary's. May He bless you richly for all that you so generously bring to our parish family. And together may we continue to grow in the knowledge and love of His Son, Jesus.

A most blessed and happy Thanksgiving to you all!

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

God of all Creation: You have cared for the earth and have filled it with your riches. Abundance flows in your steppes, through the pastures and wilderness. You provide for our land, softening it with showers, bathing it in light, and blessing it with growth. The hills sing with joy; the meadows are covered with flocks; the fields deck themselves with wheat; and together they glorify your name!

On this occasion of our Thanksgiving, we as a nation take rest from our labors to consider your many blessings. We thank you for our freedoms, and for the opportunity to contribute our skills, our attributes and our values toward the good of society.

We thank you for the mixture of our cultures, blending us into one people under God. Help us to be a light unto other nations, and to further the cause of freedom and justice all over the world.

We remember those who are less fortunate than we. We lift up in prayer the victims of poverty and racism, and all those who suffer from forms of political and economic oppression. Let the word that goes forth from our mouths speak of your peace, and let us proclaim our hope in Christ as Savior of all humankind.

We pray that you will bless all those who gather here, as we have come to experience your presence among us. Give us your guidance, O God, and empower us for your work. For we claim nothing for ourselves, but return all honor and glory unto you, and offer our thanks and praise. Amen.

- Thomas P. Roberts



TONIGHT ~ EPIC KICK OFF! Sunday, November 21, from 7:15 to 8:45 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. All High School students are invited for Faith, Friendship & Fun! What to bring: Registration Form & \$5 Monthly Dues (all). There will be a presentation discussing the opportunity to join this summer's Mission trip to Mississippi, as well as other EPIC events for this year. Hope to see you there! If you have any questions, or are an adult who wants to help, please contact St. Mary's Youth Minister Theresa Virzi at stmarysym1870@gmail.com.

ST. MARY'S FAMILY IN NEED: Please consider taking part in the Go Fund Me effort raising funds for parishioner Keith Wilcox and his family as he battles severe kidney disease. Please keep Keith in your prayers for healing, courage, faith and peace. Full details may be found here: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/lets-go-for-luc-keith-wilcox>.



ADVENT STARTS NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28!

“THE COMING OF THE SON OF MAN” ~ AN ADVENT MINI-RETREAT: Next Sunday, November 28, from 3:30 – 4:30 PM. Come and prepare your hearts for the season of Advent by spending one hour of prayer and reflection before the busyness of Christmas takes over. Join us in the Church for an Advent Retreat with Eucharistic Adoration. Deacon John Barry will give a reflection on the coming of the Son of Man and help us invite the Lord to come anew into our lives. Refreshments will be served following the retreat.



GIVE A GIFT: December 4 and 5 at all Masses. Once again we ask the people of St. Mary's to help make Christmas truly a season of sharing. All items go to needy families in Boston, and are distributed through two inner city Catholic parishes. Please bring an article of new clothing and a new toy, unwrapped together in a plain bag or gift bag with a tag stating “Boy” or “Girl” and size or age up to age 18. No adult gifts please. Kindly place your gift in front of St. Mary's altar at any Mass the weekend of December 4 & 5. Gift bags only please.



SPIRITED HANDS CROCHET GROUP/ST. MARY'S WOMEN'S GROUP: The members of the Crochet Group known now as "Spirited Hands" and the St. Mary's Women's Group will be holding their annual sale of handmade crochet items in the Center Lobby on December 5 after the 9:30 and 11:30 AM Masses. All of the items will be unique and well made. The Spirited Hands even prayed for the people who will be receiving their finished products. So these gifts will be precious! All proceeds go to help the needy.



COOKIE WALK FOR HAITI: December 11 & 12, after all Weekend Masses. Long rows of tables will be set up in Fr. Haley Hall – tables loaded down with over 2,000 delicious homemade cookies baked by St. Mary's Middle School Youth Group Members. They will be carefully sealed in plastic, 2 x 2. For \$6, you may purchase an empty cookie bag, then “walk” down the rows of tables and select a dozen cookies which youths (wearing masks and plastic gloves) will place in your bag. All proceeds will benefit the poor of Haiti, a deeply impoverished nation recently rocked by a presidential assassination, a major earthquake, and a hurricane.



LESSONS & CAROLS: Sunday, December 12, from 5-6 PM in the church. Join us for an evening of beautiful music and scripture, anticipating the wondrous birth of our Lord Jesus. This year's Lessons and Carols will feature the combined choirs and ensembles of St. Mary's Church, as well as our new Artist in Residence, Scott Ellaway. The program will include familiar carols as well as choral music by Praetorius, Victoria, and more. Bring your whole family and fill your Christmas preparations with plenty of holiday cheer!

ADVENT ADORATION WITH CONFESSION: Thursdays, December 2, 9, and 16, from 7 – 8 PM. Bring your day to a restful end by basking in the True Presence of our Eucharistic Lord. Clear and quiet your soul from all that has come between you and God by making a good confession – especially if it has been awhile. Confession is a healing encounter with Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. The Lord's mercy, healing and grace are given to us through this encounter. In it Jesus also strengthens us to resist future or ongoing temptation. The Sacrament of Confession is a moment of accountability for us and before the Lord. The Lord's forgiveness and mercy is infinite. Nothing we have done or could do can ever separate us from experiencing God's forgiveness through this sacrament. **Confession will also continue to be offered each Saturday in the church from Noon to 12:45 PM.**

ADVENT VESPERS: Tuesdays, November 30; December 14 and 21, at 7:00 PM. Bless your soul with this twenty minute experience of the Psalms, calming your spirit and letting go of distractions and anxieties. The Liturgy of the Hours connects you to the whole Church in prayer worldwide.

FATIMA SHRINE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS DISPLAY: The Xaverian Missionaries will hold their traditional Christmas Lights Display from Thursday, December 9 to Tuesday, December 28, from 5 to 9 PM. Hot chocolate and cookies are provided for visitors. All are most welcome!

THE ENVIRONMENT: Last Sunday, November 14, the Vatican Office for Promoting Integral Human Development introduced its website, <https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/>, whose focus is to assist all people of good will in working to care for our common home and build a better future. There are three tasks that the Office asks of each participant: reflection, action and evaluation. Families, as well as parishes, schools, etc., are encouraged to enroll in the platform community and begin the journey toward what Pope Francis calls “integral ecology”. There are many resources on the Vatican site to help you along the way. Contact Leo Racine at 508-429-7476 or leoracine@msn.com if you have any questions.

FAITH SPEAKING VOLUMES: Every year at this time we make a recommendation for family Advent and/or Christmas books. This year’s recommendation is for an Advent book entitled *All Creation Waits: The Advent Mystery of New Beginnings*, by Gayle Boss. Written in 2016, and published by Paraclete Press (Brewster, Massachusetts), this book consists of 24 short stories about how different animals prepare themselves for winter. The author wanted to convey the “need for Christ’s birth”, and help her readers to understand about “darkness - and hope, fear - and hope, loss - and hope” (Introduction, page xii). There are striking woodcut illustrations of the animals by David G. Klein. The book is available from online booksellers.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Our next Meeting is Sunday, December 5 from 6:30 – 8 PM in the Parish Center. There will be faith, friendship, fun and signups for the December 17 Caroling, Pizza Party, Christmas Lights Trip and the January 15 Snow Tubing Trip. Any and all 6th, 7th and 8th Graders are invited. Bring a friend!

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by John and Maureen Klauser. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. To sponsor the Rose for Life, call 508-429-4427, or email st.marys1870@gmail.com.



CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY: The final Sunday of the Liturgical year, is a feast day that focuses on the authority of Christ. While the problems our world faces today differ from the particular events that inspired Pope Pius XI to establish this feast in the 1920s, his message and call to honor Christ the King in a society that denies the authority of Our Lord is no less pertinent now than it was then.

The Solemnity of Christ the King is a newer feast in the Catholic Church; it was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925. The pontiff was witness to a turbulent time in the world’s history. Secularism was on the rise and dangerous dictatorships were emerging in Europe and beyond. Christ had long been referred to as King, but Pope Pius and the Christian faithful saw the respect and reverence for Christ’s authority waning in the midst of the unrest during the first part of the 20th century. In response, the feast was set with the intent to reaffirm and refocus faith and respect in the kingship of Jesus. On the importance of the public world recognizing the kingly authority of Jesus, Pope Pius XI 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. Our Lord’s regal office invests the human authority of princes and rulers with a religious significance; it ennobles the citizen’s duty of obedience.

Further, if princes and magistrates duly elected are filled with the persuasion that they rule, not by their own right, but by the mandate and in the place of the Divine King, they will exercise their authority piously and wisely, and they will make laws and administer them, having in view the common good and also the human dignity of their subjects. The result will be a stable peace and tranquility, for there will be no longer any cause of discontent.”

Pope Pius XI was hoping for these effects to occur:

That nations would see that the Church has the right to religious freedom.

That leaders and nations would see that they are bound to give respect to Christ.

That the faithful would gain strength and courage from the celebration of the feast, as we are reminded that Christ must reign in our hearts, minds, wills, and bodies.

The feast was initially fixed to the final day of October, the day before All Saints Day. Later, in 1969, Pope Paul VI moved the feast to the last Sunday before Advent, to emphasize the importance of the feast. This is fitting within the Church year. The liturgical year begins with Advent, the season of awaiting the coming of Christ, and now the year ends with celebrating the Kingship of Christ. **See the final page of this Bulletin to learn more about this Feast Day!**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SAFETY NOTICE:

When the children, youth, volunteer teachers and monitors, along with the parents, enter the Center or Annex buildings they must wear Masks and sanitize their hands. This requirement is necessary at this time to protect everyone on the premises during the pandemic. Thank you for your cooperation.

CLOW- CHILDREN K-6: CHILDREN'S

LITURGY OF THE WORD: Today, Sunday, Nov. 21 the children will be dismissed from the main assembly and led to the lower church hall to hear what Jesus has to tell them in the Gospel. Note: Younger children are welcome **but must be accompanied by their parents** and be able to sit and engage in the lesson.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
Sun., Nov. 21	GR-2 at 8:10 AM	GR-2 at 10:45 AM
	GR-3 at 7:55 AM	GR-3 at 10:45 AM
	GR-6 at 4:00 PM	GR-7 at 5:00 PM
Mon., Nov. 22	GR-3 at 4:00 PM	GR-6 at 4:00 PM
Tues., Nov. 23	GR-4 at 4:00 PM	
Wed., Nov. 24	NO CLASSES	
Thur., Nov. 25	NO CLASSES	
Sun., Nov. 28	GR-K at 9:15 AM	
Mon., Nov. 29	GR-2 at 4:30 PM*	GR-4 at 4:00 PM
	GR-5 at 4:00 PM	GR-8 at 6:00 PM

TEACHERS ARE STILL NEEDED!

Sessions: A= Sun. B= Mon. C= Tues. D=Wed. E= Th.

Grade Level	Teacher Needs	Monitor Needs	DAY / TIME Alternate weeks
GR-1A	Filled	1	Sun., 8:10 to 9:20 AM
GR-2A	Filled	1	Sun., 8:10 to 9:25 AM
GR-5D	1	Filled	Wed., 4:00 to 5:30 PM
GR-6B	1	Filled	Mon., 4:00 to 5:30 PM
GR-9C	2	Filled	Tues., 6:30 to 8:30 PM
GR-10C	4	Filled	Tues., 6:30 to 8:30 PM

GRADE 2 SACRAMENTAL PARENT MEETING:

Today, Sunday, November 21, while children are in class at 8:15 AM and at 10:45 AM and on Monday, Nov. 22 at 7:00 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. This is the last meeting before the Grade 2 children have their First Penance on Friday evening, December 3 at 4:15 and at 6:30 PM.

GRADE 2 IMPORTANT REVIEW SESSION FOR

FIRST PENANCE: Review and practice for the Sunday, 8:10 AM classes will be on Monday, November 29 at 4:30 PM and the Sunday, 10:45 AM classes will be on Tuesday, November 30 at 4:30 PM. Wednesday classes are scheduled for December 1 or on Monday or Tuesday in the church.

CONFIRMATION I AND II ~ GRADES 9 / 10:

Grade 9 meets on Tuesday, November 30 and Thursday, December 2 for their third session. Grade 10 meets on Tuesday, December 7 and Thursday, December 9 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM for their fourth session in Fr. Haley Hall.

HELP! GRADE COORDINATORS FOR GRADES 1, 7, 8 AND 9 ARE NEEDED: Our program needs people of good faith to volunteer as Grade Coordinators. Training will be provided. Contact Fran if you can take on this role at 508-429-6076 or Email at st.marysre1870@gmail.com.

Please note that R.E. Coordinators are responsible for guiding and assisting both teachers and students in growing in their relationship with Christ and His Church. Since this is done best by example, all parish coordinators are required to be regularly practicing members of the St. Mary's Worshipping Community.

IMPORTANT CORI INFORMATION:

The Archdiocese of Boston has issued a statement regarding CORI forms: The State of Emergency order is lifted in Massachusetts and one can no longer complete a CORI verification via zoom or teleconference. Photocopies of a license will no longer be accepted to verify at a later time. **Verification must be completed in person.** Please remember **ANY** person who will be conducting virtual education programs for members of our parish are required to submit a CORI.

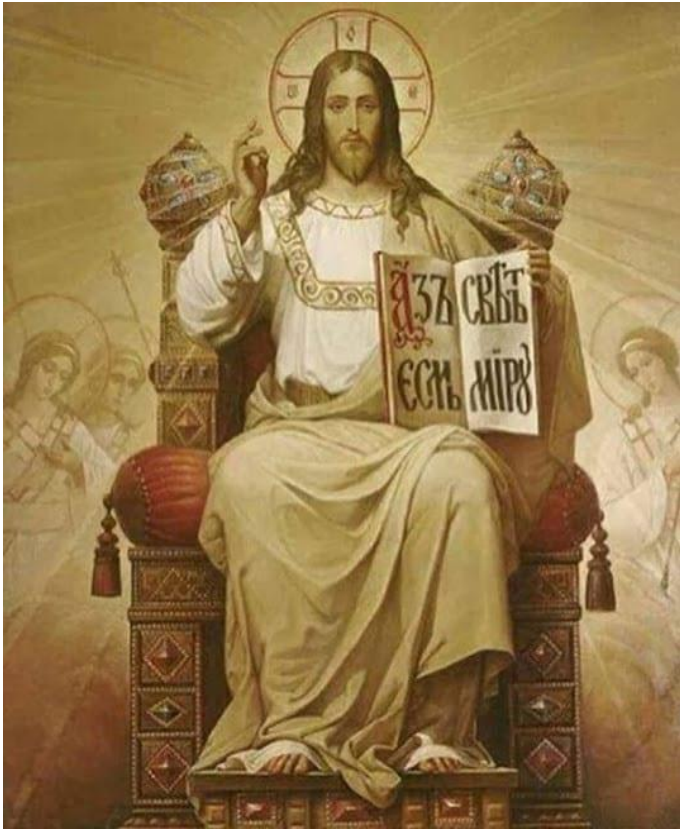


**The Knights of Columbus
Keep Christ in Christmas
Poster Contest**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS "KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" POSTER CONTEST:

The contest is open to all youth between the ages of 5-14. There are three age groups: ages 5-7, ages 8-10, and ages 11-14. The suggested poster size is 11x14 inches. Each poster must be submitted with an entry form by **December 5, 2021**. Council prizes for winners. Winners will enter State Council Contest. **Entry forms are available in the Grades K-7 Religious Education Office or can be downloaded from <http://kofc14224.org/#/kofclinks>.** The contacts are Grades K-7 D.R.E. Fran Crespi and Council Knight Mitchell Liro.





CHRIST THE KING ~ KING OF THE UNIVERSE

The Liturgical year of Ordinary Time is coming to a close and on the last Sunday before the first Sunday of Advent begins we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King.

This feast is designed to give special recognition to the dominion Christ our Lord has over all aspects of our lives. But why and how did it come about? And why is it so important today? Governments were in economic chaos, unemployment was rampant and people in many places were literally starving to death. Pessimism, a sense of helplessness compounded by hatred among the nations, was overwhelming. The festering philosophies of fascism, National Socialism (the Nazis) and communism now spawned people like Benito Mussolini, Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin. Pope Pius XI's predecessor, Pope Benedict XV, had warned about this prophetically in 1920 when he wrote, "There can be no stable peace or lasting treaties, though made after long and difficult negotiations and duly signed, unless there be a return of mutual charity to appease hate and banish enmity." During these times people clung to anyone who offered them hope and direction out of the chaos and promised to put food on their tables such as the dictators. In despair they sought to be self-sufficient leaving God out of their everyday lives.

Many people considered the basics of morality and the teachings of the Church to be out of date, no longer relevant in 20th-century. The new Modern thinking allowed that, Christ might be king in the private life of the individual, but not in the public world. Even political regimes advocated the banishment of Jesus altogether, not only from society, but from the family as well. As nations were being reborn and governments restructured after World War I, their foundations, policies and laws were often being fashioned without regard to Christian moral principles and values.

With all this chaos in the world, the new Pope Pius XI witnessed the denial of Christ in favor of a lifestyle dominated by secularism, materialism and a false hope created by these new dictators. He knew that he had to address the political and economic forces that were crowding out the kingship of Jesus.

To guide the people back to Christ, the pope dedicated his reign to "The Peace of Christ in the Kingdom of Christ" (Pax Christi in Regno Christi). And in 1925, the Church celebrated a jubilee year in honor of the 1,600th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea. The council fathers taking part in that ancient gathering in A.D. 325 had affirmed the full divinity of Jesus Christ as God the Son, one in being with God the Father. Their pronouncement became a creed that was later expanded into what we now call the Nicene Creed, which we still profess to this very day at Mass on Sunday.

Throughout the jubilee year, Pope Pius constantly emphasized the kingship of Christ as declared in the Creed: "His kingdom will have no end." He stressed that theme throughout the year as it repeatedly appeared in the Church's celebrations of the Annunciation, the Epiphany, the Transfiguration and the Ascension. His efforts resulted in hundreds of thousands of pilgrims flocking to Rome, demonstrating great fervor for their faith during the Holy Year.

Thus, on December 11 of the jubilee year, in order to acknowledge perpetually the supremacy of Jesus Christ over all men, nations and earthly allegiances, the Pope Pius XI issued the encyclical *Quas Primas*, which added the feast of "Our Lord Jesus Christ the King" to the annual Church liturgical calendar.

All praise and Glory to Christ the King of all Nations and the Universe.