

**November 24-25, 2007**  
**The Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ The King**  
**Second Samuel 5:1-3                      Colossians 1:12-20                      Luke 23:35-43**

Let's be honest, if you were nailed to a cross, in great pain, surrounded with jeers and laughter....how do you think you would feel and what type of 'mood; would you be in? Many of us (myself included) might resort to hurling condemnations and curses at those afflicting us...and we might be less than attentive to those around us, consumed with our own misfortunes. Thus this weekend we remember the type of KING we have in Jesus...a KING who is attentive to a criminal suffering by his side, so attentive that he opens the doors of Paradise to the man...even while they are both suffering. In a society that affirms retribution, the death penalty, polite torture and assorted ways of 'writing someone off', this weekend is a divine challenge to hear again that God calls us to be like him...and refuses to heed our calls for him to become like ourselves. Like young teens and children who will push and test their elders with youthful behavior...we push and test God...not that God is ever in doubt of his response...we push and test so as to continually be reassured that God has not grown weary of our troublesome selves. With the conclusion of the Liturgical Year (and in anticipation starting the whole story a fresh with the First Sunday of Advent next weekend) we do not hear a story of a conquering hero or revengeful ogre, rather, we hear that our God is forgiving, patient, attentive...the very God which frequently disturbs our consciences and souls by his not being what we want him to be. We want him to be violent so that we can accept our violence. We want him to be vindictive so we can excuse our vindictiveness. We want him to be petty and small so that we can feel good about our pettiness and smallness. And in this, CHRIST THE KING once again disappoints. He calls, by example, for us to once again look and understand who he is...and to understand who we are not...and he encourages us to be troubled/disturbed by what we discover. Hence, with an awareness of CHRIST THE KING as someone who does not lash out or destroy...next weekend we get to start all over again, entering into a renewed conversation with the God who is willing to listen and be attentive to us...even when he might be nailed to a cross and understandably distracted.

Thank you for sharing this final weekend of the Liturgical Year with our Corpus Christi Community. I trust that you have digested all the turkey and fixings of the last few days...and that you are now ready to enter into the flurry of the Advent/Christmas Season. Please note the information in the Bulletin about our Hands Across the County 'Adopt a Family' plans and other ways that you can enrich your OWN celebration of Christmas by helping those in our Sister Parish, St. Polycarp. Next weekend, Paulist Press Bookstore will be present to offer an array of Advent/Christmas material for your purchase...as well, Savannah Chophouse will be offering gift certificates for sale, from which we derive a pleasant 15% rebate for our Building Fund. Their gift certificates can be used at all their restaurants, Chat Noir, French 75 and Savannah Chop Houses. This Liturgical Year has come to a close...a new one beckons...some things will change and some things will stay the same...and one of the most important ones that will remain unchanged is the reminder: you are loved. FKB