

Caesar, the King.

"And from henceforth Pilate sought to release Him. But the Jews cried out, saying: If thou release this man thou art not Caesar's friend. For whosoever maketh himself a king, speaketh against Caesar.

"Now when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment seat, in the place that is called Lithostrotos, and in Hebrew Gab-batha.

"And it was the parasceve of the pasch, about the sixth hour, and he saith to the Jews: Behold your King.

"But they cried out: Away with Him; away with Him; crucify Him. Pilate saith to them: Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered: We have no king but Caesar.

"Then therefore he delivered Him to them to be crucified." -- John xix.

Don't miss the point: Pilate was asked to choose between Christ and Caesar. If he set free the King of the Jews, he would be reported to Rome, and would lose his job. He knew Christ was innocent, yet he condemned Him to death.

The Jews also were asked by Pilate to choose, and they cried out, "We have no king but Caesar." Christ was God. Caesar represented the world. They chose the world.

What would you have done had you been in Pilate's place that day?

Your conduct gives a very clear answer. If the world can get you to commit a mortal sin, if you are going out tonight or tomorrow night to commit a mortal sin, if you think more of the world than of God, you are turning Him over to His enemies to be crucified. If a girl, or liquor, or dishonest money, or any occasion of sin has a hold on you, you are saying with the chief priests: "We have no king but Caesar."

Tomorrow is the feast of Christ, the King. He made everything; "without Him was made nothing that was made." Everything is His. Everyone that is of the Truth heareth His voice. When society follows His precepts, everything is safe; when it rejects Him to follow the world and selfishness, we have war, social upheaval, unrest, banditry, divorce -- all that is ugly. Pius X announced as the intention of his pontificate "to restore all things in Christ;" Pius XI last year proclaimed this feast to honor Christ as King of the world He made, Who alone can cure the evils it has brought upon itself.

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed tomorrow morning from 8:30 till 11:30. During those three hours pay homage to Christ, the King. Offer Holy Communion in reparation for your worldliness. "We have no King but Christ."

PRAYERS are requested for eight special intentions.

Christ, the King.

"Art Thou the King of the Jews?"

"Jesus answered: Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or have others told it thee of Me?"

"Pilate answered: Am I a Jew? Thy own nation, and the chief priests, have delivered Thee up to me: what hast Thou done?"

"Jesus answered: My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, My servants would certainly strive that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now My kingdom is not from hence.

"Pilate therefore said to Him: Art Thou a king then? Thou sayest that I am a King. For this was I born, and for this came I into the world; that I should give testimony to the Truth. Everyone that is of the Truth heareth My voice." -- John, xviii