



## Things to Ponder

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### Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Luke 23:35-43)

Dear Fellow Pilgrims,

Today our journey of faith brings us to the conclusion of the liturgical year and this special Jubilee Year of Mercy. The image of Christ as “king” stands in stark contrast to the worldly notion of “king.” Luke's gospel today portrays Jesus' throne as the crucifix and his great proclamation to the “good thief:” “Today you will be with me in paradise!”

In a few days, most of us Americans will gather with family and friends to celebrate “Thanksgiving.” We frequently welcome guests to our family table — sometimes surprise visitors that very day! In keeping with the theme of the Holy Year, let our hearts go out to those who are “living on the outermost fringes of society.” (*Misericordiae Vultus* #15). Our welcome is not simply a kind “handout” to a beggar, but an invitation to our neighbor to meet the Lord Jesus!

Blessed Feast,

*Rev. Bill Foley*

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