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FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Catholic Centre
Broadcast

Good morning, from the chapel at the Catholic Centre. Today, the last Sunday before the beginning of Advent and the Christmas season, we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King; [later this afternoon, the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong marks this annual occasion with open-air Mass before a ^{large} congregation representative of the whole diocese, in the government stadium. More than 20 thousand people are expected to be attending.] Particularly if illness prevents your being present ~~there~~ ^{with your fellow-Christians in worship} today, we hope this broadcast of the Mass for the Feast of Christ the King may give you an opportunity of joining in spirit with your brothers and sisters in Christ in their prayer and praise in celebration of His victory for us and His Lordship of all creation. In the Mass about to begin now, you'll hear three readings of scripture specially chosen for this festival:
 — the vision of the Son of Man, from the O.T. Book of Daniel: the Lordship of Christ (about the choice and anointing of David as king of Israel in the words of the N.T. Book of Revelations, & Apocalypse the O.T.; St Paul's description of the place of Christ in God's plan for His world; ^{John} and a scene from the ^{Trial} Passion of Christ as described by St Luke. The choir now begins an Entry Song as the celebrant of this Mass, Fr ^{Patrick McGovern} Joseph Shields comes to the ^{John Russell} altar.

CHOIR

Intro.; Kyrie; Gloria; ORATIO The Assembly Prayer for today's Feast of Christ the King. Now comes the first of the scripture readings, which is followed by a responsory from Ps ³² 121.

CREED: After the word of God in scripture and the homily, all now stand to recite together a profession of faith, the Nicene Creed.

OFFERT.: After the prayers of General Intercession, which we've just heard, the second part of the Mass begins now with the Offertory rite. At the altar, the priest receives the gifts ~~of bread and wine~~ of bread and wine offered in the name of all of us expressing our offering of ourselves to God with Christ. In the prayer and action of the Eucharist we will share with Him in His giving of Himself on the cross for us, and in His offering of His life and love to us.

CHOIR

PREFACE: The Prayer over the Gifts for today's celebration. And now begins the central prayer and action of the Eucharist, with the special prefatory prayer for the Feast of Christ the King.

PER IESUM: That offering of praise and worship to God our Father closes the Eucharistic Prayer. And now in preparation for the Sacrament of the Eucharist we will recite together the prayer to our Father given us by Christ himself.

COMMUNION: While the priest now receives the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion, those in the congregation here who wish to share in this Sacrament of the Eucharist begin to approach the altar. In a moment or two the priest will begin to give Holy Communion; and as the people here go up to the altar and return to their places for some minutes of personal prayer and thanksgiving, you who are listening may like to make your own spiritual communion with Christ who is present here and in all of us gathered in His name and sharing His life and His love. Though perhaps alone with your radio, you do share in the brotherhood of all mankind which Christ too has shared in order to give us a deeper

life and draw us into the life and love of God Himself. What we do here in this ^{church} (small chapel) now, sharing in Holy Communion is a sign and a pledge of the communion of all Christians, of all God's people, in the love and the kingdom of Christ.

CHOIR

Thinking back to the gospel of St Luke we heard earlier, we might echo the plea of the man crucified with Jesus: Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. And in recalling Christ's answer to him, that that day he would be with him in paradise, we might reflect that this Eucharist we celebrate is the same answer: Christ being with us, sharing His life with us, in His very act of giving His life for us on the cross. For the Eucharist is paradise already begun among us and within ~~us~~, with the promise of its fullness to come, since Christ's life is not limited and our identification with Him is not by any means complete yet. His kingdom, His reign over all of our lives and the lives of all of us isn't yet fully recognised or acknowledged by us, or indeed by the world at large: that fact is clear enough, but it's just because of that that we need the food and strength of the Eucharist, that we come again and again to share His life in this sacramental way, to acknowledge our need, His sovereignty, and our hope in His saving love transforming us and our world into His kingdom of peace, justice, love, truth, life holiness and grace.

END: After giving Holy Communion, the celebrant places in the tabernacle the remaining consecrated Hosts, and cleans the chalice and patens used during the Mass. Then after a few moments of private prayer, he recites the Thanksgiving Prayer

The Blessing and Dismissal bring the Mass for today to a close. And as the congregation begin to leave the ^{chapel} (chapel) here, we end this broadcast of the Mass for the Feast of Christ the King which has come to you direct from the [Catholic Centre in Connaught Road Central.

*Rosary parish church in
Chatham Road, Kowloon.*