

Homily

Christ the King

24/25 November 2018

We are always told that we should tell the truth. (And it is because of our concern for truth telling that we might be rather worried about fake news and the use of propaganda)

Jesus' attitude to truth is quite astonishing. For Jesus, truth is not a list of true things or true statements.

For Jesus, truth is something you live or die for. *"I was born for this, I came into the world for this."* Jesus will bear witness to the truth, will prove the truth by dying on the Cross. The truth is something to do with our giving ourselves away, something to do with always loving, always giving, always being there for others, something to do with *holiness and grace*, with justice and peace.

Being a Catholic is not about believing a list of truths. Being a Catholic is about entering into the Truth itself, the Truth that Jesus is.

"This is the truth.....I am the Alpha and the Omega", the Beginning and the End. I am the one who was pierced through. I am Truth itself, the truth that will set you free.

So, when you come to church, we don't try to lecture you about all the things you should or shouldn't believe. When you come to church we celebrate Mass together. We celebrate the Truth. We celebrate Jesus; we share in an offering and a sacrifice; we gather around the 'altar of the Cross'; we enter into the mystery; we enter into the peace of the Kingdom.

So, it is not about learning the catechism by heart, passing an exam or completing a passport to faith. What it is about is making a decision, being open to God and to one another, being part of his holy people and celebrating together and sharing together.

"All who are on the side of truth listen to my voice."

May we listen to that voice.

May we all become kings and priests to serve our God for ever and ever.

Fr Michael