

Spiritually Speaking
Father Thankachan Joseph



Kingship & sovereignty of Christ

Pope Pius XI instituted the Feast of Christ the Universal King in 1925 to celebrate the jubilee year and the 16th centenary of the Council of Nicaea. This Sunday, the readings describe the enthronement of the victorious Christ as King in Heaven in all His glory. Today's Psalm 93 describes the universal King and His majesty. The God of Israel as the King over all creation proclaims that "The Lord is king." Christ rules as King by serving others rather than by dominating them. His authority is rooted in truth, not in physical force, and His Kingdom, the reign of God, is based on the beatitudes.

The apocalyptic Book of Daniel reinforced the faith of the harassed chosen people of God and came to importance during a hostile torture of the Jews in the second century BC. The book rises from the sixth century BC, during the Captivity of the Jews in Babylon (the Exile). This week's selection from Daniel (7:13-14), depicts the promised Messiah. In his vision, Daniel saw God seated on a throne, with millions of people serving Him; into His presence came a human figure ("one like a Son of Man") to whom was given (14) "dominion and glory and kingship, that all should serve him... his kingship is one which shall never be destroyed." He would be the King of Kings and the Lord of Glory and His Kingdom would last forever. The New Testament proves that Jesus is this long-awaited King of the Jews.

On the Feast of Christ the King, the Gospel of John narrates for us the Kingdom of Jesus not as a kingdom of this world but a kingdom in the world to come, life after death, life with Jesus forever—or life rejecting Jesus forever. We must choose to be in His Kingdom, or we shall live forever in the domain of Satan. The Kingdom of God is the central theme of Jesus's teaching, and the phrase 'Kingdom of God' occurs in the Gospels 122 times, ninety spoken by Jesus. The Solemnity of the Kingship of Christ wants us all to be aware that we must choose to live with the Lord. Today's Gospel presents the first part of the trial conducted by Pilate, who questions Jesus about His kingship. In His dialogue with Pilate, Jesus implies that Pilate does not understand the spiritual or transcendent nature of Jesus's kingship ("My kingdom does not belong to this world"). Jesus also claims that He has come to bear witness to the truth about a larger and eternal kingdom, to bear witness to the truth about God and His love, about us and about who we are called to be.

What are the points that the Solemnity of Christ King leaves with us to meditate and take to heart:

- 1) We need to assess our commitment to Christ the King today. Let us remember the truth: He is not our King if we do not listen to Him, love Him, serve Him, and follow Him. We become Christ the King's subjects when we genuinely answer to His loving invitation: "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart" (Matthew 11:29). By cultivating in our lives the gentle and humble mind of Christ, we show others that Jesus Christ is in indeed our King and that He is in charge of our lives.
- 2) The Feast of Christ the King reminds us of the great truth that Christ must reign over our lives, that we must give Him sovereign power over our bodies, our thoughts, our hearts, and our will. In every moral decision we face, there's a choice between Christ the King and Barabbas. Whom do we choose?
- 3) We need to follow Christ the King's lesson of humble service to the truth. Christ has come to serve others. Hence, we are called to His service - service to the truth. Servant-leadership is the model that Christ the King has given us.
- 4) We need to obey Christ the King's law of love. "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments." Jesus expects a higher degree of love from His followers: "Love one another as I have loved you." On this great Feast of Christ the King, let us resolve to give Him the central place in our lives and promise to obey His commandment of love by sharing what we have with all His needy children.

Heppner FBLA Prepares Seasonal Pies for Community Support

The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) at Heppner High School is gearing up for their annual pie-making event. This year's selection includes Lemon Ice Box, Pumpkin, Pecan, Apple, Cherry, Berry, Peach, and Oreo pies. According to the FBLA, all pies will be frozen and sold uncooked, except for the Pumpkin and Pecan varieties which will be prepared and baked by the students. Each pie is priced at \$22, except the Oreo pie which is available for \$15. Those interested in placing orders have until November 15th to do so, with pie production starting the week of November 18th. The baking of Pumpkin and Pecan pies is scheduled for November 25th and 26th. To order, patrons are encouraged to contact Mrs. Collins at Heppner High School by calling 541-676-9138, extension 2530, or by reaching out to any local FBLA member. The Heppner FBLA expressed their gratitude for the continuous community support.

Heppner FBLA expressed their gratitude for the continuous community support.

DEADLINE: MONDAYS AT 5PM

DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK, BOAT OR R.V. TO Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation



Your donated vehicle will help provide support to our hospital and health needs of our communities.

- Easy and convenient
- Tax receipt given
- Non-running O.K.
- Non-smogged O.K.

Call 541-667-3419 or 877-411-DONATE (3662) to arrange a free pick up



Mustangs overcome Raiders in thrilling quarterfinal 16-12



Coach Greg Grant gives the Mustangs some directions during the game. -Photo by Tara Proudfoot

-Continued from PAGE ONE
forced to punt the ball away. A good punt pinned Lost River deep in its own territory. They once again put together a drive that got the ball all the way down to the Mustang 30-yard line with half a minute to go in the game. On the ninth play of the drive, the Lost River quarterback dropped back and passed the ball towards a receiver that looked open near the end zone. At the last second, Nick Wenberg jumped in front of the receiver and made a fingertip interception of the ball at the three-yard line.

There were just twenty-two seconds left in the game. Orem then took a knee to end the game and gave the Mustangs a victory by the score of 16-12.

Lost River led every category statistically in the game except for the final score. They had 262 yards of total offense, and the Mustangs finished with 172. They also had over twice as much time of possession in the game as Heppner did, 31:43 minutes compared to the Mustangs 16:17.

Orem was 3-5 passing the ball for 47 yards and a touchdown. Stewart had 2



Hayden McMahon, #13, runs the ball up field as Lost Rivers defense closes in. -Photo by Tara Proudfoot.

receptions in the game for 29 yards and Rodriguez caught the other pass for 18 yards and a touchdown.

Rodriguez led the team in rushing with 55 yards on 10 carries. Hayden McMahon was next with 27 yards and Stewart finished the game with 18. With 17 rushing yards and scoring a touchdown was Brown, and with 4 yards each were Wenberg and Orem.

On the defensive side of the ball, leading the way with 12 tackles each were Jaime Cavan, Landon McMahon and Keaton Coiner. Next with 9 tackles

was Caleb George and with 8 each were defensive backs Brown and Wenberg. Wenberg also had the big interception at the end of the game. With 6 tackles each in the game were Stewart and Lane Critchlow. Rodriguez finished with 5 tackles, Ryan Haugen 3 and Kaden King had 2.

DEADLINE: MONDAYS AT 5PM

Pink Friday sale to start Nov. 22nd

This Friday, November 22nd, the Heppner Chamber is kicking off the holiday season with "Pink Friday Shopping Day" from 3-7pm. Pink Friday is a small business spin on the traditional Black Friday shopping experience, reminding people to #ShopSmallFirst. Local businesses participating include Market 87, Flood Town Books, Murray's Drug, Serendipity Designs, Tacos Hometown, and Blondie's Salon. There will be a grand opening for the new Sage Garden Greenhouse indoor playground on Main Street at Sage Preschool from 3-7pm! Heppner Market Fresh will also be hosting their Holiday Open House from 5:30-7:30pm. Make sure to look for the pink balloons outside partici-

pating businesses! After you finish up your shopping, head down to the Ag Museum for the "Heppner Lights Heritage Park" event beginning at 7pm. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be on hand for photos! Hot beverages and cookies will be sponsored by Pine Gate Renewables. The Heppner Jr/Sr High School Choir will be performing at 7:30pm, followed by the lighting of the Ag Park by the City of Heppner Public Works Department. Friday is sure to offer plenty of holiday fun for families, while also supporting Heppner's small businesses! Stay tuned for more information about the Light Parade in December. For questions, contact the Chamber of Commerce at 541-676-5536 or send an email to heppnerchamber@gmail.com.

ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE: MONDAY 5:00 P.M.

SINCE 1988
SYKES BROTHERS PRINTING
DESIGN. PRINT. PUBLISH

Verna's HEARING CARE CENTER
LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

"EARS" OF EXPERIENCE

Ready to help with your hearing healthcare needs

600 NW 11th Street Suite E-21
Hermiston, OR 97838
P.S. Ask us about our financing options! (541) 371-1900

Call Verna 541-371-1900
Offering complimentary hearing evaluation and/or to have your current hearing aids cleaned & checked, schedule today!



Print & Mailing Services

- * Design
- * Print
- * Mail

Sykes Publishing 541-676-9228

Oregon Department of Forestry Wildfire Risk Map Released for Morrow County Property Owners

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) has published its updated Wildfire Risk Map, categorizing properties as low, moderate, or high wildfire risk. Morrow County property owners are encouraged to visit the link below and review their property's classification.

Those who believe their risk level is incorrect have 60 days from the release of the final map to file an appeal. Appeals must include supporting documentation, such as evidence of fire mitigation or property changes.

Visit the ODF Wildfire Risk Map Portal to review classifications and find more information about the appeals process at the link below.

For more information, contact the Morrow County Planning Department: Stephen Wreccics, GIS Analyst at 541.922.4624

<https://www.oregon.gov/odf/fire/Pages/wildfire-hazard.aspx>

