

#8: *Every end marks a beginning* [November 20, 2011]

The Solemnity of Christ the King marks the last Sunday of the Church's liturgical calendar. The images presented for our reflection show forth the end of the world and the fulfillment of all the work God is doing for us in Christ Jesus. In our celebration, we look forward to the end times, not as something to be feared as destructive, but as the complete inauguration of the Kingdom of God. This is the fulfillment of our hope, when there will be a new heaven and new earth, and all will be one in Christ.

In light of these beautiful themes, we might also reflect on the end of our use of the current words for Mass as we look forward to next Sunday when the revised translation of the Roman Missal will be inaugurated. These last six weeks, we have reflected on many aspects of the revised English translation of the Mass. On the First Sunday of Advent, we begin again the entire cycle of the Church's year, focusing on the principle events in the life of our Lord and His wonderful deeds reflected in the lives of the Blessed Mother and the saints. The new translation invites us to renew our appreciation and participation in this year of grace, allowing the Lord of Lords and King of Kings to become even more firmly the King of our hearts.