

Dear Brothers and Sisters



Jesus was referred to as the King of the Jews at both the beginning and the end of his life. At his birth the Magi came seeking the newborn King, and at the crucifixion the letters INRI were placed above the cross.

INRI is an abbreviation for *Iesus Nazarennus, Rex Judeorum* — Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews. Ancient Latin did not use the “J”, that is why it is I.N.R.I. not J.N.R.J.

Jesus tells Pilate: “*You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the **truth** listens to my voice.*”

Jesus Christ is king of our universes, of our life, in the measure we belong to the truth. It is impossible to make a covenant both with the truth and a lie. We belong to one or the other.

The devil is the father of lies, he was a liar from the beginning. He lied to Eve, he lied to Adam, he lies to each one of us.

He cannot bear the truth.

Truth is humility. The Holy Humility of Christ.

Lies are usually sweet at first, and palatable. But a lie always turns bitter and becomes sour.

Truth is oftentimes a bitter pill to swallow. But truth becomes like honey and nourishes the soul.

Truth is hard to accept because of our fallen nature. This fallen state abhors the fact that we are called to humility.

The truth is that we are not as important as we think.

The truth is to consider others superior to ourselves.

The truth is that in losing our life we find it.

The truth is to serve others, rather than be served.

The Catholic author Walker Percy, in his novel ‘The Second Coming’ recounts the life of one man’s struggle with faith. He sits in his five-car garage, inside his Mercedes, and contemplates a cat. A cat is always 100% a cat. He thinks humans are never 100% themselves. He comes to decide that he is only 2% of himself, of who is really created to be. He wonders how to get the other 98%.

We can recover the other 98% thanks to today’s Feast. There is a struggle going on within each of us, to belong to the truth.

Will this happen for you today? Come to Mass and find out!

Fr. Sean