

# *Saint Paul the Apostle Church*

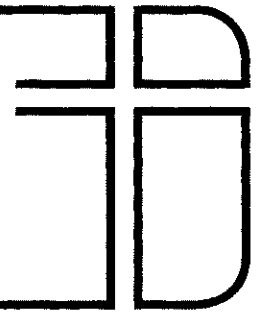
*Conventual Franciscan Friars*

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## **Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Christ the King) Sunday, November 21, 2021**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

***Que Viva Cristo Rey! Long live Christ the King!*** This was the battle cry of those martyred during the Mexican Civil War of 1910 – 1929 and it still is the battle cry today to the Mexican people and all who value the presence of Jesus Christ, Lord and King of the Universe. This is a very new feast in our liturgical calendar instituted by Pope Pius XI with his encyclical ***Quis Primas (On Christ the King)***, December 11, 1925. Even though the theology of the Church and Sacred Scriptures give clear evidence of Christ as King, this encyclical was created due to the turbulence taking place in the world and in the church going as far back as Pope Pius XI's three immediate predecessors, Pope Benedict XV (1914 – 1922), St. Pope Pius X (1903 – 1914) and Leo XIII (1878 - 1903).

All four of these Holy Fathers witnessed during their Pontificates how the secularist and modernist forces of the world were in danger of infecting the church and its faithful. ***Quis Primas*** was a reminder that we cannot shut Jesus Christ and his Holy Law out of our lives.

Our scriptural passages demonstrate how throughout salvation history Jesus Christ has been and is King. The prophet Daniel for example prophesied that one like the Son of man would come from heaven and be regarded as King and Lord (***Daniel 7: 13 – 14***). The Psalmist puts the accent mark on Jesus' Kingship with this Sunday's Responsorial Psalm "***The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty***" (***Psalms 93***). Jesus is called by the author of the Book of Revelation as the faithful witness of the kingdom (***Revelation 1: 5 – 8***).

The Gospel passage from John takes us to Good Friday and Jesus' encounter with Pontius Pilate. Jesus describes for us his kingship, rooted in the truth to which he gave witness to during his entire time on this earth (***John 18: 33b-37***). Let us pray on this Solemn Feast of Christ the King that we too may open our hearts to that truth which continues to be revealed by Christ the King.

As of Wednesday, September 1, 2021, **the wearing of face masks is now MANDATORY REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS**. The high number of new Covid-19 Infections in our County led public health officials to issue this order for indoor public buildings **including churches**. Our Bishop has called us to comply with this order for our health and safety. Thank you

for cooperating with this as you have in the past year and a half. As soon as there is a change in this order, I will inform you immediately.

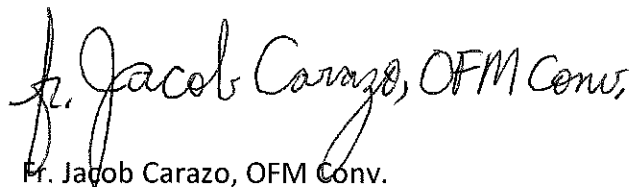
I invite everyone to continue visiting our parish website <https://www.stpaulspismobeach.com> and clicking on the links at the far right side of the page. These links contain my weekly message and any updated announcements from Bishop Daniel Garcia and/or myself, and links to connect you to the livestreaming of **Sunday Mass now being livestreamed on Sunday at 8 AM**. You can view the Mass live at that hour or view any time after that.

For those of you unable to make it to Mass at this time and wish to continue sending in your weekly contribution you may continue do so by the US Mail, dropping it off at the Rectory using the Rectory door mail slot, or using the online giving option described above. In order to keep an accurate record of your offerings, please include your weekly contributions envelope as well as write it on the check. No donation is too small and all are joyfully received with great gratitude. We also have an online giving option available which can be accessed from our website. It is very safe and user-friendly. If you need assistance with the online giving system, please contact our Parish Administrative Assistant Christopher Garza at [admin@stpaulspismobeach.com](mailto:admin@stpaulspismobeach.com) as well at his direct telephone extension **(805)773-2219 Ext. 102**.

As Thanksgiving Day draws near (Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup>), I want to take this opportunity in the name of our Franciscan Family Father Alphonse Van Guilder, Father John Farao, and myself Father Jacob Carazo to wish all of you and your families a happy and blessed Thanksgiving. It is truly a day to express our gratitude to God for his many blessings given to us during the past year. I am grateful for all of you whom I minister to every week and in some cases every day. This is the moment to say that I have a strong and profound love for all of you. Thank you for being such a great joy in my life.

God's blessings to all of you this Sunday and happy Thanksgiving.

Truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Jacob Carazo, OFM Conv." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Fr. Jacob Carazo, OFM Conv.  
Pastor