

Column112022

Companions on the Journey

November 20,2022

Dear Friends,

Today is the Feast of Christ the King. The Church celebrates this feast as the last Sunday in the liturgical year. Next week a new liturgical year begins with the season of Advent. At the end of time Christ will come again. In His Glory. He will come to judge the living and the dead. He was crucified with a sign over his head in Latin, Greek and Hebrew. Jesus of Nazareth. King of the Jews.

When Jesus comes the kingdom of God will be everywhere and Jesus will be the Lord of all life. He will be the Judge of all, by his Father's design. The Father chooses his son because the Son lived our life and knows this life from the inside. There is no need to inform Jesus about what goes on here on earth. He is fully aware. He has experienced both the best and the worst of life here. But what does it look like in the practical sense when Jesus is Lord of your life already, here and now?

There is a world-famous soccer star from the African country of Senegal. His name is Sadio Mane. He earns over \$10 million annually. Mane created a buzz online when he was observed with an iPhone 11 that was cracked. The Twitter world was all abuzz. How can such a wealthy man be so cheap as to have an out-of-date iPhone with a crack in it?

This is how he responded. "Why would I want ten Ferraris, twenty diamond watches and two jet planes? I starved. I worked in the fields, played soccer barefoot, and I did not go to school. Now I can help people. I prefer to build schools and give poor people food and clothing. I have built schools and a stadium, provided clothes, shoes and food for people in extreme poverty. In addition, I give 70 Euros per month to all people from a very poor Senegalese region in order to contribute to their family economy.

I do not need to display luxury cars, luxury homes, trips and even planes. I prefer that my people receive some of what life has given me."

"Lord when did we see you hungry and feed you? Thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you naked and clothe you? A stranger and welcome you? When did we see you ill and care for you? Or in prison and visit you? I tell you as often as you did this for one of the least of my brothers, you did it for me." And if you do this for me then you allow me to reign in your heart. You welcome me as your King. Christ the King.

My friends, it is all in the way we treat others and have a care for others and reach out to others in their need. Whether Christ reigns in our hearts is our call. But He will recognize those whose heart is like unto his own. And so we know the grace for which we are to pray.

Peace,

Msgr. McHenry