

In our Gospel today, Jesus invites Pilate to “Lift his horizons.” Pilate had his heart set on an earthly Kingdom of power, control and dominance - all of which are temporal. They do not last. Pilate saw Jesus as rival, a threat to his Kingdom.

Jesus admits He is a King, but His Kingdom, while not of this world, is in this world and it is eternal. Not only is His Kingdom forever, but so also, His Kingship. He is the Alpha and the Omega - the beginning and the end.

So, where can we find this Kingdom?

Jesus repeatedly said, “The kingdom of God is in your midst.” It is a Kingdom of spiritual values.

*The Preface of today’s Mass lists a few of those values by saying God’s Kingdom is a Kingdom of **Truth** and life, a Kingdom of Holiness and Grace, a Kingdom of Justice, Love and Peace.*

***The Rock bottom foundation** of the Kingdom of God is **Truth**. Jesus says, “For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the **Truth**.” There were all kinds of misconceptions and ignorance about God, ourselves, our neighbors, and the meaning of life. Jesus came to testify to the **Truth** about:*

***God** - not a distant tyrant, but rather a God of mercy, compassion and a love that is individual, intimate, and intense.*

***Ourselves** - we are God’s children - His beloved daughters and sons.*

***Our Neighbors** - like us, they are made in the image and likeness of God and are precious in His sight.*

***Life** - our kingdom is not of this world. We are only on a journey here. Heaven is our true home. Life is hard, it is not fair, it involves a cross, but it leads to everlasting life.*

***Just as our citizenship** in a particular country is determined by where we are born or naturalization, so our citizenship in God’s Kingdom is determined by **How** we live. That is, do we really embrace the spiritual values of Truth, Life, Holiness, Grace, Justice, Love and Peace. Because of our Baptism Jesus invites us to commit ourselves to three things:*

- 1. To pray for the coming of God’s Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.*
- 2. To “Lift our horizons” and to see the “Invisible” in our midst, that is, to see the signs of God’s Kingdom in our daily lives and*
- 3. To be co-workers with God in making His Kingdom values a reality wherever we are, especially by living lives of loving service.*

*Finally, every once in a while, we need to remind ourselves of the lofty vocation that is ours to be Co-Workers with **Christ our King**.*