

## Christ the King

“I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me”

On this the feast of Christ the King the significance of the kindness we show to others is reflected in the judgement of God.

Charity is not seen as a spontaneous addition to the life of a practicing Roman Catholic but the life blood of a living faith.

However charity, kindness, giving is much more complicated than we like to pretend.

Times are when saying no is the most charitable thing that can be done.

Times are when providing for personal well-being is the most charitable thing that can be done.

Times are when charity involves, risk, conflict, opposition.

Times are when charity can only find expression in political action.

To authentically care is to be political

To authentically believe in justice is to be political

To be authentically Roman Catholic is to be political

On this the Feast of Christ the King we shall quote from the latest Papal Encyclical FRATELLI TUTTI

### PARAGRAPH 176

“For many people today, politics is a distasteful word, often due to the mistakes, corruption and inefficiency of some politicians. There are also attempts to discredit politics, to replace it with economics, or to twist it to one ideology or another. Yet can our world function without politics? Can there be an effective process of growth towards universal fraternity and social peace without sound political life.”

Politics and charity can be two sides of the same coin

### PARAGRAPH 186

“It is an act of charity to assist someone suffering, but it is also an act of charity to change the social conditions that caused his or her suffering. If someone helps an elderly person cross a river, that is a fine act of charity. The politician, on the other hand, builds a bridge, and that too is an act of charity.”

On the feast of Christ the King

It is good to recognise that each of us is a politician

Either by what we do and thus effect

Or by what we do not do and thus accept

But we are afraid of conflict

So to quote PARAGRAPH 203

“Let us not forget that “differences are creative; they create tension and in the resolution of tension lies humanities progress”

So do not be afraid

Be Roman Catholic

Be political

And build bridges.