

KNOW YOUR FAITH XXI

Pastor Don Marxhausen

Christ the King – Last Sunday of the Church Year

For many centuries the last Sunday of the church year was a *Totenfest* or a remembering of those who died in the congregation during the year. In 1925, the Pope came up with the idea of a special day of celebration called Christ the King and it was to be celebrated at the end of October, probably to compete with Protestants celebrating the Reformation. Lutherans liked the title so much, they started to name many of their churches “Christ the King Lutheran Church.” In the spirit of ecumenism along with liturgical changes of the 1960’s and 70’s, many Protestant churches along with Roman Catholicism adopted the idea of Christ the King Sunday being the capstone of the church year and *Totenfest* or the remembering of the dead was added to All Saints Sunday which is always the Sunday closest to November 1st.

“The Lamb Who was slain has begun His reign. Hallelujah!”