

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
November 22, 2020

“Our contemporaries have the feeling that prayer consists of saying things to God, shouting and fidgeting in his presence, but prayer is simpler than that. It Consists of listening to God speak silently within us.”
(Robert Cardinal Sarah, The Power of Silence, p.52).

Today marks the end of our liturgical church year as we celebrate Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Christ the King Sunday). Today, I am reminded of the books and movies which tell the tales of kings and their kingdoms. In most of these stories, the villagers were, generally understood, to be illiterate. Due to this fact, each town or village would have a person who would “cry out” the news, laws, or other important information the king wished to convey to his subjects. This person would be known as the town crier.

You may remember seeing the town crier portrayed in various older movies ringing a bell. This was actually done in past times. The crier, either a man or woman, would ring a bell to call everyone within range to come forward and listen. Once the crowd had gathered and were silent, then the crier would relate the king’s message. This is the point I want to stress to you today - the members of the crowd could not hear the message of the king (through the words of the crier) until they were silent.

This point leads me to wonder if I can still hear the voice of God our King through His modern-day criers (religious leaders)? Have I become too used to the noise of world? The noise of the world is a continual sound filling our ears, our minds, our thoughts with so many things. Have we ever sat down to pray and found we could not stop our minds and our attention from wandering off? Have you ever considered the reality that we have become uncomfortable with silence? Is that why some religious activities and worship services are filled with non-stop noise and movement?

Dear family, this stresses the importance of silence in our prayer life. We will be unable to hear the Word of God leading and guiding; for we are too busy with the noise.