

Who is the king of my life: my ego or my God

The Church calls this Sunday "Epiphany Sunday". Epiphany means God has revealed or manifested Himself to anyone who has searched for Him with sincere heart.

Deep down in our hearts as human beings, we are all seeking for a god. A god can be an ego of oneself or a god can be truly God, the source and creator of our beings and of all creations.

In the Gospel of this Sunday, King Herod was seeking for a god of his own ego. King Herod "was greatly troubled" when he was asked by the magi, **"Where is the newborn King of the Jews?"(Mathew 2: 1-2).** King Herod did not want Jews having their own king because he wanted to have all power as only king to rule and to control over the Jews. King Herod pretended that he himself wanted to seek for the newborn king of the Jews, Jesus Christ by asking the magi to inform him after they find Baby Jesus. In fact, King Herod intended to kill Jesus Christ because he did not want to have any other king beside him.

King Herod represents for many people living in our society today, especially in the culture of individualism. The culture of individualism has convinced people that they are their own lives, the masters of their lives and no one should tell them what they should live with their lives. "Just be yourself" is mantra that I have heard very often, especially living in western society such as US where the freedom of speech and individual rights are highly focused and respected and an ego of oneself is strongly emphasized. Surely, living in US is privilege that many people from all around the world want to enter.

However, at the same time, there are so many arguments, competitions and conflicts in the society. There are millions and millions different selves that are creating competitions and conflicts and separations.

Instead of building a wall to separate oneself or one group from others, hopefully, Baby Jesus

has been born again in the hearts of all members of our community, especially in those who are most seemingly forgotten such as elders, the sick, the lonely, handicap and young people in the community. Baby Jesus born in the hearts of everyone unites all people into the Body of Christ so that the community, the church and society that we are living in will be the community of love and harmony.

May we all become lively witnesses by living a life of Christ within us for other people around, especially for our children to follow.

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