

REGINA SOCIETATIS JESU

THE LAST INVOCATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY IN OUR DAILY LITANIES IS REGINA SOCIETATIS JESU. THE FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT ARE INTENDED TO INCREASE OUR DEVOTION TO THE MOTHER OF GOD AND OUR LOYALTY TO HER SON JESUS CHRIST.

1- THE DESIGNATION OF KING IS STRICTLY APPLIED TO A PERSON, WHOSE DUTY IS TO DIRECT THE MEMBERS OF A PERFECT SOCIETY TO THEIR COMMON END. IN THE MIND OF ST. THOMAS, EVERY MOVER HAS TO POSSESS A CERTAIN DEGREE OF EXCELLENCE AND PRIMACY OVER THE OBJECTS THAT ARE MOVED BY IT: CONSEQUENTLY THE OFFICE OF THE KING, WHOSE DUTY IS TO DIRECT THE SOCIETY TO ITS END, PRESUPPOSES EXCELLENCE AND PRIMACY OVER ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL ORGANISM. BY ANALOGY ONLY, THE DESIGNATION OF KING IS GIVEN TO PERSONS WHO EXCELL OTHERS IN SOME QUALITIES, ALTHOUGH THEY ARE FAR REMOVED FROM THE TASK OF LEADING OTHER PEOPLE TO A COMMON PURPOSE: SO, THE ROSE IS CALLED THE QUEEN OF FLOWERS, VIRGIL THE KING OF POETS.

2- IT IS EVIDENT THAT A PERFECT SOCIETY WILL NOT ATTAIN ITS ESSENTIAL PURPOSE, UNLESS ITS FUNDAMENTAL LAW BE DEVISED FOR AND MADE KNOWN TO ITS MEMBERS, UNLESS CONTRAVERTED QUESTIONS BE AUTHORITYTIVELY DECIDED, UNLESS DUE SANCTIONS OBTAIN EXTERNAL SUBJECTION TO THE LAWS FROM THOSE SUBJECTS, WHO REFUSE VOLUNTARY OBEDIENCE. IN OTHER WORDS, THE RIGHT TO RULE, ESSENTIAL TO THE KINGLY OFFICE, IMPLIES JURISDICTION OVER THE SUBJECTS AND NORMALLY REQUIRES THE LEGISLATIVE, JUDICIAL AND EXECUTIVE POWER.

3- GIVEN THE SPIRITUAL CHARACTER OF THE SUPERNATURAL KINGDOM, THE GOVERNMENT OF ITS CITIZENS, OR THEIR DIRECTION TOWARDS A SUPERNATURAL END, IS BOTH INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR. THE INTERIOR