Religious Liberty

Readings

- Locke's *Letter*
- JCM

Outline

- 1. Traditional teaching of Church:
 - a. Intro: Ambrosetti incident
 - b. Christ the King
 - i. Profession of Faith
 - 1. Duty of Justice to God and to Jesus Christ
 - ii. Law based on Revealed Moral Law
 - 1. Duty of Justice to aid men get to heaven
 - iii. Suppression of False religions
 - 1. Removing insult to God and obstacle to salvation of souls.
 - 2. Be clear: suppression directed against public practice. Church does not support forced conversions.
 - a. E.g., St Bernard
 - b. Teaching of St TA
 - c. Religious toleration
 - i. To prevent greater evil or promote greater good, false religions may be tolerated by a Catholic state.
- 2. Religious Liberty
 - a. Origin outside Church
 - i. Purpose: to lower the aims of politics. Generally, political thinkers of Enlightenment, etc, may be said to have taken to heart St TA's statement about prudence: he who bloweth too hard brings forth blood. I.e., trying to hold too high a standard can actually be damaging.
 - 1. Prevent persecution for ideas & religious wars
 - 2. Make politics more effective
 - ii. Machiavelli
 - 1. Goal of politics is not human perfection, but rather attaining basic purposes
 - 2. Chapter 15 of Prince
 - iii. Locke
 - 1. Explicitly argues that purpose of state is limited to care of the body.
 - iv. American founders

- 1. Jefferson
- 2. Madison
- 3. Jaffa's comments
- 4. TGW's comments
- v. America & Belgium
- b. Origin within Church
 - i. Liberal Catholics:
 - 1. De Lamennais
 - 2. Mgr Dupanloup
 - 3. Montalembert (free church in a free state)
 - ii. John Courtney Murray
- c. Dignitatis Humanae
- d. Application