

Reflections for Palm Sunday

Today we begin to remember the mystery of our salvation as we enter into this Holy week. This year will be much different than all of us can remember – as we find ourselves “sheltered at home” socially isolated from others.

Today we hear (or perhaps read) Matthew’s account of the passion and death of Jesus. What strikes me most in the passion narratives is the completely human and utterly shabby circumstances in which Christ died.

Take for example the behavior of his friends. Was there ever such a complete let-down? Judas was one of the specially chosen twelve. One can feel the hurt, almost the unbelief in Christ’s gentle words, “Friend, do what you have come for.” One could almost stomach the betrayal of Judas had the other eleven remained faithful. But one short line tells their story “Then all the disciples left him and fled.” And Peter, surely not Peter. Think of all those miracles Christ worked while Peter was by his side. He raised the dead child to life, set him walking on water, was transfigured before him. Only a few short hours before, Peter had boasted, “Though all may have their faith in you shaken, mine will never be,” but at a distance, a safe distance. And when he was cornered with a jibe or two from a servant girl looking for notice, Peter the Rock disintegrated. “He began to curse and to swear that he knew not the man.” That must really have hurt Jesus. “And Jesus turning looked at Peter and Peter went out and wept bitterly.” And these were his friends, his only friends. The people he lived with and loved. The people he showered his miracles on and shared his secrets with. And not one of them lifted a finger for him.

How does the Passion story relate to us? The Passion is the means of our salvation. But it is more, it is often the story of our lives. There isn’t a part in the whole script that we have not played to perfection. Peter in his pride and Peter in his fall and, hopefully, Peter in his repentance too. We’d mirror the disciples who fled at the first sign of danger, or the scornful spirit of Caiaphas and the high priests, eager to reform others while ignoring themselves. And Judas? Let’s face it, there’s a Judas element in all of us. And who among us hasn’t experienced betrayal and suffering in our lives?

Over the years I have listened and talked with people, they often look at Jesus’ life and think they could never be like him – after all He’s God. Yet more often than not, it’s in the little things in life that we often come to know God.

I was thinking of this as I reflected on the pandemic, we find ourselves in today. I was struck by the way that something as tiny as a virus has had such a great effect on the world. A virus ranges in size from about 20 to 400 nanometers in diameter (1 nanometer = 10^{-9} or 0.000000001 meters). By contrast, the smallest bacteria are about 400 nanometers in size. That’s quite an impact for something so tiny!

Perhaps we might use this time to reflect on the little things in our lives and consider the impact these have in our life and the lives of others. May you find on this day and in this Holy Week ways in which you can encounter God in the small ways of your lives.

Fr Tim

Our Home Family Resource - Empty Bowls Dinner Cancelled, Auction Moved Online Due to Governor’s directive of COVID-19, the dinner is cancelled. With a goal of \$27,500, the Empty Bowls Auction will be have an online format.

The online auction will be open to the general public and will feature donations from local and regional theme parks, zoos, cultural and sporting events, plus gift cards and certificates from local restaurants and boutiques.

The online auction will take place on Our Home’s Facebook Page www.facebook.com/OURHomeFRC/ April 4th through April 20th. There will be five (5) items offered per day for 15 consecutive days. Each item will be featured in an individual post which will include a picture and full description of the item. Bidders will have 48 hours to place the winning bid.



Vocation View: Our Lord identifies with our suffering and offers His for our salvation. When we unite our sufferings with His, we are bound to Him on the Cross for the salvation of our brothers and sisters.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Due to low number of envelopes the collection is not available at this time