SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS Matthew 26:14-27:66

The account of the Passion is a vivid story with a variety of characters and much action. To enter into the passage we can read the story slowly and see if we can identify with different characters in the story. Also any one scene within the story can provide us with much food for reflection and prayer. Keep in mind that one of the aims in reflecting on the passage is to discover the good news the story has for us. Here are just a few general points for prayer:

1. The identity of Jesus is revealed as the Messiah and Son of God, not with a display of human power, but as one who was prepared to suffer unto death to show us how our God loves us. How does the Passion story speak to you as a revelation of how God loves you?

2. Jesus gives us an example of patient endurance and faithfulness in suffering. Suffering is something we all encounter. It is not something that anyone likes but sometimes we cope with it better than others. What have you found helps you to cope better with suffering?

3. As you read through the narrative of the Passion where do you find yourself resonating with a character in the action? Is there any message there for you that is life-giving?

TABLE QUIZ: The youth travelling to Lourdes are holding a quiz in the Ardhu Bar on Thursday 20 April at 8.30pm, to raise funds for their fares.

MUSINGS

Humility is above all god's way: God humbles himself to walk with his people, to put up their infidelity. This is clear when we read the Book of Exodus. How humiliating for the Lord to hear all that grumbling, all those complaints against Moses, but ultimately against him, their Father, who brought them out of slavery and was leading them on the journey through the desert to the land of freedom. This week, Holy Week, which leads us to Easter, we will take this path of Jesus' own humiliation. Only in this way will this week be 'holy ' for us too! Pope Francis

Look at Judas and watch him – fearfully betraying Jesus. Look at Jesus as his heart goes out to the weakness of his disciples. In all sorts of weakness in our lives, the love of God is triumphant. Let him be the strength in our weakness and sinfulness.

Is Judas motivated by anger and disappointment? Had he a different vision of the messianic kingdom than Jesus? Did he resent that Jesus saw through him when he protested at the waste of Mary's costly ointment at the feast? One thing is clear: he refused to accept Jesus as he was. Like us, he didn't see that it is we, not God, who must change.

From Sacred Space for Lent 2017, Messenger Publications

LENTEN REFLECTIONS IN GLENSTAL ABBEY (Re-reading Luke's Parables in a Lenten Context) continue this Sunday.

'Learning to fast, pray and give alms with a Pharisee & Tax collector' (Luke 18:9-14)

Luke MacNamara OSB. Talks take place in the Monastery Library at 4.30pm followed by Tea/Coffee at 5.15pm HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES MONDAY 7.30pm Lenten Penance Service (with visiting priests)

HOLY THURSDAY 6.00pm Mass of the Last Supper. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10.00pm

GOOD FRIDAY

11.00am: Outdoor Stations of the Cross3.00 pm: The Lord's Passion7.30 pm: Way of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY 9.00pm

EASTER VIGIL CONFESSIONS after 10.00am Mass (Mon- Wed) and after the 3.00pm Service on Good Fridav.

EASTER DUES: The Easter dues envelopes for the Parish Clergy and the Sacristan are being distributed at present. If you are contributing by cheque please make the cheques payable to 'Our Lady of the Rosary Parish' and in relation to the Sacristan to 'Margaret Clifford'. Please write your 'weekly offering envelope' number in the space provided.

Thank you for your generosity to these and Thurs other collections during the year.

THE ANNUAL CHRISM MASS will take place on Wednesday, 12 April at 7.00pm in St John's Cathedral. Bishop Brendan invites parishioners from across the Diocese to join him for this Mass. At the Chrism Mass, which the Bishop concelebrates with the priests of the diocese, the Holy Chrism is consecrated and Oil of the sick and Oil of Catechumens are blessed. The holy oils will be used in the coming year throughout the diocese for baptisms, confirmations the ordination of priests and the anointing of the sick.

Parish Website www.ourladvoftherosarvparishlimerick.ie Fr. Des McAuliffe P.P. Tel: 061 324825 Fr. Tom. Rvan C.C. Tel: 087 2997733 Parish Clerk: Margaret Clifford at Church Sacristy Tel: 325288 Office Hours: 09:00-09:45 Weekdays 09:00-12.30 Sunday Mass Times: Weekends Saturday Vigil 18:00 Sunday 10:00; 11:30 Weekdavs: Mon. to Fri. 10:00 Weekdays Lent 17:45 Saturday 09:45 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Fridav 10:30-17:30 **Baptisms:** Saturday 17:00 Sunday 12:15 MASS INTENTIONS Sat 8th 18:00 Tom Noonan (1st A) Bridie, Willie & Michael Ryan (A) Sun 9th 10:00 Michael Leonard (A) Tom Fox (M.M.) Terry O'Grady (A) Ulick Burke (A) 11.30 Tom Corbett (A) Mon 10th 10:00 John & Mai Connelly (A) 17:45 Michael Savage (A) Tues 11th 10:00 John & Catherine Ryan (A) 17:45 Wed 12th 10:00 Amelda Carmody (A) 17:45 Kathleen Tierney (1st A) Thurs 13th 10:00 MORNING PRAYER 18:00 MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER Fri 14th 10:00 MORNING PRAYER 11:00 OUTDOOR WAY OF THE CROSS 15:00 THE LORD'S PASSION 19:30 THE WAY OF THE CROSS Sat 15th 09:45 MORNING PRAYER 21:00 EASTER VIGIL Sun 16th 10:00 Bridie, Willie, Michael & Sarah Ryan (A) John & Sheila Doherty (A) 11:30 Moira Gallagher (A) Kay Quaid (A) Phil O'Brien (M.M.) Eugene O'Brien (A) Published by the Parish Pastoral Council