## March, 2024

## From the Pastor's Corner



- AHOLY THURSDAY, March 28
- 8:00 am MORNING PRAYER (Church)
- 7:00 pm THE LORD'S SUPPER (English, Church)
  - LA CENA DEL SEÑOR (Español, Kennedy Hall)
- 8 12 pm ALTAR DEL REPOSO (Don Bosco Hall)
  - GOOD FRIDAY, March 29
  - 8:00 am MORNING PRAYER (Church)
- 12:00 pm THE PASSION OF THE LORD (English, Church)
  - 5:30 pm VIACRUCIS
  - 6:00 pm LA PASIÓN DEL SEÑOR (Kennedy Hall)
    - 7:30 pm PROCESIÓN EN SILENCIO
      - HOLY SATURDAY, March 30
      - 8 am MORNING PRAYER
    - 8:30 am LOS SIETE DOLORES DE LA VIRGEN
      - 7:00 pm EASTER VIGIL (English, Church)
    - 8:30 PM VIGILIA PASCUAL (Kennedy Hall)

"Jesus said, "It is finished.

Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit."

- John 19:30

We begin March, the last days of Lent, and the month in which we celebrate the central mysteries of our faith!

On Good Friday, with Jesus's words, it seems that the story ends by contemplating Jesus on the cross. But our story does not end, rather it is the beginning of the joy that fills our hearts that will complete Easter by saying: CHRIST IS RISEN!

These last weeks of Lent before Easter are days of trust, conversion, and the beginning of something new. To attain holiness, we go through experiences of trial, loving ourselves as images of God and allowing ourselves to be touched by His presence as we try to say yes to His way of love and salvation.

This holy time reminds us of how Jesus overcame temptation to fulfill God's redemption. The glory of Tabor shows us the hope of Calvary. Christians understand this process of love and self-denial. The way we see progress is not just making things better. Progress in holiness involves trials, difficulties, efforts, and a path of constant transformation (CCC 769).



We live in a secular culture with anti-Christian values. This could be a new apostolic time to show the beauty of faith to our young generations. These weeks before Holy Week and the Easter Triduum are not just traditions. It is a time to live the spiritual works of love, mercy, and trust, to encourage the doubtful, and to instruct those who lack knowledge of our faith.

In a pluralistic society, by taking time to live these days according to our faith, we nourish our souls by living the Gospel and becoming witnesses of the faith we profess to others. When Jesus on the cross declares, "It is finished," he reminds us that life continues, inviting us to be with him, living our missionary vocation. For us Catholics, it is not enough to go to Mass on Sunday and forget that we are Catholics the rest of the week. We build our faith by living this holy time in the family and with those who share our love for the Lord Jesus.

Easter is not magic; it is transcendent. Jesus is not somewhere else. He is everywhere, and through him, all creation is held together. He lives and breathes through his body, the church, and as people of the church, he acts through our lives.

So, it is not finished. It is the beginning of a new age. We belong to the body of Christ; we work with one purpose: to love others as he taught us.

On the last Saturday of March, we will proclaim with the whole Church: "CHRIST IS RISEN!"

"Do not be amazed! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified one. He is risen!"

- Mark 16:6

We will proclaim this on Easter Sunday and every day thereafter. God's greatest promise is that he is not dead, but Christ lives! And we are given grace upon grace through Christ's life, death, and resurrection.

March is an opportunity to walk in a new way and to share with our young people the joy of living the central mysteries of our faith as missionaries of Jesus wherever we are!

I wish you a blessed month of March!