

Lent – the TIME OF GRACE – now reaches its culmination as we enter into the Holy Week. The church calls us to have a closer walk with Jesus in his sufferings, death and resurrection. Crowned with thorns, our Lord is lifted up on the Cross, where He dies as “King of the Jews.” Jesus is called “King” so many times in today’s Gospel but with a slight twist – an attitude of scorn and mockery.

The Passion, reminds us of how, Jesus suffered this cruel and unusual violence. He is the Suffering Servant foretold by Prophet Isaiah in the 1st reading. The Word made flesh, humbly undergoes his passion for us. Jesus is beaten, His hands and feet are pierced; His enemies gamble for His clothes, wagging their heads, mocking His faith in God’s love.

We are angry and upset at the tormenters. We forget that very often, we play their role in our day to day life. We mock, scourge, inflict blows and ridicule and humiliate our brothers and sisters. In the dark noon of Calvary, the veil in Jerusalem’s temple was torn. It was a sign that by His death Jesus destroyed forever the barrier separating us from the presence of God.

He was God and yet humbled Himself to come among us; despite our repeated failures, our frailty, Jesus still humbles Himself to come to us, offering us His body and blood in the Eucharist. As we enter Holy Week, let us once more resolve to give Him dominion in our lives. Let us take up the cross He gives to us and confess with all our hearts, minds, and strength, that truly this is the Son of God.

Fr. Michael



Cuaresma - EL TIEMPO DE LA GRACIA, ahora alcanza su culmen, así como vamos entrando en la Semana Santa. La Iglesia nos llama a llevar un caminar cerca de Jesús en sus sufrimientos, muerte y resurrección. Coronado de espinas, nuestro Señor es levantado en la Cruz, donde él muere como “Rey de los Judíos”. Jesús es llamado “Rey” muchas veces en el Evangelio de hoy, pero algo desviado - una actitud de desdén y burla.

La Pasión, nos recuerda como Jesús sufrió esa cruel e inusual violencia. Él es el Siervo Sufriente anunciado por el profeta Isaías en la 1era lectura. La Palabra se hizo carne, humildemente llevo su pasión por nosotros. Jesús es golpeado, sus manos y pies son atravesados; sus enemigos se juegan sus ropas, meneando sus cabezas, burlándose de su fe en el amor de Dios.

Nosotros nos enojamos y nos decepcionamos en los tormentos. Olvidamos que muy seguido, nosotros hacemos el papel en nuestra vida de la vida de hoy. Nosotros nos burlamos, azotamos, hacemos conflictos, ridiculizamos y humillamos a nuestros hermanos y hermanas. En la luna oscura del Calvario, el velo del templo de Jerusalén se rompió. Fue un signo de que, por su muerte Jesús destruyó para siempre, la barrera que nos separaba de la presencia de Dios.

Aunque él era Dios, se humilló para venir entre nosotros; a pesar de nuestras fallas repetitivas, a pesar de nuestra frialdad, Jesús aún así, se humilló para venir a nosotros, ofreciendo su Cuerpo y Sangre en la Eucarística. Así como entramos en la Semana Santa, una vez más hagamos la resolución de darle a Jesús dominio sobre nuestras vidas. Levantemos la cruz que Él nos da, y confesemos con todo nuestro corazón, mente y fuerza, que verdaderamente es el Hijo de Dios.

Padre Miguel

AREA NEWS

GET CONNECTED! Join Eugene Catholic Young Adult group (ages 21-39, married or single) on Thursday evenings, **6:45pm**, at St. Mary in the Parish Center — deepen your faith thru bible study, retreats, Theology on Tap, and have fun, also! For info contact: eugeneyoungadults@gmail.com or 541-270-9329 or [facebook.com/EugeneCYA](https://www.facebook.com/EugeneCYA). ALSO — **Theology on Tap** every 2nd Thursday at the K of C Hall.

CARMELITE AUXILIARY — The Auxiliary will meet on the 2nd Monday, **April 9th, 10:00am**, at the Carmel of Maria Regina (87609 Green Hill Rd. Eugene), in the library. Questions? Call Luellen at 541-915-5342.

SAVE THE DATE!

MAY 1ST (TUESDAY) 6:00PM

Annual Carmelite Dinner

TICKETS GO ON SALE IN APRIL OR CONTACT FAYE EOFF (541-688-2491)

UPCOMING RETREATS:

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND — The next Marriage Encounter Weekend is **April 20-22 (2018)**, at Powell Butte Retreat Center (near Redmond, OR). Learn how to once again foster **COMPASSION AND FORGIVENESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE**. For more information call 503-853-2758, or at www.rediscoverthespark.org. Additional dates and locations are listed online.

*In the Triduum, we come together to share our story,
to say who we are in touch, bread, wine, cross, fire, word, water, and oil.*

Is “history” the central focus of celebration during the Triduum? Certainly, our creeds are anchored in the historical circumstances of Jesus’ life, suffering, and death, which took place not in some cosmic cloud of unknowing, but in a actual and remote province of the Roman Empire at a time of sociopolitical transition.

But the Triduum — this time beginning with sundown on Holy Thursday (*Maundy Thursday*) and lasting until Evening Prayer (*Vespers*) on Easter Sunday — is more, it is a celebration of mystery, not just history. The liturgies of these days (Mass of the Lord’s Supper, Celebration of the Lord’s Passion, the pinnacle of the Easter Vigil, and the Easter Morning celebration) do not “take us back” their ultimate purpose is not to retrace Jesus’ last hours or catch sight of him emerging from the tomb They celebrate not what once happened but what is *now* happening among us as a people called to conversion, gathered in faith, and gifted with the Spirit of holiness. They celebrate God’s taking possession of our hearts at their deepest core, recreating us as a new human community broken like bread for the world’s life — a community rich in compassion, steadfast in hope, and fearless in the search for justice and peace.

*Excerpt from “The Three Days of Pascha”, Nathan Mitchell, in Assembly, volume 18:1
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