

April 3, 2023

Good Morning!

School Closed this week for Spring Break.

1. Today's Readings: [Monday of Holy Week | USCCB](#)

2. The RE Corner with Jan Heithaus: While we focus on Our Lord's passion this week, who better to walk with us than His own Mother? She anticipated and followed Him during this week. Can we also accompany her?

3. Quote of the Day:

"Jesus has many lovers of His heavenly kingdom, but few cross-bearers. Many desire His consolation, but few His tribulation. Many will sit down with Him at table, but few will share His fast. All desire to rejoice with Him, but few will suffer for Him. Many will follow Him to the breaking of the bread, but few will drink the bitter cup of His Passion. Many revere His miracles, but few follow the shame of His cross. Many love Jesus when all goes well with them, and praise Him when He does them a favor; but if Jesus conceals Himself and leaves them for a little while, they fall to complaining or become depressed. They who love Jesus purely for Himself and not for their own sake bless Him in all trouble and anguish as well as in time of consolation. Even if He never sent them consolation, they would still praise Him and give thanks. Oh how powerful is the pure love of Jesus, when not mixed with self-interest or self-love!" *Thomas à Kempis*

St. Joseph, Pray for Us!

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Mary Prepares To See Jesus Crucified

Saint Alphonsus recounts St. Bridget's vision of the hours during which Mary prepared to watch her son die.

The Blessed Virgin revealed to St. Bridget that when the time of the passion of Our Lord was approaching, her eyes were always filled with tears as she thought of her beloved Son, whom she was about to lose on earth. The prospect of that approaching suffering caused her to be seized with fear, so that a cold sweat covered her whole body. When the appointed day finally came, Jesus went in tears to say goodbye to his mother before he went to his death. St. Bonaventure, contemplating Mary on that night, says: "You spent it without sleep, and while others slept, you remained watching in vigil."

In the morning the disciples of Jesus Christ came to this afflicted mother, one to bring her one account, the other another. But all were tidings of sorrow, confirming in her the prophecy of Jeremiah: "She weeps bitterly in the night, tears on her cheeks; she has none to comfort her of all her friends" (Lam 1:2). Some then came to relate to her the cruel treatment of her Son in the house of Caiaphas. Others came to tell of the insults he had received from Herod. Finally- to come to our point, I omit all the rest- St. John came and announced to Mary that Pilate had already most unjustly condemned Jesus to die on the cross. I say unjustly, for as St. Leo remarks, "This unjust judge condemned him to death with the same lips with which he had declared him innocent."

"Afflicted mother," said St. John, "your Son is already condemned to death. He has already gone out, bearing his cross, on his way to Calvary," as the St. afterwards reported in his gospel: "He went out, and bearing his own cross, to the place called place of the skull" (Jn 19: 17). "Come," said St. John, "if you want to see him, and say a last goodbye, in some street through which he must pass."

- St. Alphonsus Liguori, *The Glories of Mary*

Source: A Year with Mary by Paul Thigpen