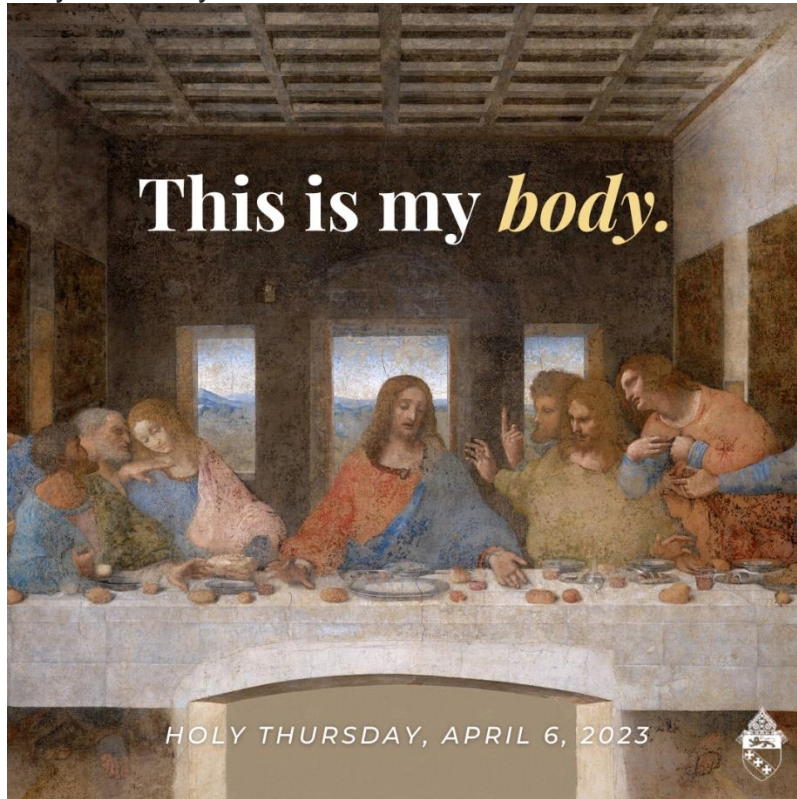


April 6, 2023

Holy Thursday



On Holy Thursday, we celebrate the institution of the Eucharist as the true body and blood of Jesus Christ and the institution of the priesthood. During the Last Supper, Christ offered Himself as the sacrificial Lamb and showed each ordained priest how to offer the same sacrifice. May today be a reminder of Jesus' abiding presence with us through his real presence in the Eucharist. #holythursday #truepresence

The Parish Office is closed today and tomorrow.
No 5:30 Mass or Confessions.

Mass of the Lord's Supper tonight at 7:00 pm
Adoration after Mass in the Hall.

1. Today's Readings: [Holy Thursday -Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper | USCCB](#)
2. The RE Corner with Jan Heithaus: Why was Mary at the foot of the Cross when she could have chosen not to be? St. Alphonsus Liguori has some insights.

Would we have been there?

3. Quotes of the Day:

~"Let Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament speak to your hearts. It is he who is the true answer of life that you seek." *Pope St. John Paul II*

~"The liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; at the same time it is the font from which all her power flows. For the aim and object of apostolic works is that all who are made sons of God by faith and baptism should come together to praise God in the midst of His Church, to take part in the sacrifice, and to eat the Lord's supper." *Pope Paul VI*

St. Joseph, Pray for Us!

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Mary Draws Nearer To Jesus On The Cross

Think of the good reasons, St. Alphonsus urges, why Mary could have chosen not to be present for her Son's crucifixion. Yet she was there, and during the outrage, shame, and horror, because of her surpassing love for her Son.

We must now witness a new kind of martyrdom: a mother condemned to see an innocent Son, and one whom she loves with the whole affection of her soul, cruelly tormented and put to death before her own eyes: "Standing by the cross of Jesus was his mother" (Jn 19: 25). St. John believed that in these words he had said enough of Mary's martyrdom. Consider her at the foot of the Cross in the presence of her dying Son, and then see if there could be any sorrow like her sorrow. Consider the sword that transfixed the heart of Mary.

As soon as our agonized Redeemer had reached the mount of Calvary, the executioners stripped him of his clothes. They pierced his feet and hands "not with sharp but with blunt nails," as St. Bernard says, to torment him more. Then they fastened him on the Cross. Having crucified him, they erected the cross and left him there to die.

The executioners left him. But not Mary. She drew nearer to the Cross, to be present at his death. "But what did it avail you, oh lady," says St. Bonaventure, "to go to Calvary, and see this Son die? Shame might well have kept you away, for his disgrace was yours, because you were his mother. At the very least, the horror of witnessing such a crime as the crucifixion of God by his own creatures might well have prevented you from going there."

But the same saint answers: "Your heart wasn't thinking then of its own sorrows, but of the sorrows and death of your dear Son." So of course you would be there yourself, Mary, at least to have compassion on him. "True mother," says the Abbot St. William, "most loving mother, whom not even the fear of death could separate from your beloved Son!"

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

Source: A Year with Mary, by Paul Thigpen