

May 4-5, 2019

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:29-41

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

Come, have breakfast.

On Holy Thursday, Jesus KNELT before his disciples to wash their feet.

On Holy Thursday, Jesus, in the form of bread and wine, invited his disciples to eat his flesh and drink his blood.

On Good Friday, Jesus allowed himself to be nailed to the cross...and forgave those doing it.

Today, after cooking breakfast, Jesus asks... Do you love me? Do you love me? Do you love me?

Once again, we are reminded of the CENTER of our Catholic-Christian faith....it is the PERSON of Jesus. Not a picture of him, not an artifact or shred of his cross...but the living PERSON of Jesus. It is this Jesus whom the disciples encountered at the Sea of Tiberias; it is this Jesus who cooked breakfast for them and it is this Jesus who, following Peter's three-time denial of even knowing him, simply asks him, Do you love me? Do you love me? Do you love me? As we progress more deeply within the Easter season, our hearts are wrenched back to Peter's betrayals of Good Friday and the non-sensical intensity with which Jesus pursues us....to the point of washing our feet, giving us his body and blood for nourishment, forgiving us, forgiving us, forgiving us....all as an enticement for us to center ourselves on him. This centering cannot be simply a mental exercise but rather, be apparent within the actions of our lives: how we treat THE LEAST among us...without slipping into the clever ruses by which we fool only ourselves into thinking we are doing and living as Jesus desires. Does Jesus need our love? The ETERNAL WORD existed fully before humanity came to be...yet, our Trinitarian God willed us into existence, inclusive of our FREE WILL, and like any mother or father, God-Jesus, hungers for the love of his children...so that WE CAN BE COMPLETE. Yet, our love for Jesus must be FREELY given, it must be INTENSE (not a 'dusting' or half-hearted effort) and it must be PERSONAL. Jesus is NOT AN IDEA....JESUS IS A WHO. Thus...do our actions, the way in which we live our lives, do our ACTIONS speak louder than words...do they show the world...that we love Jesus, that we love Jesus, that we love Jesus?

As the showers of April continue to bring bright May flowers, welcome to Santa Clara as we explore the mysteries of Easter. With Mother's Day coming next weekend, you are reminded of the Mother's Day envelopes, available at the exits, whereby you can enroll your own moms (mothers-in-laws, grand-mothers, etc.), living or deceased, for remembrance within the May Masses. Congratulations to our sons and daughters receiving First Eucharist at the 12noon Mass; thank you, moms and dads, for bringing your children to Jesus' table so they can continue to know and love Jesus more and more each day. Please take a Bulletin home with you for other news and articles of interest...and...please remember, you are loved.
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