

**FR.TK.REFLECTIONS GOOD FRIDAY YEAR A 2023.**

**WHAT A GREAT LOVE!**

This is the second day of Easter triduum. The **suffering and the death of our Lord**. what a great **LOVE** for one **to lay down his life for sake of his friends**. *This says it all for us on this Good Friday. We see love for humanity being manifested in **suffering(Crucifixion) and death of Jesus**.* We cannot think of Jesus without the cross, it is on the cross He achieved his ultimate victory. He **endured and defeats death by dying**. The gospel narrative passion takes us through **his arrest, suffering crucifixion and death**. *we may categorically say we never participated in the historical suffering of Jesus and even start throwing stones to the characters as they appear in the narrative, we may even condemn them for **what they did and what they ought to have done and failed to do***. let's briefly see some of these characters and their role.

**The Pharisees**-These were religious custodian of laws and considered themselves **perfect holier than thou people, are we not victims of this in our daily life by judging others**.

**Caiphas**-Religious orthodoxy and the chief high priest(Jn18:12)(Did this not happen in the church in heretical era)

**Pilate**-Thinking of his high office and preservation of law and order(Do we stand for justice and truth even in difficult challenging moments or we are compromised)

**Judas-Betrayed the master**, here we are dealing with a disappointed and disillusioned personality, don't we have all these in our society(**abortionilists, the terrorist, killing squads**) we all betray our friend sometimes and our ideas too.

**Peter**-Man who was simple **weak and coward**(any of us could have done that(Jn:18:17) we all know our **denials, we refuse to speak for justice and remain silent**. at least peter shed tears over his denial what you!

**Other apostles** -**They took off when the going became tough**. Anyone could have done that and we too take off when **strong winds blows, Sea become rough challenging situations in life. family, financial health**

issues, abandonment, rejections, betrayal, disappointment, hurt will face all these but let's us borrow a leaf from Christ himself **he never gave up. He is telling you and me if you want to be my disciple, take up your cross and follow me.** We are invited too to **drink that cup though bitter it might be (Father if the cup cannot pass without me taking it let thy will be done).** our prayer should be **my God my God why have you forsaken me.** Christ death is teaching us how to be **patient in suffering and hope in the face of defeat, goodness can overcome evil, and sin and that death doesn't have the last say in faith.** Jesus had done everything possible to make eternal life available to all but we have the duty of incorporating **Jesus saving work in our lives until we echo those words it is accomplished (Jn. 19:30).**

Despite his suffering He had too **courage to show his mercy (father forgive them for they know not what they are doing).** His salvation extended even the last minute on the cross to the notorious thief crucified with him. **(today you will be with me in paradise (Lk. 23:43)).** Let us today accompany our lord Jesus, he is **calling us not to give up, the crosses might be too heavy, let us be a Simon of Cyrene to one another and let the goodness part of us take over, Veronica to wipe one another and have the guts of doing the good thus getting impression of Jesus face in our heart, or Joseph of Arimathea kindness to homeless, refugees, sick and those kind generous moral supportive ladies of Jerusalem who were present on the tough journey.**

We have been privileged to have a mother given to us by the generous Lord **woman this is your son, there is your mother (John 19:25-27).**

**HAPPY PRACTICAL GOOD FRIDAY TO ALL.**