

FR.TK.REFLECTIONS HOLY THURSDAY YEAR A 2023:

DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME!

Very special day for the Catholics in the whole world. This is the beginning of what we call **EASTER Tridium**. Three great days of our salvation through **Suffering, death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus.**

-Holy Thursday-we commemorate the Lords supper.

(Institution of Holy Eucharist and also ministerial priesthood.

-Good-Friday-The suffering and the death of our Lord.

-Holy Saturday-The resurrection of our lord Jesus Christ.

The underlying factor in all our readings today is **Do this in memory of me.**

Exodus(12:1-14) tells us of the great **Passover feast day, the night of deliverance of Israelites from slavery.** This was the last supper meal for them in Egypt. This is the day you are to **remember and celebrate. It has to be kept as a festival day for all generations(Ex.11:14).** what a wonderful reminder to keep this in all generations!

Paul's first letter to the Corinthians(11:23-25), echoes clearly the importance of the Lords supper and **the institution of Eucharist. The lord on the night he was delivered up, took bread and after giving thanks, He broke the bread saying This is my body which is broken for you DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.** Taking the cup after supper He said this cup is the new covenant **in my blood whenever you drink of it DO IT IN MEMORY OF ME.**

The gospel culminates everything with Jesus as **the servant of all.** He showed his proper mission on Holy Thursday, **the mission of humility and service,** by washing his apostles feet. He is passing this command of service to them and to us as well in our present day time and all the time. (John:13:15) **if then I have washed your feet you must wash each others feet. I have given you an example.**

We are then called to enter the Easter tridium with **service and humility as modeled by our lord Jesus Christ.**

Imagine Christ the master and teacher **taking that basin, pouring that water, bending down with that towel, wiping the water dry on their feet!** what a humility.

He was very much aware **one is going to betray him, very much aware another will deny him not once, not twice but three times, very much aware all will desert him at the hour of need and be left on his own, yet He washed all of them.**

Christ today is calling us to be available to **one another and be of service to each other, in spite of our religious, political cultural background or affiliations. service must be our important product as Catholics.**

The challenge for all is that Don't we **betray, deny and desert Christ in the hour of need.** How do we defend our faith especially in **sexual, social financial and moral crisis in our churches.** How do we defend the **brutal butchering of the unborn innocent children under the pretext of woman rights!**, How are we handling the getting rid of the society through the same sex marriage!

Despite the challenges we have in our faith and our moral standing, we still have bright days in faith in **you and me following the service and humility of the master,** He is telling us to accommodate and have patience and wash away **the curses, bitterness, vengeance, anger, pain** we might have of the society. He is telling us to that **basin of water that towel, of forgiveness bend down with humility wipe them and dry them with love and service.**

Let us wash all including those who have **condemned, betrayed, judged, angered us this is the dignity of service and forgiveness.**

HAPPY HOLY THURSDAY TO ALL.