

## INTRODUCTION

This week is Holy Week. Let us walk with Jesus in the journey of His Passion, Death and Resurrection in these days in a deeper way.

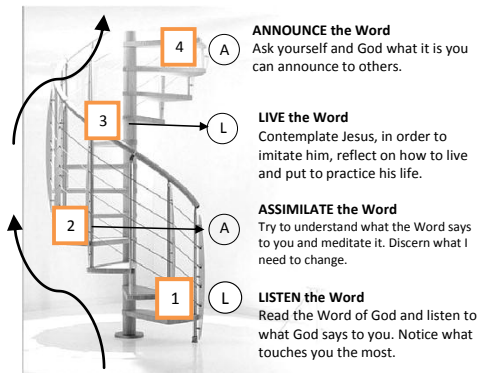
We will go through with this experience personally and as a community through the Word of God and especially through the readings in the Liturgy of Holy Week.

May this experience help us to re-read in our life all what Jesus has taught us especially in His Paschal Mystery. Let us fix our eyes on Him how he continued to form his disciples in the middle of the pain and struggles in His Passion.

### PRAYING WITH THE WORD

- “For ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.” **St. Jerome**
- And let them remember that prayer should accompany the reading of Sacred Scripture, so that God and man may talk together; for “we speak to Him when we pray; we hear Him when we read the divine saying.” **St. Ambrose**  
(*Dei Verbum #25 Vatican II document*)

### DYNAMISM OF THE WORD



## HOLY MONDAY

### Let her keep it for the day of my burial

Six days before the Passover, Jesus went to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> They gave a dinner for him there; Martha waited on them and Lazarus was among those at table. <sup>3</sup> Mary brought in a pound of very costly ointment, pure nard, and with it anointed the feet of Jesus, wiping them with her hair; the house was filled with the scent of the ointment. <sup>4</sup> Then Judas Iscariot -- one of his disciples, the man who was to betray him--said, <sup>5</sup> 'Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' <sup>6</sup> He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he was in charge of the common fund and used to help himself to the contents. <sup>7</sup> So Jesus said, 'Leave her alone; let her keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup> You have the poor with you always, you will not always have me.' <sup>9</sup> Meanwhile a large number of Jews heard that he was there and came not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazarus whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>10</sup> Then the chief priests decided to kill Lazarus as well, <sup>11</sup> since it was on his account that many of the Jews were leaving them and believing in Jesus.

(*John 12:1-11*)

## HOLY TUESDAY

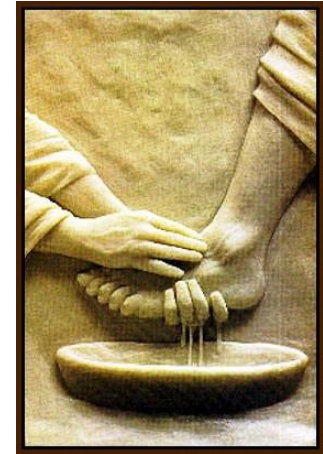
### Betrayal and denial

<sup>21</sup> Having said this, Jesus was deeply disturbed and declared, 'In all truth I tell you, one of you is going to betray me.' <sup>22</sup>

The disciples looked at each other, wondering whom he meant. <sup>23</sup> The disciple Jesus loved was reclining next to Jesus; <sup>24</sup> Simon Peter signed to him and said, 'Ask who it is he means,' <sup>25</sup> so leaning back close to Jesus' chest he said, 'Who is it, Lord?' <sup>26</sup> Jesus answered, 'It is the one to whom I give the piece of bread that I dip in the dish.' And when he had dipped the piece of bread he gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot. <sup>27</sup> At that instant, after Judas had taken the bread, Satan entered him. Jesus then said, 'What you are going to do, do quickly.' <sup>28</sup> None of the others at table understood why he said this. <sup>29</sup> Since Judas had charge of the common fund, some of them thought Jesus was telling him, 'Buy what we need for the festival,' or telling him to give something to the poor. <sup>30</sup> As soon as Judas had taken the piece of bread he went out. It was night. <sup>31</sup> When he had gone, Jesus said: Now has the Son of man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I shall be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and, as I told the Jews, where I am going, you cannot come. (*John 13:21-33*)

<sup>36</sup> Simon Peter said, 'Lord, where are you going?' Jesus replied, 'Now you cannot follow me where I am going, but later you shall follow me.' <sup>37</sup> Peter said to him, 'Why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.' <sup>38</sup> 'Lay down your life for me?' answered Jesus. 'In all truth I tell you, before the cock crows you will have disowned me three times.'

(*John 13:36-38*)



## HOLY WEDNESDAY

### Go and prepare the Passover.

<sup>14</sup> Then one of the Twelve, the man called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests <sup>15</sup> and said, 'What are you prepared to give me if I hand him over to you?' They paid him thirty silver pieces, <sup>16</sup> and from then onwards he began to look for an opportunity to betray him. <sup>17</sup> Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus to say, 'Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' <sup>18</sup> He said, 'Go to a certain man in the city and say to him, "The Master says: My time is near. It is at your house that I am keeping Passover with my disciples." ' <sup>19</sup> The disciples did what Jesus told them and prepared the Passover. <sup>20</sup> When evening came he was at table with the Twelve. <sup>21</sup> And while they were eating he said, 'In truth I tell you, one of you is about to betray me.' <sup>22</sup> They were greatly distressed and started asking him in turn, 'Not me, Lord, surely?' <sup>23</sup> He answered, 'Someone who has dipped his hand into the dish with me will betray me. <sup>24</sup> The

Son of man is going to his fate, as the scriptures say he will, but alas for that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! Better for that man if he had never been born!<sup>25</sup> Judas, who was to betray him, asked in his turn, 'Not me, Rabbi, surely?' Jesus answered, 'It is you who say it.' **(Matthew 26:14-25)**

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

#### I have given you an example

Before the festival of the Passover, Jesus, knowing that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father, having loved those who were his in the world, loved them to the end.<sup>2</sup> They were at supper, and the devil had already put it into the mind of Judas Iscariot son of Simon, to betray him.<sup>3</sup> Jesus knew that the Father had put everything into his hands, and that he had come from God and was returning to God,<sup>4</sup> and he got up from table, removed his outer garments and, taking a towel, wrapped it round his waist;<sup>5</sup> he then poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel he was wearing.<sup>6</sup> He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?'<sup>7</sup> Jesus answered, 'At the moment you do not know what I am doing, but later you will understand.'<sup>8</sup> 'Never!' said Peter. 'You shall never wash my feet.' Jesus replied, 'If I do not wash you, you can have no share with me.' Simon Peter said,<sup>9</sup> 'Well then, Lord, not only my feet, but my hands and my head as well!'<sup>10</sup> Jesus said, 'No one who has had a bath needs washing, such a person is clean all over. You too are clean, though not all of you are.'<sup>11</sup> He knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said, 'though

not all of you are'.<sup>12</sup> When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments again he went back to the table. 'Do you understand', he said, 'what I have done to you?'<sup>13</sup> You call me Master and Lord, and rightly; so I am.<sup>14</sup> If I, then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you must wash each other's feet.<sup>15</sup> I have given you an example so that you may copy what I have done to you. **(John 13:1-15)**

### GOOD FRIDAY

#### I am thirsty

<sup>16</sup> So at that Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified. They then took charge of Jesus,<sup>17</sup> and carrying his own cross he went out to the Place of the Skull or, as it is called in Hebrew, Golgotha,<sup>18</sup> where they crucified him with two others, one on either side, Jesus being in the middle. **(John 19:16-18)**

<sup>25</sup> Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala.<sup>26</sup> Seeing his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing near her, Jesus said to his mother, 'Woman, this is your son.'<sup>27</sup> Then to the disciple he said, 'This is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.<sup>28</sup> After this, Jesus knew that everything had now been completed and, so that the scripture should be completely fulfilled, he said: I am thirsty.<sup>29</sup> A jar full of sour wine stood there; so, putting a sponge soaked in the wine on a hyssop stick, they held it up to his mouth.<sup>30</sup> After Jesus had taken the wine he said, 'It is fulfilled'; and bowing his head he gave up his spirit. **(John 19:25-30)**

### HOLY SATURDAY

#### Remember what he told you.

On the first day of the week, at the first sign of dawn, they went to the tomb with the spices they had prepared.<sup>2</sup> They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb,<sup>3</sup> but on entering they could not find the body of the Lord Jesus.<sup>4</sup> As they stood there puzzled about this, two men in brilliant clothes suddenly appeared at their side.<sup>5</sup> Terrified, the women bowed their heads to the ground. But the two said to them, 'Why look among the dead for someone who is alive?'<sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen. Remember what he told you when he was still in Galilee:<sup>7</sup> that the Son of man was destined to be handed over into the power of sinful men and be crucified, and rise again on the third day.'<sup>8</sup> And they remembered his words.<sup>9</sup> And they returned from the tomb and told all this to the Eleven and to all the others.<sup>10</sup> The women were Mary of Magdala, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James. And the other women with them also told the apostles,<sup>11</sup> but this story of theirs seemed pure nonsense, and they did not believe them.<sup>12</sup> Peter, however, went off to the tomb, running. He bent down and looked in and saw the linen cloths but nothing else; he then went back home, amazed at what had happened. **(Luke 24:1-12)**

### EASTER SUNDAY READINGS

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43  
**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 118  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Colossians 3:1-4  
**Gospel:** John 20:1-9

# Verbum Dei

## GUIDELINES FOR PRAYER

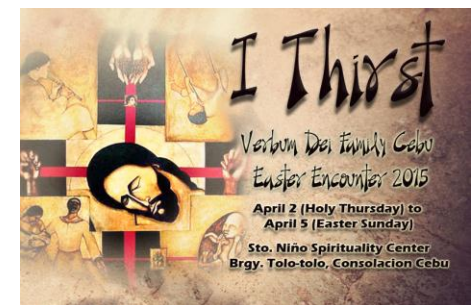
**“Remember what He told you... and they remembered His words.” (Luke 24:6-8)**

March 30 – April 5, 2015

**General Theme:** “I’m with you until the end”

**General Objective:**

To contemplate how Jesus resurrected teaches His Apostles to re-read their own processes as a foundation and method to form and accompany others.



**Objective of the week:**

To re-read all what Jesus has taught you in your life.