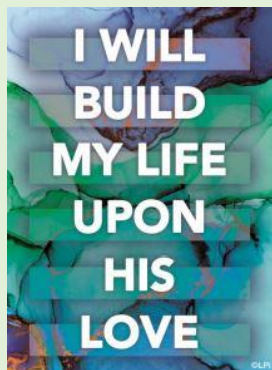




From the Desk of Father Peter

Passion Sunday - Palm Sunday and Us



Today marks the beginning of Holy Week, the most significant week of the year for us Catholic faithful. Everything that Jesus said and did while on earth was leading up to this week, to the moment of the cross, the climax of God's great plan for humanity. So what better way to spend this week than to walk with Jesus through his Passion and Death?

*Let us try to imagine ourselves in Jerusalem some two thousand years ago. Let us watch and celebrate as Jesus enters Jerusalem under showers of praise. Let us watch as he is anointed at Bethany and shares a final meal with his disciples. Now imagine as the Son of Man, our Savior is **betrayed...seized...and brought to trial**. See Jesus as being **falsely accused...then beaten...crowned with thorns...** and led up the hill to be **crucified**. In our imagination, let us keep watch as the veil of the Temple **tears...the rocks split...the graves open...and the dead rise**. Wow! Let us slowly take it all in and let it change our hearts, for that is the reason why we came here to Church today, and if we couldn't be here because of something, we should remember that this is why we call ourselves Christians. No one, however weak or imperfect, is denied a share in the victory of the Cross. Come home to your faith, come home to your church.*

"Everyone who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven." MT 10:21.

During this HOLY WEEK, let us take the time to solidify our faith in what Jesus has done for us. Jesus has overcome Satan, the devil, sin, and even death itself. All we need to do is offer our life to Jesus

in deep gratitude for his gift of the Cross. Jesus' hearers may not turn away from the life he offers us if only we will come to him with a humble and open heart. However, for some of us, our minds are already made up and so we end up missing out on the Good News of his resurrection. Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice for us on Good Friday. Just remember that Jesus loves us. Let this truth penetrate our heart so that praise and thanks-giving will well up from inside us; then be able to ask individually, "What can I do as I live my life day to day in faith?" We can resolve to be people of light taking our faith and trust in God into our homes, work-places, and to all we meet. We can step out in faith and say in God's justice, we are the prisoners set free, we are the blind whose eyes are opened, we are the poor hearing the Good News; all due to the fact that Jesus has freed us from the bonds of sin. May the prayer of praise of God well up in our hearts and strengthen us as we gaze upon the Suffering Messiah on the cross.



*Peace and love to all this Holy Week,
Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu*