

St Brigid & St Patrick

March 28, 2021

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The Passion of Christ (His Death Gives Life)



Since the *dawn of Christianity*, the **Passion of Christ** has been the deepest inspiration of the followers of Christ. His sufferings and death have been the deepest motive that believing Christians have had to follow in His bloody footsteps. What He endured out of love for us is meant to *inspire* us out of love for Him.

No matter how young the person, no one is too young to have learned the deepest lesson of life, that life means **endurance** and only strong love can inspire people with the strength necessary to remain faithful to the teachings of Christ from childhood to old age, and into eternity.

The *four verbs* that now 2,000 years of Christian history has associated with Christ's Passion are crucial to a correct understanding of what the Catholic religion is all about. Jesus **suffered** *willingly* in order to redeem a sinful human race. He was **crucified** in an agonizing execution, along with two notorious criminals. He **died** as a result of His bloody crucifixion. And after His death He was **buried** in a stranger's tomb because even in death He did not have a place of His own whereon to lay His head.

Whatever else we are taught about the faith, we must be taught to **believe** and, as far as we can, **understand** that God became man in order that, as man, He might suffer for us. Since *life on earth*, even for the most peaceful and prosperous has its share of suffering, we must have strong motivation for the patient endurance of pain. There is no more powerful motive we can have than the realization that God suffered and died out of *love for us*; so we should be willing to suffer and, if need be, die out of *love for Him*.

There can be no better recommendation than to read and meditate on the letter, *On the Christian Meaning of Suffering* by Pope John Paul II. The fifth chapter "Sharers in the Suffering of Christ," is a goldmine of clear inspiration for every follower of Christ to be an **imitator** of Christ by sharing in the Savior's own experience of the *Passion*.

Here are **five** lessons to show that Christ's Passion is not only a historical memory but a constant, *present-day reality*:

1. Every believer in Christ in greater or less measure is called to **share** in the *Passion of Christ*.
2. This sharing in Christ's suffering is not only psychological. We are not only to be strengthened in our willingness to carry the cross by knowing that Christ carried His cross before us. *No*. Our daily cross is mysteriously **necessary** if the *work of the Redemption* is to be fulfilled.
3. This necessity, as we may call it, grows out of the need for our voluntary **cooperation** with the graces won for us on *Calvary*. True enough, we were redeemed by Christ's *Passion and death*. The graces we need to be saved were merited by the Savior. But we are now required to cooperate with these graces by submitting our wills to the will of God. In Christ's words, we are to take *up our cross* daily and follow Him.
4. *Patience under trial* should be taught as simply part of what it means to be, and not merely be called, a **Christian**. What the faithful need to know is that the cross is not to be a source of discouragement. It is one of the *marks* of a true lover of Jesus. If we *really* love someone, we expect to pay for our love.
5. We dare not forget that the opportunity to show **selfless** love of Jesus already begins with children. It goes on through life. And it is one of the *glories* of Christianity that it provides its believers with the most powerful motive available to human beings for not only weathering the difficult ties of life but actually maturing spiritually and psychologically through the experience.

Christ's Passion becomes *our strength* by our **imitation**. If we *honestly* strive to walk in Christ's footsteps and *sincerely* wish to be like the Savior in His own patience and endurance, a wonderful *change* takes place in our lives. God made us *weak* because once we make the discovery, we find ourselves relying less and less on our own strength (*which we all know is not much*) and more and more on the strength of the Savior who emboldens us.

Once we have resigned ourselves and **decided** to imitate the Savior in His own choice of the cross, we learn from experience what it means to achieve and endure on *supernatural power*. But we achieve only if we are willing to endure. Success *even in this world* belongs to those who are willing to labor; success *supernaturally* belongs to no one except to those who are willing to suffer, knowing that in suffering they tap **wisdom** and **power** which is beyond their own. Then God uses them.

(from *The Real Presence Association*)

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

(ANY CHANGES, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE.)

Millie Laxdal, John Christianson, Pauline Dusek, Patricia Rodvold, Jane Zidon, Marla Zidon, Rex Grill, Heidi Gustafson, Adriane Wellman, Isabelle Copeland, Tracy Letzring, Kelly Morrison, Jody Deibert, Allison Bleick, Dale Hultin, Bob McCartney, Lonnie Guderjahn, Susie Dimsha, Sherry McDonald, Shelbie Goodoien, Oliver Goodoien, Brent Collins, Merle Larson, Robert O'Toole, Ruth Rieger, Melanie Fischer, Ruth Ivesdahl, Mae Jackson, Carol Smith, Mary Louise, Bernard & Aletha Schommer, Brianna Fernandez, Brett & Rick Letzring, Jane Grazadzieleski, Rick Kilichowski, Donald Denault, Gary Olson, Fr. Finnestad, Joan Kerian

*(Please call the office (701-265-8877) or Deacon Keith (701-460-1051) if someone needs a visit and/or Holy Communion)

ST PATRICK ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pray the Rosary: Sun at 8:00 AM. **Adoration with Confessions:** Sat at 8:00 AM. **More Confessions:** Sun 8:00 AM. **April Church Cleaners:** Ryan & Shelbie Goodoien, Tanya Wieler Family, Scott & Mary Salwei. **Collection:** Dianne & Melissa (Mar 28); Clay & Jim (Apr 4). **Reader:** Scott (Apr). **Sanctuary Lamp:** Michael Dumas (Mar 28); Gerald Dobmeier (Apr 4). **Sacristan:** Duane (Mar 28); Scott (Apr 4). **Rosary:** Mary T (Mar 28); Mary S (Apr 4). **April Spring Cleaning:** all Parish members, a list will be in the kitchen. Please check off when a task has been completed. Thank you!

ST BRIGID ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pray the Rosary: Sun at 10:00 AM. **Adoration with Confessions:** Wed & Fri at 11:00 AM; **More Confessions:** SAT. 4-5:00 PM, MON 5-5:15 PM. **April Church cleaners:** G-K. **Collection:** Michael & Val (Mar 28); Allan & Randy (Apr 4). **Readers** (Apr): Sat-Mike; Sun.-Trevor. **Sanctuary Lamp:** Andy Wehseler (Mar 28); *Vacant* (Apr 4).

Stations of the Cross and Confessions on Good Friday starting at noon at St. Patrick.

Extra Confession opportunities this week: Monday (29th) at *St. Brigid* from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm; Tuesday (30th) at *St. Patrick* from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

Lenten regulations: Good Friday is a day of *fast and abstinence*. If possible, the fast on *Good Friday* is continued until the *Easter Vigil* to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to *prepare* ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his *Resurrection*.

St. Brigid Annual Fish Fry was a huge success! Blessings on all who gave so generously of themselves to make this year's Fish Fry a great event. Thank you!!!

Annual Diocesan **God's Gift Appeal:** Letters from the diocese should have been mailed to you.

The **Knights of Columbus** invites your family to come to our *Good Friday Liturgy of The Lord's Passion* at 5:30 pm at *St. Brigid*. After the service, the **Knights** will serve a *simple soup supper* in the basement.

Bishop Folda will be leading Stations of the Cross at the Fargo abortion clinic (Red River Women's Clinic at 521 1st Ave. N. in Fargo) at 10:00 AM on Good Friday.

Mon	Monday of Holy Week	Mar 29	5:15 pm	St Brigid	+Lou Ann Pelowski
Tues	Tuesday of Holy Week	Mar 30	8:00 am	St Patrick	+Ray & Florence Robinson
Wed	Wednesday of Holy Week	Mar 31	Noon	St Brigid	+John Boik
Thur	Holy Thursday	Apr 1	5:30 pm	St Brigid	Melissa Young
Fri	Good Friday	Apr 2	Noon	St Patrick	Stations of the Cross & Confessions
			5:30 pm	St Brigid	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
Sat	Holy Saturday Easter Vigil	Apr 3	8:30 pm	St Brigid	+Clayton Motl
Sun	Easter Sunday	Apr 4	8:30 am	St Patrick	Special Intention
			10:30 am	St Brigid	St Brigid & St Patrick Parish Members

Stewardship (as of 3-21-21)	St Brigid	St Patrick		St Brigid	St Patrick
Adult Envelope	1705.00	515.00	St Patrick's Care Collection March		255.00
Plate	55.00	50.00	Cemetery		340.00
Weekly Total	1760.00	565.00	St Anthony Cemetery \$200.00		
Yearly Actual Total	24,964.50	10,425.00	St Brigid Gods Gift Goal: \$23,485.48	1,825.00	
Monthly Envelope Building Fund	935.00	1,950.00	St Patrick Gods Gift Goal: \$9,103.15		740.00