

Good Friday - April 14, 2017

This is a "close your eyes and imagine" homily.

Instead of closing your eyes you could look at the crucifix up on the wall.

Now, imagine Jesus speaking to us!

Jesus says:

"This is the day I suffered so greatly.

This is the day I died.

I died:

- For those who are working in human trafficking, the sex trade
- For those who are breaking into your homes and stealing your possessions
- For those who are cheating others in their business deals
- For the crooked politicians
- For rapists and murderers

I died:

- For those in vicious gangs
- For those selling illegal drugs - and making those drugs - and smuggling them
- For those who are bullying other kids
- For those who text while they are driving
- For those starting wars ... and using chemical weapons ... and killing civilians

I died:

- For the soldier driving nails into my hands and my feet."

Yes, Jesus died for so many sinners, over so many generations.

He even died:

- For my many sins
- For your sins

Yes, he died for all *our* sins.

Stop for a moment and recall some sins of your past.

[Pause]

Yes, he did die for all those sins of ours.

But, regardless of our sins, Jesus loves us ... so much.

Can you - can I - even imagine such love?

How can we possibly respond to such a love, such a deep love?!?!?

Perhaps we can pray.

"OMG - your love is so tremendous - and our love is so meager.

Lord, we are going to try to love better, deeper.

We are going to try to think of you more often each day.

We are going to try to talk with you more each and every day.

We have such a long way to go to love as you love."

"Jesus, while your love is so great, your power is awesome.

Please help each of us with your awesome power

so that we can better live up to our hopes,

our hopes of becoming more like you in our love for others.

Jesus, with your help, we can do it!

"And, Jesus, thank you so much for overcoming our sorrows of this day
with the joys of Easter which is just around the corner."

Amen!"