

Daily Mass Homily
28 March 2020
Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent

“The waves of death rose about me; the pains of the netherworld surrounded me. In my anguish I called to the Lord, and from his holy temple he heard my voice.”

Reading 1: Jeremiah 11:18-20

Psalm 81: **O Lord, my God, in you I take refuge.**

Gospel: John 7:40-53

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we continue through our Lenten days, making our journey to the Easter mysteries, our readings have begun to take on a new flavor. Many of readings that we have heard during the season of Lent, give us a number of areas that we can examine in our lives. Are we doing what God wants us to do? Are we following the commandments given to us by God? We are given examples of the type of sacrifice and conversion that our God wants us to experience in our lives. These readings, if we are honest with ourselves, can really cause us to reflect upon our lives and the conversion that we need to enter into.

As we start getting closer to Palm Sunday, Holy Week and the Triduum, our readings begin to reveal something else to us. They reveal to us that more and more of the religious leaders are starting to have a greater problem with what Jesus is teaching and doing. They want to put a stop to him and his words. We hear in John’s gospel today that there were some that even wanted to arrest him.

We are getting closer to the time in which we will journey with Jesus from his arrest all the way to his crucifixion and death. (As we know, though, the story does not end there, death is never the end, more on that later.) In our Responsorial Psalm today we hear words that give us comfort as we make this journey with Jesus; “O Lord, my God, in you I take refuge.” The words of this psalm would be familiar to Jesus and I am sure that they also gave him peace. Jesus shows us that we can take refuge in the Lord and that he will watch over and protect us.

Let us take these words and draw them deep into our hearts as we continue to not only make our way to the joy of Easter and the Resurrection, but also as we make our way through our own passion and death during these uncertain times. Let us trust in the Lord and take refuge in him.