

# Daily Message from Msgr. Dennis...

Wednesday, April 8, 2020



Dear Parishioners:

**Wednesday of Holy Week, April 8, 2020**      **Readings of the Day: Is 50:4-9a Psalm 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34 Mt 26:14-25**

There are certain names that bring treachery to mind: Benedict Arnold, Vidkun Quisling (who was he? Look him up) and, most notoriously of all, Judas Iscariot. Benedict Arnold and Vidkun Quisling are seen as greedy, self-serving traitors to their people who had the chance to act nobly but chose the path of despicable perdition. Judas, on the other hand – well, I’ve always kind of felt sorry for Judas. It was almost like he was set up to do what he did (cf Lk 22:21-22;). After all, didn’t Jesus have to be betrayed in order that the passion and crucifixion be endured so that the resurrection take place for the salvation of humankind? Besides, *every single one* of the Apostles betrayed Jesus at His passion, Peter being one of the worst offenders. We know that only John came back to the foot of the cross. The problem with Judas – who seemed sincerely contrite at his betrayal of Christ – was that unlike the others he despaired of God’s mercy and forgiveness and went out and hanged himself. Had he returned to the band of the Apostles after his nefarious deed could any of them have rejected him for doing what they themselves had done? Sadly, Judas did not return. In our Christian lives we betray Christ regularly by our sins despite the fact we pledge Him our love and loyalty. However, we become aware of our foolishness and return to Him every time our conscience bothers us and leads us to an Act of Contrition, the penitential rite of Mass and going to confession. Our sinfulness is always before us but so is our begging for mercy (Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy), acknowledgement of the salvation won for us by Christ (Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us) and our unworthiness of but faith in God’s redeeming love (Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed). As we enter these days of the Sacred Triduum let us keep our hearts open to the saving love of God. As an old Baptist Hymn proclaims: “Would you be free from your burden of sin, There’s power in the blood, power in the blood. Would you o’er evil a victory win, there’s power in the blood of the Lamb! There is power, power, wondering working power in the blood of the Lamb! There is power, power wonder working power, power in the precious blood of the Lamb!” (And don’t be too hard on Judas)

THERE IS NO 8:00 A.M. MASS TOMORROW, HOLY THURSDAY. The only Mass will be the Mass of the Lord’s Supper, livestreamed from our parish church at 7:30 p.m. We think we’ve got the details worked out for a smooth livestreaming.

## A Little Humor:

1. I’m so excited – it’s time to take out the garbage. What should I wear?
2. I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to Puerto Backyardo. I’m getting tired of La Livingroom.
3. Day six of Homeschooling: My child just said “I hope I don’t have the same teacher next year.” I think I’m offended.
4. Better six feet apart than six feet under!

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