A Journey with Jesus!

PART THREE OF THREE (The Gold Book)

Jesus' Redemptive Victory

"From the Bible to the Holy Land and into God's Book of Life."



Including the "Twenty Proofs" that

Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the Messiah, God made Flesh!

By: Mr. Guy Murphy O.P. (Lay Dominican) March 19, 2018

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2000 years ago, Andrew and John asked Jesus. "Where do you live?" Jesus replied; "Come and see." (John 1:39) They went, they saw, they stayed with Jesus and the world was changed. They stayed because they found with Jesus what fulfilled the deepest longing of the human heart. Perhaps we have the same question as Andrew and John. "Where do You live?" For the next several days we are going to respond to Jesus' invitation and "Come and see" for ourselves.

The Journey is split up into three books.

The 'Blue Book #1', that reviews our origins and the Old Testament and is a good preparation before encountering God in the Holy land.

The 'Red Book #2', that follows Jesus beginnings of His earthly journey that started out in the womb of Mother Mary in Nazareth, then down to Bethlehem and His early life. Then over to the Jordan River where He was baptized and then on to the Galilee area where Jesus spent much of His time evangelizing.

The 'Gold Book #3', that follows Jesus to the culmination of His mission in Jerusalem. Jesus redemptive victory for mankind! We will follow the Palm Sunday entry into Jerusalem, His Last Supper, Agony in Garden, Carrying the Cross, Calvary where He died, the tomb in which He rose, Mount of Olives where He ascended, Pentecost Room where the Holy Spirit carried on the work through Jesus' Church.

Journey with Jesus part 3 of 3

DEDICATION

I dedicate this book to the Blessed Virgin Mary the Holy Mother of God. I am eternally grateful that She took my confused and ungrateful soul and truly "Magnified the Lord" Jesus Christ for me (Luke 1:46).

THANKSGIVING

Thank you, Jesus, for letting me journey with You!

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INTRODUCTION TO BOOK #3

Blue Book #1 gave a summary of our 4000-year human history. The historic journey highlighted our relationship with God. Once again, encountering Jesus Christ on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land is similar to experiencing a rose. Looking at the beauty of a red rose and smelling its sweet fragrance and feeling its soft texture is appreciated more when we examine the stem, the roots and even the thorns.

Our 4000-year history before Jesus, proves that we are created good but inclined to evil. God invites us to be His children. Whether God blesses us or threatens us or even chastises us, we still, as a people, spurn His great love and plunge into various forms of wickedness.

Instead of wiping us out, God promise to establish a new covenant with us humans that will be even better. It will be like that of a Bride to God. He promises to send a Redeemer that will pay the great price for all the offenses done to God, free us from the slavery of the Devil and then teach us how to live as children of God and even **Brides of God**.

Red Book #2 starts off with God Himself coming into the world as a Man in the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus' Journey starts inside the womb of the Blessed Mother and continues throughout Jesus' preaching ministry in Galilee.

Book #3 "The Gold Book" Highlights Jesus' great redemptive victory!

This God-man will pay the price, teach us and give us strength to overcome our evil inclinations so any person in the one human family can become children of God and even Brides of God if they have the good will to do so.

As we journey with Jesus, we will get to know Him more and when you know Jesus, one can't help but love Him. When one loves Jesus, even the obstacles become a great joy.

Chapter 39: Sabastia – King Herod –



Death of St. John the Baptist

Samaria - Sebastia is less than 30 miles north of Jerusalem and home to a number of important archaeological sites. The ruins dominate the hillside and comprise remains from six successive cultures dating back more than 5,000 years: Canaanite, Israelite, Hellenistic, Herodian, Roman and Byzantine.

The city was destroyed by Alexander the Great in 331 BC and was destroyed again by John Hyrcanus in 108 BC. Pompey rebuilt the town in the year 63 BC. In 27 BC, Augustus Caesar gave it to Herod the Great. Herod expanded and renovated the city, and named it "Sebaste", meaning "Augustus", in the Emperor's honor. Herod the Great had his sons Alexander and Aristobulus brought to Sebaste and strangled in 7 BC after a trial in Berytus and with the approbation of Caesar.

Traditionally, King Herod's son beheaded St. John the Baptist here.

The Death of John the Baptist (Matthew 14:1-12)

"At that time Herod the ruler heard reports about Jesus; 2 and he said to his servants, "This is John the Baptist; he has been raised from the dead, and for this reason these powers are at work in him." 3 For Herod had arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, 4 because John had been telling him, "It is not lawful for you to have her." 5 Though Herod wanted to put him to death, he feared the crowd, because they regarded him as a prophet.

6 But when Herod's birthday came, the daughter of Herodias danced before the company, and she pleased Herod 7 so much that he promised on oath to grant her whatever she might ask. 8 Prompted by her mother, she said, "Give me the head of John the Baptist here on a platter." 9 The king was grieved, yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he commanded it to be given; 10 he sent and had John beheaded in the prison. 11 The head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, who brought it to her mother.

12 His disciples came and took the body and buried it; then they went and told Jesus." **The word of the Lord.**

Chapter 40: Jacob's Well



A universal call to repentance & love

Recall Jacob's Well is a relic dating back to Genesis 33, 2000 years before Jesus. It is a fitting encounter for Jesus ministry. Recall from Book #1 that Jacob had 12 sons that formed the twelve tribes of Israel. After King Solomon's time when he brought in all the false gods into the Holy Land, the 12 tribes broke up, never to be reunited. The two tribes of Judah and Benjamin, known as the Kingdom of Judah or Southern Kingdom had their capital in Jerusalem. The ten tribes were called the Kingdom of Israel or the Northern Kingdom and had their capital here twenty-five to thirty miles north of Jerusalem in a place known as Samaria. Jesus Christ is going to start the reuniting process of not only the divided "blood brothers", but the entire human race/family. The Living Water of the Holy Spirit will be the Love that unites everyone.

Jesus and the Woman of Samaria

4 Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, "Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John" 2 —although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized— 3 he left Judea and started back to Galilee. 4 But he had to go through Samaria. 5 So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

7 A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." 8 (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." 11 The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? 12 Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" 13 Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 14 but those who drink of the water that I will give them will

never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." 15 The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

16 Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." 17 The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; 18 for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" 19 The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. 20 Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." 21 Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The Word of the Lord!

Since the time of Cain and Able, the worship of God was always performed with a sacrifice. The Jewish people only sacrificed in the Temple at Jerusalem. The Northern Kingdom or Israelites did their sacrifice on a mountain here in Samaria. The sacrifice of the Mass will replace both. It will be offered all over the world in Spirit and in Truth.

- 25 The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." 26 Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."
- 27 Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" 28 Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 29 "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" 30 They left the city and were on their way to him.
- 31 Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." 32 But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." 33 So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" 34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to

do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. 35 Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. 36 The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. 37 For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' 38 I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

39 Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." 40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. 41 And many more believed because of his word. 42 They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world." **The Word of the Lord!**

Spiritual Connection: Jacob had to work very hard to dig this well and 4000 years later, we can take a drink of its water. We have to work very hard at building up the Kingdom of God so people in the future can drink the living water or be filled with the Holy Spirit and have everlasting Life.

Upstairs, they have a bone relic of St. Lucy, who was the woman at the well who eventually became Christian and a saint. There is also a relic of St. John the Baptist, in the chalice reliquary.

Chapter 41: Our Father Church



"Relationship with God"

In this beautiful secluded place overlooking ancient Jerusalem is where Jesus Christ taught the disciples how to pray the "Our Father".

Picture of cave

Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman will emphasize the word "Our" in Our Father, not "my" Father. Jesus Christ is restoring all people to the image and likeness of God. We are all brothers and sisters. This prayer shall unite all Christians till the end of time.

This is also where Jesus Christ would meet and teach the other disciples and Nicodemus as well (John 3). This dialog gives rise to the famous question that some of our separated brethren uses, "Are you born again?" (John 3:3) However if you take it in context with John 3:5, Jesus said you must be born again of water and the Spirit. Clearly, Jesus is talking about Baptism, when we are born again into Children of God (See Book #2, Chapter 22). Nicodemus would meet with Jesus here in secret by night because he was afraid of the Jews. Eventually when the chips were down and Jesus died on the Cross, Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea boldly helped to bury Jesus.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church is split up into four parts,

- 1. What a Christian Believes or The Profession of Faith (The Apostles Creed).
- 2. How a Christian Worships God. The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (The Seven Sacraments)
- 3. How Christians live in the world. A Life in Christ (The Ten Commandments and Eight Beatitudes).
- 4. A Christians Life of Prayer. (The Our Father). This section expounds upon the Our Father and explains and describes its meaning over one hundred and six times spanning from CCC section #2759 to CCC section #2865.

The Lord's Prayer is the most perfect of prayers.... In it we ask, not only for all the things we can rightly desire, but also in the sequence that

they should be desired. This prayer not only teaches us to ask for things, but also in what order we should desire them (CCC #2763).

In this church we will see the Our Father prayer presented in over one hundred languages.

Three of the many points we will notice here:

1. The word Father describes the relationship with Our God that God wants. We are called to be His children. Before Jesus. they would not even mention God's name. Imagine that type of relationship where a child would not say YAHWEY but YAW Y. Jesus' teaching is very new and radical and He even used the word "Abba", and that means daddy.



As we discern our behavior, there is always a balance between disrespectful and being so apparently reverent that we are actually cold and distant.

Jesus Christ called us to love Heavenly Father with all our hearts, minds, souls and bodies. (Mark 12:33) Love must make up the standard for our behavior. Love is not disrespectful, nor cold and distant.

Today the Muslims claim their lineage to Ishmael the slave born son of Abraham. The Muslims do not have a father to son relationship with God but a slave to Master relationship as Ismael had with Abraham. The Muslims will not dare call God their Father

- The covenant went to Isaac, the natural born son. The Jews and Jesus gets their lineage from Isaac. Today, Christians sometimes take this special relationship, of God as a loving Father to their children, for granted.
- 2. Forgiveness is at the heart of Christianity and is necessary for peace in our hearts and in the world. Forgiveness is not at the heart of any other major religion.
- 3. Give us this day our **daily** bread. The Latin Vulgate version of Matthew's prayer states, "give us this day our Super-substantial Bread," (Describing the Eucharist) Saint John Paul II mentions that the Latin Vulgate captures the only time that the word Super-substantial is used in scriptures. It is recorded on the Latin plaque of the Our Father here at this place.

In the cave, it is good to sing the "Our Father".

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and **forgive** us our trespasses, as we forgive those Who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Back in the court yard before leaving:

It is good to look around at the beautiful trees that God created. Look up at the vastness of the sky with faith that God is all powerful and omni-presence. In light of what Jesus Christ, His Only Begotten Son taught here, with great confidence lets say;

DADDY, I LOVE YOU!

DADDY, HELP ME TO LOVE YOU MORE!

Ben: I felt the power of that prayer right in my heart!

Praise the Lord.

In Christianity, God is our Father, Mary is our Mother, Jesus is the firstborn as our brother and the universal or "catholic" Church is our home. Amen.

Chapter 42: Jerusalem



A View of the Ancient City

On top of the Mount of Olives good place to get a good look at ancient Jerusalem.



Jesus Christ called it the "City of the Great King".

Justice and Peace meets in Jerusalem.

In this city is where King Solomon built a Temple that housed the Ark of the Covenant. This is the spot where sacrifices were made to offer worship to God.

As the parting of the Red Sea foreshadowed our baptism, the manna in the desert foreshadowed the Eucharist and the promise Land foreshadowed Heaven, the ancient city of Jerusalem foreshadows the New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:2) or the purified Church where God will be worshipped by His Chosen Ones with the New and everlasting Covenant. (CCC #1322-1419) All the glory that the scriptures direct towards the ancient Jerusalem to their nation will be directed by all nations to their new spiritual home, the Universal or Catholic Church.

Jerusalem is technically a city on a mountain. The elevation is 2474 Feet. Jerusalem is a major city for three major religions.

Where the Dome of the Rock is located, Abraham went to sacrifice his son Isaac which is great significance of Jews and Christians. (Muslims say Abraham went to sacrifice Ishmael there.) The gold dome was built in 691 AD.

In 1955, the King of Jordan gave 6 million to renovate the golden dome.

Jerusalem is also important to the Jewish religion because Solomon built the Temple here.

Jerusalem is also important to the Christian religion because Jesus died on the Cross to Redeem the world here.

Jerusalem is also important to the Muslim religion because the Prophet Mohammed is said to have ascended during a night journey to heaven from here

Forty years after Jesus started His public ministry, in 70 AD, the temple was destroyed by the Romans and not one stone was left upon a stone. Historians say about 80% of the Holy Land was Christian by the time of that Arab invasion of 630 AD Many religious leaders were killed, but people were allowed to practice Christianity and the Jewish religion, but they were taxed much higher than if they converted to Islam. The Crusaders reclaimed it in 1099 AD and the lost it to the Muslims again in 1291 AD.

After World War I, in 1917, the British controlled it and split up the city to be shared into four quarters, so all religions could come and pray and pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

The Christian Quarter (North East) contains the Holy Sepulcher Church.

The Muslim Quarter (South East) contains the Dome of the Rock and the Al-Aqsa Mosque, where Mohamed prayed, and was then taken to the heavens, in a single night in the year 620 CE/AD.

The Jewish quarter (South West) contains the "Western" or the "Wailing Wall."

The Arminian quarter is located in the North West section of the City.

When we arrive at Lithostros, we will see how the walls of Jerusalem has changed over the coarse of history.

Let us pray for peace in Jerusalem.



Chapter 43: Lazarus Tomb



Proof #13- Jesus raises to life a decomposed body

Here we are at the house of Lazarus, Mary and Martha. It is a short walk to his tomb. Out of all the thousands of miracles that Jesus performed, this is the greatest one up to this point.

Meghan: The greatest miracle from Jesus. Why did Jesus make this great miracle?

The Jews were already trying to kill Jesus, but this miracle brought Jesus' entire Gospel message to a climax. This tomb is located just two miles from Jerusalem. Let us listen to the Word of God in John chapter 11 before we enter Lazarus' house

"Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." The Word of the Lord!

There is a lesson here about God answering prayers. Mary and Martha prayed for Jesus to cure their brother Lazarus but He did not. Sometimes when God says no, He has something greater in mind, but it is in God's time. As we read, we will see how much faith he required from the sisters.

There are three mosaics depicting the life of Lazarus, Mary and Martha. The one on the right shows the bandaged Lazarus miraculously being raised from the dead and coming out of the tomb, bound hand and foot.

(After visiting the house)

Jesus the Resurrection and the Life

"When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." The Word of the Lord!

It is great to hear Martha's heroic profession of faith, even in the midst of her great sorrow. The Word of God is also teaching us about our resurrection on the Last Day. Martha was familiar with the teaching. In Heaven, we live as angels, sons of God being children of the Resurrection (Luke 20:36) (2 Maccabees 7:9).

(At the Tomb Entrance)

Jesus Weeps "When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

A Side Note: When Jesus used the phrase, "Come Out", He is also fulfilling a call of the Messiah prophesied by Isaiah 49.

Jesus Raises Lazarus to Life

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus



said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came

out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." The Word of the Lord (John 11:1-44).

Praise the Lord! The reason why this is the greatest miracle, up to this point, is because when Jesus raised Jarius' daughter and the widow's son from Naim, they had both recently died. With Lazarus, being in the tomb for four days illustrates Proof #13 that Jesus Christ is God because Jesus brings a decomposed body back to life. When God made Adam, it says in Genesis 2:7-10,15-25: "And the Lord God formed man of the slime of the earth: and breathed into his face the breath of life, and man became a living soul." Many people have such a hard time believing God can do such a great thing that we hear countless stories of how it took millions and millions of years for man to evolve from slime into a monkey then into a man. A decomposed body is full of smelly rottenness and slime. In an instant, Jesus Christ brought a man who had decomposed into slime back to life. Everyone knew that God alone could do such a great thing. This miracle set the stage for Palm Sunday, and Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, because everyone was filled with excitement that the Messiah was coming.

Has any other world or religious leader raised someone from the dead after four days in the tomb? Not Buddha, not Confucius, not Muhammed, only Jesus Christ our God, Him and none other.

Upon Leaving Bethany we will praise the Lord Jesus for His great power and mercy, we will point out two more things.

Megan: Today many people say, "Lord show us a miracle and we will believe!"

The Bible not only reveals God to us, His Word reveals mankind to us. Let us look at the Word of God to see how the Jewish leaders acted after the great miracle.

Ben: Did they all convert and give glory to God?

The Plot to Kill Jesus: "Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what he had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the council, and said, "What are we to do? This man is performing many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and destroy both our holy place and our nation." But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all! You do not understand that it is better for you to have one man die for the people than to have the whole nation destroyed." He did not say this on his own, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus was about to die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but to gather into one the dispersed children of God. So from that day on they planned to put him to death. Jesus therefore no longer walked about openly among the Jews, but went from there to a town called Ephraim in the region near the wilderness; and he remained there with the disciples" (John 11:45-54). The Word of the Lord.

Ben: Jesus knew He was going to raise Lazarus from the dead, so why did He weep?

Some scholars say because Jesus also knew how the leaders would react to this gift. We would think that if we witnessed a great miracle, we would say, "Let us stop messing around, He proved that He is God, let us repent and believe the good news. But how do they react? They react by saying, "The Romans are going to **take our position away** from us and give it to Jesus and His disciples. **We have to kill Him now.**" John chapter 12 says they planned to kill Lazarus also because people were converting to Jesus because of him. This was just before Passover, and now we are headed towards Palm Sunday and then the beginning of the whole Passover week.

Ben: Their reaction to Jesus is frightening, they did not want to know the truth!

Megan: What happened to Lazarus, Martha and Mary

Magdalene?

Some people were wondering what happened to Lazarus, Martha and Mary Magdalene? Tradition tells us they remained here in Jerusalem for a while, but eventually



when the big persecution took place, they exiled Lazarus, Mary Magdalene, Martha, and some of the 72 disciples onto a boat. They removed the rudder, and sent them adrift on the Mediterranean Sea in order to exile them. Finally, they ended up in Southern France in a place called Marseille. Lazarus became a Bishop of Marseille while Martha went to a place called Tarscone where she evangelized.

Mary Magdalene spent the rest of her life doing penance in a cave. This cave was located on a 300ft cliff. She prayed five times a day and as she would pray, the angels would pick her up and lift her up in ecstasy. Like Joseph of Cupertino, she would levitate all the way up to the top of the cliff. Word of her ecstasies spread through Lazarus, Maximum (one of the disciples), and Martha. They were telling the story of the gospel, and how Mary was a witness to the Resurrection, but now doing much penance.

Visits to the cave became a place of pilgrimages as people came to see the miracle of her floating up during ecstasy. Because of their



evangelization, France became the first country to embrace the Catholic faith. Today, France is known as the *eldest daughter of the Church*. Remember Rome did not embrace the faith until 313 A.D. when

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Constantine declared it legal. Prior to that Rome actually persecuted the Church. Earlier than that France had embraced the faith. Mary Magdalene died eventually, and they buried her in a tomb.

Over the course of centuries, when the Muslims had taken over that area, they buried the tomb and put some documents inside. They took some of her relics, particularly part of her jaw bone to the Pope in Rome. A number of years later, her tomb was miraculously found again. The current Pope ordered her jaw bone which they put in St. John Lateran to be matched up with the relics that were found in France. The Popes themselves say, "this is the Mary Magdalene from the Bible." The shrine is still there today.

Some saint's bodies are incorrupt, like St. Bernadette Soubirous and St. Catherine of Laboure. St. Catherine's eyes are open, and she had the great vision with her eyes of the Miraculous medal.

Two parts of St. Mary
Magdalene's body were
incorrupt. Does anyone
want to guess what those
two parts of her body were?
Pause... There is a piece of
skin on her forehead, the size
of two fingers that they call
the Noli me tangere. It
means "Do Not Touch Me."
When Mary Magdalene
approached Jesus on the day
of the Resurrection, He
touched her with two fingers



on her forehead. That part of her body remained incorrupt. The patch of skin is still in her tomb. The other part that remains incorrupt was her hair which is real long and a blondish, reddish in color.

Remember in the scriptures Mary Magdalene wept and she took her hair and she anointed the Lord's feet with it. The Pope's themselves have their seal on the relics and say this is the great Mary Magdalene who was the witness at the Lord's resurrection. Praise the Lord.

These relics were instrumental in converting France with the grace of God into Catholicism.

By the way, every year we do a pilgrimage to Lourdes, France, Garabandal, Avila, and Fatima. Every other year we have an option to visit all the shrines in France. We journey to places like St. Catherine of Laboure, Nevers (where St. Bernadette's body is at), Therese the Little Flower, Mount St. Michael's, Our Lady of Pontmain, St. John Vianney's, and the Sacred Heart Chapel. There are a lot of beautiful things in France and in La Salette. We also go to St. Mary Magdalene's and see where her bones are displayed. Visiting there is impressive. There is something beautiful about her skull, maybe it is just a holy presence there.

Chapter 44

A Look at the Ancient City, the view of Palm Sunday Abraham's Sacrifice and Calvary.

We are again on the Mount of Olives, at the spot where Jesus mounted a donkey to ride into Jerusalem. One of the beautiful scriptures that comes alive at this place is from Genesis. Looking across the Kidron

Valley we see the large golden dome. There you can see the Dome of the Rock which marks the spot where Abraham went to sacrifice his son Isaac. Remember, these truths are made knowns as we meditate, especially with the scriptures in the mysteries of the Rosary. The Bible has many levels to it. First, there is the historic level that happened right here when



Abraham sacrificed his son Isaac. There is also the prophetic level, which includes the foreshadowing of Jesus Christ that is fulfilled by His ultimate sacrifice. If father Abraham went to prove his love to God, by sacrificing his only son Isaac, how does that foreshadow Christ's sacrifice 2000 years later?

God the Father proved His love for you by sacrificing His only Son. If you look closely in the book of Genesis, 20- 22, they come to the foothills of Moriah. Isaac, the son is carrying the wood on his back, going up the hills of Moriah. What happens 2000 years later? God's Son, Jesus carried the wood of the Cross up the hill of Calvary. When he got up there, Isaac says, "Father Abraham, we have the wood and we have the fire, but where is the sacrifice? Then Abraham said something prophetic. He says, "God Himself is going to provide the Victim for the sacrifice." And then they reach the spot and the angel

says, "do not kill him." They find another victim. What did they find up there? *Pause,,, a Ram,, a male Lamb.* How is he caught? *Pause,,,* He was caught by the thorns around his head. So the ram has this crown of thorns on. Now 2000 years later, St. John the Baptist says, "Behold the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world."



On Good Friday, Jesus Christ had the crown of thorns on His head

Everything that has happened here represents a foreshadowing of Jesus. These events and all those are the mysteries in the Holy Rosary that the Blessed Mother has us meditating on all the time. Included in the forty pages of that little book, *The Weapon of Medjugorje*, are all the scriptures we just reflected on.

What is more amazing and one of

the things that only God could have done is related to the place of Jesus' death. Do you think the Roman soldiers; the whole Roman super power empire was in control? Pilate delivers Him up, he goes to crucify Jesus. Think of all the places we have been driving around since we arrived in the Holy Land. Where was the spot they decided to kill Jesus? You see the Golden Dome right there? That marks the spot where Abraham went to kill his son Isaac/ Ishmael. Look just to the right, you will see the grey Dome, a kind of double Grey Dome. That is Calvary, where Jesus was crucified.



The gray dome over Golgatha where Jesus died on the Cross.

The Dome of the Rock where Abraham went to sacrifice Isaac.

The locations are just far enough away, where they do not fight over the spot. There is not only a foreshadowing from 2000 years of prophesies being fulfilled but, the location is in the very same spot. Only the good Lord could do something like that. It is called Divine Providence. Praise the Lord! Personally, I think the actual real spot where Abraham went to sacrifice Isaac was exactly on Golgatha because God is awesome.

So, 2000 years after Adam and Eve, Abraham went to sacrifice his son Isaac there. Around 1000 years after that, Solomon built the temple there. 1000 year after that Jesus died on the Cross there. 2000 years after that, WE ARE HERE!

In thanksgiving for God sending His only Son to pay the price so we may once again get into Heaven, let us pray the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be. In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Journey Overview: On our spiritual Holy Thursday, we will be having our Mass at the Last Supper Room and then after our dinner, tonight we will have an option to come back to the Agony in the Garden for a holy hour. The day after, we will be following the Way of the Cross and the Passion. Then of course, we will have Easter Sunday. Praise the Lord.

Palm Sunday route: Matthew 21:1-11, Luke 19:39, Zechariah 9:9, Ezekiel 44)

Now Bethany, where Lazarus was raised from the dead, is right over the hill. Because of the Insecurity Wall, we had to drive for ½ hour to get here. Jesus rode a donkey when He made His triumphant entry from here into the Golden Gate of Jerusalem. The crowds were coming in for Passover. They were all talking about Lazarus being raised from the dead after being dead for four days.

Matthew 21:1-11, When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this,

'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately. This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out (Luke 19:39)." The word of the Lord.

Imagine the scene with people that were familiar with the prophecy from Zechariah 9:9, "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you, triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on an ass, on a colt the foal of an ass."

Ben: That prophecy is amazing!

Travelling the Palm Sunday route from Mount of Olives across the Kidron Valley, half way down, you will see that orange rusty gate on the right. That is where we are going, Dominus Flevit.

We are going to walk real slow, imagine that we are following Jesus on a donkey. As we look at the expression on His face, we will waive our Palm Branches and repeat in our hearts and say; "Hosanna, Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest!"

Meghan: It truly is Palm Sunday!

Chapter 45 Dominus Flevit. Jesus Weeps over Jerusalem, Anti-Christ comes before Christ's return.



Jesus Weeps over Jerusalem, - Luke 19:41-44.

The Dominus Flevit means the Lord wept and the Church looks like a big tear drop. Built in the 1950's by the famous Italian architect Antonio Barluzzi and is run by the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land.



"As (Jesu) came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will

set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side. They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God" (Luke 19:41-44).

Inside the Church, Barluzzi also shows the hen trying to gather the chicks under her wings to illustrate the scriptures. "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not!" (Matthew 23:37-39)

Jesus was crying when He saw their future. Because they did not recognize this visitation and the opportunities that God was giving them, He predicted there would not be left one stone upon another.

When did the destruction happen? When did the temple got knocked down?

Picture forty years after Jesus started preaching, the people had that time to embrace Christianity, but then after that, 70 A.D. they were crushed and disbanded.

Today's Visitations:

Today, there are a multitude of prophetic voices delivering messages from heaven when Jesus allegedly appears or when God sends the Blessed Mother or an angel. You will hear the words from many people that "We do not have to believe in private revelations!" Technically there is a half truth in that, because we only have to believe in the dogmas of the Church. However, Catechism #67 says that Private Revelations can help us live the faith!

The question becomes, do we need the help to live the faith? Does our culture need help? Are we falling in to our old ways of stoning the prophets because we do not want to repent of our sins? We are very foolish for neglecting and not trying to properly discern private revelations because we may miss the "Time of our Visitation." As long as the messages are not against faith and morals it is good to respond to the positive things heaven may be asking.

The Anti-Christ – We are all waiting for Jesus to come again, right?

Meghan: Right!

Who is supposed to come before Jesus comes again and cause a lot of trouble?

Ben: The Anti-Christ is supposed to come first.

One of the reasons why I like this place, is because as you look across the Kidron Valley, you will see the ancient Golden Gate bricked up closed. This will help you remember what we discussed about the possible Anti-Christ. Remember he would be the "Prince of this World." The Devil incarnate, the "Man of Iniquity", the "son of perdition", the "father of lies." Remember, he will have to have all the mass media behind him for him to reign as king. Somehow, thru the big bankers he will have to control all the CEO's of the mass media. All the mass media will be filled with "Fake News" saying, hosanna, hosanna! Hosanna to this king!

That is why the Blessed Mother, especially through the message of Fatima, calls us to meditate. As we learn how to meditate, we know the difference between propaganda, which is distorted or Fake news that they keep repeating over and over until people think it is the truth. "Oh look!" The media said it ten times already. Twenty times already. It must be true. That also could be propaganda for an agenda that is being pushed. The enemy knows that. The "Prince of this World" knows that. The Blessed Mother calls Her army to know how to meditate. Meditation includes using your three powers of the soul, to give glory to God. The Holy Spirit will inspire you. If not, the mass media will fill your memory and intellect in order to move your will to go wherever they want.

Someone asked me if the anti-Christ was going to take over this year. I said, I do not think so because the Golden Gate is still sealed up.

This is just an unofficial opinion: The old testament prophecy said Messiah was going to come from the Mt. of Olives and go thru the



Jesus into Heaven.

Golden Gate. Actually, that is why a lot of the Muslims put the tombs there and sealed up the Golden Gate. They did not want anyone walking through the Golden Gate, claiming they were the Messiah.

Jesus fulfilled that prophecy from (Ezekiel 43:4, 44:1-3). "The glory

of the Lord entered the temple by the gate facing east."
However, those who did not accept Jesus as the Messiah will wait for a messiah to come through that gate. So, those who accepted Jesus Christ as the Messiah do not expect Him to walk through that Golden Gate when He comes again. How is He going to come again? We will give you a hint. Remember what the angel said at the Ascension of

The angel said, "men, why are you looking up into the sky? This Jesus is going to come again the same way you see Him going into Heaven." (Acts 1:11)

Ben: Jesus will come again on a cloud for all to see.

For the Christian, Jesus is going to come out of the sky. For those who do not accept Him as the Messiah, then they will look for the original prophesy that says He will come from here and go through the Golden Gate to the Temple because that was not fulfilled. Watch for the bull dozers to come and knock all those graves out. Then they will open those Golden Gates, and the media elites will start proclaiming the Messiah, then you could watch out. Before then, I think we are safe. This is only my opinion.

Unfortunately, this big 28-foot wall they are building could be a fortress for the Anti-Christ. The last thing I want to mention about the Anti-Christ, so we are not confused.

Ben: How do we know if it is him?

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Remember the Jews wanted somebody to free them from the Romans. They wanted a military power. What did Jesus come and free us from?

Meghan: The slavery of sin.

Jesus said that there is only one slavery, and that is the slavery of sin. He brought the spiritual Kingdom. The false messiah will probably be what they are looking for; a military king.

As the Blessed Mother reminds us, he will be a "murderer from the beginning" (John 8:44). So, there will be a lot of death. Christians should not be fooled one iota. Because he will be a murderer, he will not come miraculously from the cloud. He is going to go right through that gate. He will probably win a battle by Megiddo against ISIS or something like that and then the mass media will hail him in as the messiah.

St. Paul said that he will want to be worshiped in the temple as god. (2 Thessalonians 2:1-15) The Satanic beast is also described in the book of Revelation 13.

Meghan: A murderer worshipped as a god, how frightening.

Let us all get into the Immaculate Heart of Mary, through our consecration. Her love is our refuge for all turbulent times.

The Thorns: Right in front of the Church of Dominus Flevit is a Hawthorn tree with thorns on it. It is very similar to the thorns that were used on Jesus, in the Crowning of Thorns. It has two-inch-long sharp thorns. The original is in the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. Some of the thorns from the crown are in the Church of the Holy Cross of Jerusalem in Rome.



Chapter 46



Western or Wailing Wall + Ancient City

The wailing wall is located in the Old City of Jerusalem. The wall is not part of the ancient Second Jewish Temple wall. It is part of an ancient retaining wall, known also in its entirety as the "Western Wall" that was built by Herod the Great. The Temple Mount is held up as the holiest site in Judaism. In the Old Testament, God asked the Israelites

to pilgrimage three times a year to worship. Passover, Pentecost, feast of tabernacles (Exodus 23:17). The very large stone blocks of the lower courses are from King Herod around 19 BC and the medium-sized stones above them were added later.



St. Luke describes that during Jesus' time, "Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast, according to the custom of the feast. When they had fulfilled the days [of the feast], his parents started home, unaware that the boy Jesus had stayed behind in Jerusalem (Luke 2:41-43).

When Jesus made His triumphant entrance into Jerusalem, He cleansed the temple of the money changers and said, "My Father's house is a house of prayer and you have made it a den of thieves" (Luke 19:46). In Jesus' reproach, He was also quoting (Isaiah 56:7). Note: The only time that Jesus used violence was when they were disrespecting His Father's House by making it a den of thieves. Also, the money changers were back the next day, violent solutions are only temporary.

This was the third place the God spoke to Jesus with witnesses present. Jesus prayed; "Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again" (John 12:28).

FIFTH JOYFUL MYSTERY: FINDING THE CHILD JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

"Blessed are they that weep and mourn, for they shall be comforted." (Matthew 5:5)

"His parents would go every year to Jerusalem at the Feast of the Passover. And when He was twelve years old, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained... and His parents did not know it. But thinking that He was in the caravan, they had come a day's journey before it occurred to them to look for (Jesus) among their relatives and acquaintances. And not finding Him, they returned to Jerusalem in search of Him." (Luke 2:41-45)

FRUIT OF THE MYSTERY: JOY IN FINDING JESUS

OUR FATHER

"As the hart thirsts for the fountains of water; so my soul thirsts after Thee, O God." (Psalms 42:2)

HAIL MARY

"Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened." (Matthew 7:7)

HAIL MARY

"After three days, they found (Jesus) in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions." (Luke 2:46)

HAIL MARY

"All who were listening to (Jesus) were amazed at His answers." (Luke 2:47)

HAIL MARY

"And His mother said to Him, 'Son why have You done this to us? Behold in sorrow Thy father and I have been seeking Thee." (Luke 2:48)

HAIL MARY

"'Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?' And Jesus was subject to them." (Luke 2:50-51); (Exodus 20:12) HAIL MARY

"Unless you become like this little child, you cannot enter into the Kingdom of Heaven."
(Matthew 18:17)

HAIL MARY

"And His mother kept all these things carefully in Her heart." (Luke 2:51); (Luke 12:34) HAIL MARY

"And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and grace before God and men." (Luke 2:52)

HAIL MARY

"The Word was made Flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory." (John 1:14)

HAIL MARY

Walking through Ancient

Jerusalem: The Old City is divided into four quarters—The Jewish Quarter, the Muslim Quarter, the Armenian Quarter and the Christian Quarter. As we leave the Jewish Quarter and head to the Christian Quarter, we notice a large Menorah. This is the golden seven branch, olive oil candle stick that was described by God to Moses in



Exodus 25:31-40. Today, Catholics use a sanctuary lamp to recognize the presence of God in the Blessed Sacrament.

As we walk from the Jewish quarter to outside the Zion gate, we will read Jesus' last parables that He gave between Palm Sunday and Holy Thursday.

The Parable of the Two Sons

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him (Matthew 21:28-32).

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally, he

sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So, they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord's doing,

and it is amazing in our eyes'?

Therefore, I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet. (Matthew 21:33-46)

The 20/20 treatment and "Fake News"

There is a term called "Fake News" that is used much today. You can call it the 20/20 treatment or what the Pharisees did to Jesus in Luke 20:20. "Keeping a close watch on him, they sent spies, who pretended to be sincere. They hoped to catch Jesus in something he said, so that they might hand him over to the power and authority of the governor."

Fake News is to ignore all the good things that Jesus did and take a few words out of context to try and do Jesus harm. This method is used today against the Church. Revelations 12:15 says a flood will come out of the devil's mouth to sweep the woman away. This is not only Our Lady the devil wants to sweep away, but the entire Church that is modeled after Her, particularly the Vicar of Christ, the Pope.

Our Lady's call to learn how to meditate is the best protection against "Fake News." "The Holy Spirit will enlighten us." (Revelation 22:5)

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

In this parable, keep in mind the ultimate relationship that God wants with His creatures.

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again, he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests (Matthew 22:1-10).

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen." (Matthew 22:11-14)

The Question about Paying Taxes

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So, they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar's the things

that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away (Matthew 22:15-22).

The Question about the Resurrection

The same day some Sadducees came to him, saying there is no resurrection; and they asked him a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies childless, his brother shall marry the widow, and raise up children for his brother.' Now there were seven brothers among us; the first married, and died childless, leaving the widow to his brother. The second did the same, so also the third, down to the seventh. Last of all, the woman herself died. In the resurrection, then, whose wife of the seven will she be? For all of them had married her."

Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage but are like angels in heaven. And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is God not of the dead, but of the living." And when the crowd heard it, they were astounded at his teaching. (Matthew 22:23-33)

The Greatest Commandment

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets" (Matt 22:34-40).

"After that no one dared to ask Him any questions" (Mark 12:34).

Chapter 47 David's Tomb - David's sling- The True Weapon. Conversion Testimony.

The Question about David's

Son - Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet""? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions (Matthew 22:40-46).

David's tomb. Many people believe it is David's tomb, but some people do not want to say for sure that this is David's tomb. There debate relates to this being the city of David, and we are not in Bethlehem. But others say Jerusalem means the city of the great King. Zion is Jerusalem. Mount Zion is the high hill on which David built a citadel. It is on the southeast side of the city.

They both could be called David's city. David was born in Bethlehem and reined as king in Jerusalem. Peter, on Pentecost Sunday, said, "David's tomb is with us to this day" (Acts 2:29).

Which David are they talking about? It is the same David that was the shepherd boy who ended up slaying Goliath. Remember Goliath challenged the people of God. He basically said, "your



God is a joke and you guys are a bunch of wimps. Send your best man out here to fight one on one. If you win, we will be slaves to you, but if I win, you will be slaves to us." David had what engineers would call the breakthrough in technology. David's little sling was the weapon that would make all the conventional weapons obsolete. David went to the brook and pulled out five smooth stones. I started to think. "Five? David, you are the inventor. You know you are going to get him in one shot. Maybe two. But five?" He takes the five stones and puts them in the shepherd's bag. The first he slings at the giant cracks him in the head and Goliath goes down. David chops his head off and the people of God win.

Today, we talk about the fulfillments of things in the scriptures. At the time I did not understand anything about the faith. I thought Marian devotion was silly. I would say, "I pray to God myself, what do I need Her for? That Rosary, it is a silly prayer for little old lady's. What about us engineers? We need prayers too." That pretty much summed up my attitude. I thought there would be all these miracles in Medjugorje, and when no miracles were taking place, I said, "what a jip. I came all the way out here, and there are no miracles?" So I climbed this big mountain called Mt. Krizevic, it has the big cross on the top. They visionaries describe the Blessed Mother as a beautiful 18-year-old girl who has long black hair, blue eyes, rosy cheeks, and a real beautiful voice. Somehow, they say she is going to lead her spiritual army. I thought, "no wonder I do not understand anything. She is a little girl. She could not hurt a flea." The first time that I said a prayer to Our Lady it went something like this;. "Hey Mary!" "It's me Guy. I am

here from Chicago." "Tell you what, give me your best shot. I am going to give You my best shot. If You win, I will do whatever you say, but if I win, I'm going to defeat Medjugorje." I thought the miracle of the sun was a high-tech laser show. But in the depths of my heart, I felt the challenge was accepted. I thought She was going to show me a miracle, and I was going to try to disprove it. After I challenged Her, I zipped down the mountain. The next day the whole group came out of Church and they all started seeing the miracle of the sun. But when I looked at the sun, it burned my eyes. I kept looking at the sun because they could see the miracle, but it totally burned my eyes. Leaving there I was totally blown away, I walked all around the town of Medjugorje and tried to figure out what happened. "Those people should have been blind for as long as they saw the sun. I should have been blind for as long as I looked at it." All of a sudden I tripped in a pot hole and I bounced off a sign. "Great, I am blind." My parents, and all my engineering friends were telling me, do not go to Medjugorje. Then I am going to come home and they will ask, "how was your trip?" And I will say, "hi, I am

blind." I thought, "oh no! What a dope." I was so mad. I was kicking myself all the way around Medjugorje. Anyway, I stumbled up Apparition Hill and sat down but I still had black spots in my eyes. I thought I was going to be blind for the rest of my life. Without seeing or hearing Her, something strange started to happen. I felt Her brush me off and say, "Jesus forgives. Jesus forgives." She helps me up to my feet, and in the depths of my heart, I hear Her say, "do you want to help?" I said, "sure." Then, I felt a kiss right on my forehead. If you ever look at the sun, your eyes not only burn but you get a pain right in the bridge of your forehead. This pain was so unbearable, it felt like somebody took a baseball bat and cracked me in the head. When I felt this kiss, it was warm, tingling and my eyes cleared up just like that. I could see. I was so happy and just ran down the hill, ran across the field of grapes saying yes! yes! yes! and went home.

When I got back home from Medjugorje, the first two things I knew about the Catholic faith was one, you do not go climb up on top of Mt. Krzivec and give any lip to the Blessed Mother. And the second thing, She said, even

though we do not think so, Jesus and Mary are very close to each and every one of us. We just have to open up our hearts, and we will realize that they are there, and that they love us very much. It was so obvious and seemed so clear to me that it was like looking thru a two-way mirror. When I got back home, I thought, She won fair and square. I have to start praying this Rosary. Now I had no doubt that Medjugorje was true, but I still thought the Rosary was this little old lady prayer. So I started praying, Hail Mary, full of grace, and after a while the repetition would get to me. I would say, "this is an insult to my intelligence. Hail Mary, full of grace, this is an insult to my intelligence." When I would complain that way, I would relive that experience when the sun blinded my eyes. I would feel humiliated and say, "Ok, I am praying, I am praying." This did not go on for one or two days; this went on every day for three months. Then I looked at the Blessed Mother, I imagine Her floating and said, "I cannot help it Blessed Mother, if this is a dumb prayer, the first Joyful mystery, the Annunciation and the fruit of the mystery is humility. What does humility have to do with the Annunciation? I do not get it.

Humility is what You did to me in Medjugorje. You bopped me on the head, just like David bopped Goliath on the head. Then the light went on. Padre Pio and the visionaries from Medjugorje said that the Rosary is the Weapon. This is when I realized that David's sling in the Old Testament foreshadowed the true weapon which is the Rosary. The five smooth stones that David went to get in the brook, foreshadowed the five decades of the Rosary. If you swing the Rosary around with the Cross in your hand, you will see David's sling. Then I started patting my back but said, "wait a second, I am on the wrong side. I am on the receiving end of this thing. What's going on?" Before going to Medjugorje, I thought, hey if I die, I am a good person, I am going to go right to heaven. I realized my soul was in a state of mortal sin as I had not been to Confession for ten years before going to Medjugorje. It seemed every time I learned something, I was always on the wrong side. The Blessed Mother is good, and She works with us. I am very grateful for how much She put up with me. Ever since then, I started praying the Weapon with zeal. She is very patient. There is a real power in this Weapon.

The Popes talk about the Rosary and have said, "where does its power come from?" The power comes from mediating on the Gospel lives of Jesus and Mary. If we do not meditate, we will become a victim of propaganda when the mass media repeats something over and over. If we really meditate on the twenty mysteries, it is a real powerful weapon. We are going to need this. What does Goliath foreshadow? He foreshadows the Anti-Christ, Remember David's first stone hit Goliath. The fruit of the first Joyful mystery is humility. God is going to use the humility of the Blessed Mother to crush the proud head of Satan. I think this time is coming soon. In God's wisdom, He is going to let the humble Hand-Maid come in and do that. So we praise the Lord. When we go to the tomb, whether it is David's tomb or not, we will ask Heaven to give us David's zeal, for he was not afraid to go after Goliath. We will ask Heaven to help us use that Weapon to get rid of all the evil spirits that trouble our lives. As the sling helped David to become king, the Rosary will help us enter the Kingdom of God. Thanks Blessed Mother for knocking some sense into my head

Chapter 48 The Last Supper Room The Triduum – Pascal Mystery

On our Journey with Jesus, we are at Holy Thursday and Jesus Christ is about to invite us to the Last Supper, or the first Holy Mass. Jesus has completed His teaching the public by words, but His deeds and His mission is reaching its climax. We are at the closest spot to the upper Room that the Holy Mass can be celebrated. We will actually go into the Upper Room when we experience Pentecost Sunday.

Who are the chosen ones in the Bible?

Meghan: The Jewish people?

What made them the chosen ones?

Meghan: I do not know, What made them the chosen ones? They had the covenant with God. Abraham had the covenant with circumcision. Moses had the covenant of the Law.

A few days ago, we were in the Capernaum Synagogue where Jesus talked about giving us Bread from Heaven so we can live forever. Here is where Jesus performed the miracle of miracles and made it the binding "Blood of the New and everlasting Covenant" between God and His chosen ones.

Meghan: So, us Catholics are the chosen ones?

If Jesus is the Son of God, then we are the chosen ones because we have the covenant. If Jesus is not the Son of God, then we are most miserable (1 Corinthians 15:19). But Jesus is the Son of God and we are very blessed to be the "Chosen Ones."

Ben: Yes, we are blessed.

This great miracle of Jesus giving us Bread from Heaven, the Catechism refers to it as the Paschal mystery.

Ben: Why did they call it the Paschal mystery?

Remember, Exodus Chapter 12 was an event that also foreshadowed the true Passover. What was their Passover? In Egypt, the angel of death was going to kill their first born. If the angel saw the blood of the lamb, he would not destroy them.

They had to 1. Take a male lamb. 2. Without blemish. 3. Sacrifice it. 4. Eat the Flesh. They had to eat the flesh of the lamb, or the angel of death would get them. 5. I will see the blood and Passover you and not destroy you.

This was fulfilled by 1. Jesus is a male Lamb of God Who came to take away the sins of the world. 2. Jesus is sinless. 3. He died on the Cross. 4. We Eat His true flesh and drink His True Blood. 5. We will live forever.

This is a historical event that happened and the Jewish people honor this history today. However, all that they were doing was also a foreshadowing of Jesus Christ and His mission. Remember Jesus is the Lamb of God. Compared to Jesus Christ' Blood what is the blood of the lamb worth? It is worth nothing. Imagine a country getting excited about offering the blood of a lamb to God? How much more excited should we be to offer Jesus Christ, the Son of God, to God during the Mass?

How does the miracle happen? CCC #1085 provides the details. ... His Paschal mystery is a real event that occurred in our history, but it is **unique**: all other historical events happen once, and then they pass away, swallowed up in the past. The Paschal mystery of Christ, by contrast, cannot remain only in the past,,,, (it) participates in the divine eternity, and so transcends all times while being made present in them all.

Everything in history happens once, Christopher Columbus discovered America in 1492, our country's independence in July 4, 1776, September 11 attacks, they all happened once, and they got swallowed up in time. Picture in your mind a veil that we cannot always see that hides these "unique events" that is not affected by time. The "unique events" in history start on Holy Thursday and includes Good Friday,

Holy Saturday and all the way to Easter Sunday. The Church calls this unique miraculous time in history the Sacred Triduum.

Would you like to go behind the veil and be at the actual Last Supper or at the Cross on Good Friday or with Mary on Holy Saturday or with Jesus on Easter Sunday? This miracle takes place only at the Holy Mass.

We are not only there at the Last supper with Jesus and the apostles, we are there with all the angels and saints. "Blessed are they who are called to the wedding supper of the Lamb. And he said to me, 'These words of God are true.'" (CCC 1137, 2642, Revelation 4:2, 5:6, 19:7,19:9, 22,1)

When at the synagogue in Capernaum, Jesus promised to give us a gift, so we can have everlasting life. We eventually understood that Jesus is God Who created us and offers a relationship as the bridegroom for our souls. "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world" (John 6:51).

The promise was fulfilled here at the Last Supper when Jesus "taking bread, he gave thanks, and broke; and gave to them, saying: This is my body, which is given for you. **Do this for a commemoration of me.** In like manner the chalice also, after he drank, saying: This is the chalice, **the new covenant** in my blood, which shall be shed for you (Luke 22:19-20).

So at every Holy Mass we "Do this for a commemoration of me." Do what? Experience Jesus by Eating His Body and Drinking His Blood while celebrating the memory of Him.

Ben: Do non-Catholics eat Jesus Body and Blood to live forever?

Who can make this miracle? Only Jesus can make this miracle. Jesus makes it happen through His Priests that are ordained from a Bishop who is a direct successor to the Apostles who were right here in the Last Supper room on Holy Thursday. If someone does not have that lineage to this room, they can say, "this is my body" several times and it is going to remain a piece of bread. We have to pray for our

Priests and for all people that they may appreciate these great gifts from God

Meghan: What is remembrance and what is real in the Holy Mass?

Now that you have been to the Holy Land, the difference is easier to see. At the beginning of Mass, when we pray "Glory to God in the Highest and on Earth peace to people of good will." What part of Jesus life are we remembering? The angels singing about Jesus at Christmas.

When we read the scriptures, the Old testament and the New, at the Mass, we are remembering Jesus preaching throughout the Holy Land.

Before Jesus made His miracles, He would ask for a profession of faith and that is what we do when we pray the Creed. Then we ask our petitions, so Jesus can grant His graces.

In the part of the Mass we pray, "Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the Highest." That should be fresh in our memory. What part of Jesus' life is that?

Ben: Palm Sunday.

During the early parts of the Mass, we are remembering the important events in Jesus' life, but after Palm Sunday is Holy Thursday and at the consecration when everyone falls on their knees, **that is when the miracle takes place**. You can imagine that the angels are drawing the curtain away **and you are there**. No matter where you are in the world, during the consecration, you are there at the actual Last Supper.

Meghan: I love the thought of being there at the actual Last Supper.

When we pray the Our Father prayer, we are there with Jesus in the agony of the garden as He prayed, "let Your Will be done Father."

Ben: That was Jesus prayer in the garden. So we are there also.

Yes. After when we pray three times, "Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world have mercy on us", we are with Jesus carrying His Cross and falling three times.

When the priest breaks the Bread, we are with Jesus when He dies on the Cross. All Jesus' Blood was separated from His Body. When they prepared the Passover Lamb, they had to remove all of its blood to make it Kosher

Meghan: Oh My!

When the priest takes a piece of the Bread, and puts it into the Wine, we are with Jesus when His Body and Blood comes back together on Easter Sunday as the Risen Lord! When we receive Holy Communion, we are actually receiving the Risen Lord, alive under the appearance of Bread.

On Easter Sunday, the doors were locked and Jesus entered the room and said "Peace be with you." In a real way, Jesus Christ comes into our bodies and takes His desired throne in our hearts. The two of us become one flesh. He lives in us and we in Him. He gives us Eternal Life.

Ben: How wonderful. Thank you Jesus.

Actually, Eucharist means thanksgiving.

"The Church is Jesus beloved Bride who calls to her Lord and through him offers worship to the eternal Father" (CCC 1089). Since Jesus is a man, this can be awkward for other men to have this much intimacy. This is a big reason why God calls us to be chaste, so we can experience this intimacy in holiness. Since She is a "Woman", it is important to ask the Blessed Mother to come into our hearts. I often pray, "Good Mother, Jesus came to the Bethlehem cave because you were there, He will come into my heart if you are here." This also balances out the male, female differences for our weak nature. "Jesus and Mary make our hearts a "little heaven."" Jesus said, "The

Kingdom of God is within you." If your heart is a little heaven, you just continue to live in the real Heaven when you get there.

Meghan: So, my heart becomes a little Heaven where Jesus lives?

Yes. Also, Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and He says, "this is the blood of the new and everlasting covenant." The whole New Testament is the new covenant. This experience at the Mass is the Blood that seals the whole covenant with God and His people. It is an incredible, miraculous gift. This is what makes us the chosen ones, the children of God. To evangelize is to share this relationship with our brothers and sisters throughout the world. God has enough love for everyone, we have to embrace and not reject His Love.

Ben: Wow! This is the good news.

Before practicing St. Louis DeMontfort's True Devotion to Jesus through Mary, I thought the Eucharist was just a piece of bread. As you get a portion of Mary's faith, receiving Jesus becomes the highlight of the day. Hugging the all Good, the all Powerful, the all Knowledgeable, the all Beautiful, the all Peaceful, the One Who is all Truth, the One Who is all Love, not only satisfies my body and soul, it helps me look forward to the eternal WWWOOOWWW in Heaven.

Everything else in the Catholic Religion is there to direct us to the Eucharist. We read the Bible, to get to know Who it is that is coming into our bodies. We pray to talk with God to share such intimacy. Confession is like taking a shower of the soul, before embracing the one we love.

As this mystery of the Rosary is prayed, let us ask for the gift of great faith of our Eucharistic Jesus.

Sometimes we are privileged to celebrate Mass in the Franciscan chapel that is as close as we can get to celebrate it at the actual last supper room.



FIFTH LUMINOUS MYSTERY: INSTITUTION OF THE EUCHARIST

"The multitude cried out: "Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!" (Matthew 21:9) "They gave (Judas) 30 pieces of silver... Jesus said; 'One of you is about to betray Me." (Matthew 26:14-15, 21)

"Even a man of My peace, in whom I trusted, who ate My bread, has greatly supplanted Me." (Psalms 41:10) "As the Father has loved me, I also love you. Live in my Love." (John 15:9)

"Jesus said: 'I give you a new commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. By this, all men will know that you are My disciples if you have love for one another." (Matthew 26:34-35)

FRUIT: ETERNAL UNION WITH GOD

OUR FATHER

"Jesus said: 'Oh, how I desire to eat the Passover with you before I suffer." (Luke 22:15)

HAIL MARY

"The Lord said to Moses, Take a lamb, without blemish, a male... sacrifice it... eat the flesh... I shall see the blood and Pass Over you... and not destroy you." (Exodus 12:1,5,8,13)

HAIL MARY

"While they were at supper, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke, and gave it to His disciples and said: 'Take and eat; this is My Body.'" (Matthew 26:26)

HAIL MARY

"Taking a cup He gave thanks and gave it to them saying; 'All of you drink of this. For this is My Blood of the New Covenant, which is being shed for many for the forgiveness of sins." (Matthew 26:28); (Jer. 31:33)

HAIL MARY

"Jesus said: 'Do this for a commemoration of Me." (Luke 22:19)

HAIL MARY

"Jesus said: 'I am the Bread of life. He that comes to Me shall never hunger, and he that believes in Me shall never thirst." (John 6:35)

HAIL MARY

"Jesus said...'He that eats My Flesh and drinks My Blood lives in Me and I in him." (John 6:57)

HAIL MARY

"Jesus said; 'This is the Bread that came down from Heaven. Not as your fathers did eat manna and are dead. He that eats this Bread shall live forever." (John 6:59)

HAIL MARY

"Jesus said: 'If you keep My commandments, you shall live in My love... My joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.""(Jn 15:10-11)

HAIL MARY

"Father as You are in Me and I in You, I pray that they might be one in Us." (John 17:21)

HAIL MARY

Meghan: That was a special Mass, I felt like I was with Jesus in the Last Supper and He is living in me through Holy Communion.

St. Thomas Aquinas says that Jesus physical presence remains with us for 15 minutes, after that although His physical presence leaves, the grace remains. Let us go to the actual Last Supper Room and hear parts of the final discourse in John's gospel.

Ben: Where are we now?

We are in the actual upper room, that Jesus celebrated the Last Supper and we will come here again as the apostles did on Pentecost Sunday. Today we will read a few highlights from the final discourse that Jesus spoke after the last supper. John chapter 14-17. These words are some of the most beautiful in all of scripture.

- 14 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.
- 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."
- 8 Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." 9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? 10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.
- 15 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. 9 As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

16 23 On that day you will ask nothing of me. Very truly, I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. 24 Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.

Peace for the Disciples

25 "I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures but will tell you plainly of the Father. 26 On that day you will ask in my name. I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; 27 for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.

I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!"

17 After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, 2 since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. 3 And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

25 "Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. 26 I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Chapter 49



The Agony in the Garden

We are at the base of the Mount of Olives. We are surrounded by olive trees. This place is known as the garden of Gethsemane. It is most famous as the place where Jesus prayed, and his disciples slept the night before Jesus' crucifixion. There is something about olive trees that exude peace. Some of these olive trees look very old. Botanists say that these trees are 2000 years old. They were witness to Jesus when He prayed here. Jesus came here often to pray. On Holy Thursday, Jesus celebrated the Last Supper, then He came here to this Garden, and entered into His agony. Inside the church is the large rock that Jesus leaned on when He prayed. In just a minute, we are going to pray the first sorrowful mystery of the Rosary, the Agony in the Garden. We will use the scripture decade. His disciples just received their first Holy Communion. Jesus wanted to pray and have them pray a Holy Hour.



There are two points about this mystery we want to call your attention to. Jesus does all these great miracles, He rides into the city triumphant on Sunday, and it was only a few days later

that everybody turns against Him. Then Jesus gets captured and dies. Pagans who just look at the surface of things may say, "He must have been some great prophet, and then He lost His power, and boom, that was it, He died. That is what the pagans think. But as you meditate on this mystery, think about this truth, if He is God, and is coming to save our souls, and pay the price for all the sins of all times, then He is the Hero of all Heroes. He accomplished such a tremendous task. Jesus said; "there is no greater love than this, than a man to lay down his life for his friends." So He was preaching love all over Galilee, and all over Jerusalem. But now He is not only going to show love only by words, but by deeds. The Sacrifice. Jesus knew it was the will of the

Father. One of the things that proves or shows that He still was God is in this mystery of the Agony of the Garden, you will notice two things. Remember when they went out, he took Peter, James and John with Him. It was only recorded in John's gospel. But when Judas came out with the Roman soldiers, to catch him with the temple guards. Judas gave Him the kiss, and the temple guard said, "We are looking for Jesus of Nazareth." Then Jesus says something. Does anybody remember what He said? Jesus gives them His answer.



Jesus says, "I am He." Remember Moses on Mount Sinai, he asks God, Who are You? And God said, "I Am". What does Moses do? Wham. He hits the ground in fear and trembling

because he heard the voice of the powerful God. It is in John's gospel when the guards come out to get Jesus that He says, "I am He." And what happens? They turn back, and they fall to the ground. He gave them a flash of His divinity. Jesus asks again, "well, who are you looking for? I am He. I am ready to go with you." Peter then takes his sword and strikes a solider and cuts off his ear. Jesus makes a miracle and cures Malchus' by healing his ear. Jesus still had the power, He was still God. It is God's will to prove to us, that there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends (John 15:13).

As we pray, there will be a little quiz for you after the decade. Remember as you meditate, you watch the angel, you listen to the angel, and try to imitate the angel. This is also one of the stories of the Angels of the New Era. The angel does something for Jesus in this story. We will ask you the question after we pray this decade. What does the angel actually do for Jesus? Hopefully we will do it also. Remember we are with Jesus now, after the Last Supper. We have Jesus in our hearts. We are surrounded by the same olive trees that surrounded Jesus, and we will be mediating on the mystery.

FIRST SORROWFUL MYSTERY THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN

Let nothing hinder you from praying always, and do not be afraid to be justified, even unto death. (Sirach 18:22) They gave (Judas) 30 pieces of silver,,, Jesus said "One of you is about to betray Me. (Matth 26:14-15,21) And after reciting a hymn, they went out to Mount Olivet.

Then Jesus said to them, "You will all be scandalized this night because of me." "But after I have risen, I will go before you into Galilee." But Peter answered and said to him, "Even though all shall be scandalized because of Thee, I shall never be scandalized." Jesus said, "Amen I say to you, this very night before the cock crows thou will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even if I should have to die with Thee, I will not deny Thee." (Matthew: 26:26-35)

Jesus came with them to a country place called Gethsemani, and He said to His disciples, "Sit down here while I go over yonder and pray." And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee and He began to be saddened and exceedingly troubled. (Jesus) said; "My soul is sorrowful, even unto death. Stay here and watch" (Matt. 26:36-39).

FRUIT OF THE MYSTERY: SORROW FOR SINS

OUR FATHER

"Abba Father, all things are possible to Thee; remove that chalice from Me; but not what I will; but what Thou will." (Mark 14:36)

HAIL MARY

Then (Jesus) came and found them sleeping. "Could you not watch one hour?" (Mark 14:37)

HAIL MARY

"Watch and pray that you enter not into temptation. The spirit is indeed willing, but the flesh is weak." (Mark 14:38)

HAIL MARY

There appeared to (Jesus) an angel strengthening Him. And He prayed the more earnestly. (Luke 22:43-44) **HAIL MARY**

He prayed,,,,and his sweat became as drops of blood falling down upon the ground. (Jesus) came to His disciples only to find them asleep. (Luke 22:44-46)

HAIL MARY

They came with weapons,,, saying "(we seek) Jesus of Nazareth!" Jesus replied, "I AM HE",,,,upon hearing, they drew back and fell to the ground. (John 18:4-7) (Exod. 3:14)

HAIL MARY

"Judas do you betray the Son of man with a kiss?"
(Luke 22:48) (Zacharias 11:12-13)
(Matthew 27:3-10)

HAIL MARY

Simon Peter drew a sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. (John 18:10)

HAIL MARY

Jesus said; "Put away your sword! For all those who take the sword shall perish by the sword." (Matt. 26:52) Jesus touched his ear and healed him. (Luke 22:51)

HAIL MARY

All this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then the disciples all leaving Him, fled (Matt. 26:56) One fled naked. (Mark 14:52)(Amos 2:16) HAIL MARY

What the angel does for Jesus.

The angel appeared to Jesus on His last day on earth. He ended up strengthening Jesus so He could pray more earnestly. Of course, Jesus was perfect God and perfect Man. As Man He needed to be strengthened and encouraged to pray. The angels of the last days/New



Era appear in these last days, because they are called to encourage the mystical body of Christ, the Church, to pray more earnestly. The Church is also in agony right now. Angel members are encouraged to start prayer groups, and join Rosary prayer groups, because this will greatly strengthen the entire mystical body of Christ, the Church.

Chapter 50 St Peter in Gallicantu The cock crowed



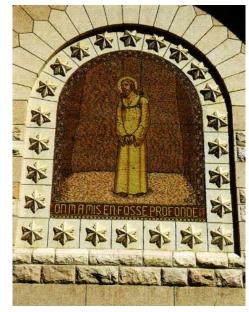
Our journey with Jesus takes us here very early in the morning on Good Friday. The church takes its name from the Latin word "Gallicantu", meaning cock's-crow. On Holy Thursday night, Jesus was arrested in

the Garden of Gethsemane and brought here to the High Priest Caiaphas' palace. The mosaic on the wall shows Jesus hanging from ropes that were under His arms as he was lowered down through a hole used as a prison.

Inside the Church by the lower level while inside the prison.

Jesus before the High Priest

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas



the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days." The high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you,

From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power

and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?" They answered, "He deserves death." Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, "Prophesy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you" (Matthew 26:57-64)?

There is an Old Testament Prophecy that describes Jesus Situation in the prison.

Psalm 88: O Lord, God of my salvation, when, at night, I cry out in your presence, let my prayer come before you; incline your ear to

For my soul is full of troubles,

my cry.

and my life draws near to Sheol.

I am counted among those who go down to the Pit;

I am like those who have no help,

like those forsaken among the dead,

like the slain that lie in the grave,

like those whom you remember no more,

for they are cut off from your hand

You have put me in the depths of the Pit,

in the regions dark and deep. Your wrath lies heavy upon me,



and you overwhelm me with all your waves.

You have caused my companions to shun me;

you have made me a thing of horror to them.

I am shut in so that I cannot escape;

my eye grows dim through sorrow.

Every day I call on you, O Lord;

I spread out my hands to you. Do you work wonders for the dead?

Do the shades rise up to praise you?

Is your steadfast love declared in the grave,

or your faithfulness in Abaddon?
Are your wonders known in the darkness,

or your saving help in the land of forgetfulness?

But I, O Lord, cry out to you; in the morning my prayer comes before you.

O Lord, why do you cast me off? Why do you hide your face from me? Wretched and close to death from my youth up,

I suffer your terrors; I am desperate.

Your wrath has swept over me; your dread assaults destroy me. They surround me like a flood all day long;

from all sides they close in on me.

You have caused friend and neighbor to shun me; my companions are in darkness.

It is easy to imagine how terrible it must have been to be hanging by ropes into this pit.

Outside in the courtyard by the Cock crowed statue.

Peter's Denial of Jesus.

"Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself."

The High Priest Questions Jesus

"Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest."

Peter Denies Jesus Again

"Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed." (John 18:15-27)

Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly (Matthew 26:75). The word of the Lord.

Special Note: Sometimes Christianity is unpopular and through that peer pressure we act like Peter and follow at a distance.

Something John brings up in his gospel was They had made a charcoal fire because it was cold. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself. As Peter denied Jesus three times in front of a charcoal fire, at the end of John's Gospel Jesus asks Peter if he loved Him three times, in front of a charcoal fire.

I think Peter would have died for Jesus in a noble death thereby defying the powerful of the world. One of the guys who identified Peter was a relative of Malchus, the man whose ear Peter cut off. Getting lynched in the dark as a rascal is not as noble and Peter denied Jesus.

They dragged Jesus from the prison here to Pontius Pilate's Pratoreum to ask for His condemnation. Different Gospel writers emphasize different details. St. Luke writes in detail about Jesus and Peter making eye contact at the moment he denies Jesus.



"At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed.

The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times."

And he went out and wept

bitterly" (Luke 22:60-62). The word of the Lord.

Ben: I could imagine Peter denying Jesus, the cock crowing as Jesus predicted and then at that moment, they were dragging Jesus out and Peter and Jesus made eye contact. That must have been very emotional for Peter to see His friend beaten up and then look him in the eye as Peter denied Him.

From here was can see the actual stone steps that Jesus would have taken, as He was brought from the Garden of Gethsemane to Caiaphas' Palace.

Potter's field.

As we leave St. Peter of Gallicantu Church we have a good view of both the Kidron and valley of Gehenna.

Gehenna was not a nice place, those who worshipped the false gods of Baal and other Canaanite gods, sacrificed their children by fire there (2 Chr. 28:3, 33:6). Thereafter it was deemed to be cursed (Jer. 7:31, 19:2-6). The city use to burn their garbage there and Jesus compared the fires of Gehenna to the eternal tortures of Hell.

Jesus said to show the seriousness of sin; "And if thy hand causes you to sin, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life, maimed, than having two hands to go into Hell (Gehenna), into unquenchable fire: Where their worm dies not, and the fire is not extinguished" (Mark 9:42-43).

Ironically, that is where the potter's field is and where Juda's hung himself. You can see it at the right hand side of the valley of Gehenna. Today a Greek Orthodox Monastery marks the location.

The end of Judas. "When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death; and they bound him and led him away and delivered him to Pilate the governor. When Judas, his betrayer, saw that he was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, saying, "I have sinned in betraying innocent blood." They said, "What is that to us? See to it yourself." And throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money." So they took counsel, and bought with them the potter's field, to bury

strangers in. Therefore, that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him on whom a price had been set by some of the sons of Israel, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord directed me" (Matthew 27:1-10, Zechariah 11:12-13, Jer. 19:1-13; 32:6-9).

Peter denies Jesus but believes in His Mercy. Judas betrays Jesus and despairs and thinks his crime is greater than Jesus Mercy. He makes an additional crime and killed himself.

Some people try to justify Judas' behavior and say that it was even necessary, but Jesus himself said, "It would be better if that man would not have been born" (Matthew 26:24)

Imagine, hundreds of years before Jesus was born, the prophets wrote about the 30 pieces of silver and even the potter's field. (Zechariah 11:12-13, Jeremiah 19:1-13; 32:6-9.) There is the potter's field, down there on the right-hand side of the valley of Gehenna.

Meghan: What a haunting prophecy. Lord have mercy.

Chapter 51 Pontius Pilot's Praetorium Proof #14 Jesus' Holiness



For all of eternity the angels of God are praising His Holiness as they repeat Holy, Holy, Holy. God made flesh must be holiness made flesh. Jesus Christ was impeccable, He always did the Will of the Father even when it cost Him inconveniences and pain. Journeying with Jesus we saw His great love as He walked all over Palestine to deliver the "Good News." Although money passed through His hands because of His marvelous deeds, He gave the money and His "Good News" to the poor. The Son of man had nowhere to lay His head. (Matthew 8:20) Jesus' holiness is proclaimed in His suffering. Jesus had the power to turn Pontius Pilate and all of Rome to ashes, but in His holiness, He accepts His suffering to try and save us. Jesus' perfect charity, purity, kindness, humility, self-sacrifice, Mercy and everything about His perfect holiness of character is proof #14 that Jesus is the Son of God. Did any other religious leader have people claim that they were perfect in holiness? Not Buddha, not Confucius, not Mohamed, only Jesus Christ our Holy God, Him and none other.

"No one has greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13)

This morning as we journey with Jesus along the way of the Cross, we are going to make an effort to keep the entire morning very spiritual and enter into the passion with Jesus. To accomplish this, Saint John Paull II recommended, "To contemplate the 'Face of Christ' at the 'School of Mary' is the program that I am setting before the Church in the new millennium. So, as we read the Word of God, try to imagine the expression on Jesus face. The "Way of the Cross" is inside the city now, there will be many potential distractions. For now, we will imagine that store merchants are saying "Crucify Him" instead of "come into my shop and buy some goodies." We will have time for shopping later.

We are at the governor's residence also known as Antonia Fortress. It is an impressive courtyard with large columns that are typical from the

structures of ancient Rome. The actual staircase was moved to Rome in the 300's by Emperor Constantine's mother St. Helen, and it is still remains there to this day. This is where the Jewish Sanhedrin brought Jesus on Good Friday so Pontius Pilot could condemn Him to death. The next day was Passover so the Jews did not want to go into the court for fear of being defiled because Pilot was a pagan and considered unclean. It is ironic to think that Pilot is judging the innocent One Who Judges everything. As ridiculous as it is to judge God, every time we complain to God that He is unfair because of some incidences in our life that are not favorable to us, we actually put the innocent One on trial and by doing so, we judge Him as well. The practice of praying the Stations of the Cross, helps us to slowly overcome these unjust tendencies.

The first chapel is the Chapel of Condemnation. As we enter we will hear the dialog of Jesus' judgement. This dialog is a combination of the Gospel of Matthew 27:11-23, Luke 23: 1-15 and John 18,19.

"Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's praetorium. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the praetorium so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)" The word of the Lord.

The first lesson illuminated is that of ultimate hypocrisy. Being defiled would be displeasing to God, yet they are planning to kill an innocent man, actually God Himself. Yet they want to go through the proper procedures of the ritual to make them look righteous.

Earlier, Jesus told the Jewish leaders a list of "woe to you" to show their true character such as; "Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites; because you are like to whited sepulchers, which outwardly appear to men beautiful, but within are full of dead men's bones, and of all filthiness. So, you also outwardly indeed appear to men just; but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity" (Matthew 23:27-28). This truth was manifested here at Pilate's Praetorium. It is a real warning for us to watch over our own hearts and actions. Also, Jesus will be counting on His New Church to spread the "Good News" to all nations. However, there is a danger that the devil can lure His religious leaders with hypocrisy in the future. We all have to be vigilant and it is a call to look honestly at our motives beneath the surface of things.

"Then Pilate entered the praetorium again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king."

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so." But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?" But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?"

Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore, the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time, they had a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him." Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of them said, "Let him be crucified!" Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"" The word of the Lord.

The one sentence sums up the situation. Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. **Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.**" Pilate asked him, "What is truth?" (John 18:37-38)

Pontius Pilate was a governor and an expert in judging matters of all sorts. The scriptures show that immediately Pilot knows the truth that Jesus is innocent and the Jewish leaders are guilty. Pilot tries to free Jesus, but there are pressures that work against him. There is an entire spiritual level here to examine that helps us see how our souls are drawn toward committing mortal sin. When we are in a state of grace, Jesus lives in us. When we commit mortal sin it actually kills the grace in us. Like Pilot, we know it is wrong but we choose it anyway because there are all kinds of pressures that encourage us to make that deadly decision.

Pilate tries to save Jesus.

"Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." But they were insistent and said, "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place." When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was

under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time.

When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies. Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him." The word of the Lord.

Note: Regarding that spiritual level, in Pilates effort to not commit a mortal sin, he tries to go half way and scourge Jesus. Jesus ends up suffering more by this attempted compromise with the spirit of the world. The blood shed will not satisfy the enemies, on the contrary it will make them more vicious.

The second chapel is the "Scourging at the Pillar". As we pray the second decade of the Rosary here, we will think about how the innocent Jesus has to atone for all the sins of the flesh for all times. Let us hear the crack of the whip, let us see the red blood spray to the ground. Let us look at Jesus face as His eyes are closed and His teeth are clenched as we hear another "crack", "crack".

2ND SORROWFUL MYSTERY: THE SCOURGING OF JESUS

"Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God." (Matthew 5:8)
"Now those who had taken Jesus led Him away to Caiphas the high priest... Peter was following Him at a distance Now the chief priests and all the Sanhedrin were seeking false witness against Jesus, that they might put Him to death, but they found none...Jesus kept silence." (Matthew 26:56-63); (Isaiah 53:7)

"They therefore led Jesus from Caiphas to the praetorium. Now it was early morning, and they themselves did not enter the praetorium, that they might not be defiled, but might eat the Passover. Pilate therefore went outside to them, and said, 'What accusation do you bring against this Man?' They said to him in answer, 'If He were not a criminal we should not have handed Him over to you.' Pilate therefore said to them, 'Take Him yourselves, and judge Him according to your law.' The Jews, then said to him, 'It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death." (John 18:28-31); (Ex 20:13)

FRUIT: PURITY OUR FATHER

"We like sheep have gone astray...and the Lord had laid on Him the iniquity of us all." (Isaiah 53:6)

HAIL MARY

"Do not err, no fornicator... shall possess the Kingdom of God." (1Corinthians 6:9-10) "Jesus said; 'Everyone who sins is a slave to sin." (John 8:34)

HAIL MARY

"Jesus said, 'You shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free." (John 8:32) "Everyone who is committed to the truth hears My voice." (John 18:38)

HAIL MARY

"(Peter) began to curse and swear: 'I do not know this Man you are talking about?' And immediately the cock crowed." (Matthew 26:74)

HAIL MARY

"The Lord turned and looked upon Peter...Peter went out and wept bitterly." (Luke 22:61-62)

HAIL MARY

"The men who had Him in custody began to mock (Jesus) and beat Him." (Luke 22:63); (Isaiah 50:6) "They spat in His face." (Matt. 26:67)

HAIL MARY

"Pilate's next move was to take Jesus and have Him scourged." (John 19:1)

HAIL MARY

"So marred was His look beyond that of man, and His appearance that of mortals." (Isaiah 52:14)
"By His stripes we are healed." (Isa 53:5); (1Peter 2:24)

HAIL MARY

"They scourged them...The Apostles rejoiced that they were found worthy to suffer reproach for the Name of Jesus. And continued to preach..." (Acts 5:40-42)

HAIL MARY

"I find my joy in the suffering I endure for you. In my own flesh I fill up what is lacking in the sufferings of Christ for the sake of His Body the Church." (Colossians. 1:24)

HAIL MARY

Chapter 52 The pavement, Road "Lithostrotos"

Before we carry the Cross, we are

going to the place of the pavement that has the actual Road that Jesus would have walked on. We will also see a map of ancient Jerusalem that shows that Mount

Imagine Jesus' face covered with spit as they drive the crown of long thorns into His head. We can imagine the pain as the thorns pierce Jesus' scalp and the blood flows into His eyes. Each time they strike Jesus on the head with the reed, we can imagine, blood, spit and tears flowing on to this



Calvary or Golgatha was located outside of the city walls during the time of Jesus. We will also see marking on the stone floor called the "Kings Games". The soldiers may have mockingly crowned Jesus with thorns in this area

pavement of the "Kings Games" as we hear them say, "All Hail, King of the Jews."

3rd SORROWFUL MYSTERY: JESUS CROWNED with THORNS

"The Kingdom of God is within you." (Luke 17:21)

"Pilate said to Jesus, 'Art thou the king of the Jews? Thy own people and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?' Jesus answered: 'My kingdom is not of this world.'" (John 18:28-36)

"The chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to destroy Jesus...Pilate said to them, 'What then am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?' They all said, 'Let Him be crucified!'....If thou release this Man, thou art no friend of Caesar; for everyone who makes himself king sets himself against Caesar.'...'Away with Him! Away with Him! Crucify Him!' Pilate said to them, 'Shall I crucify your king?' The chief priests answered, 'We have no king but Caesar.'" (John 19:12-15)

FRUIT: COURAGE OUR FATHER

"Jesus said; 'If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn and offer him the other." (Matt. 5:40) "They beat Him while others struck His face." (Matt. 26:67)

HAIL MARY

"They stripped (Jesus) and put on Him a scarlet royal cloak." (Matthew 27:28)

HAIL MARY

"The soldiers; weaving a crown of thorns put it upon His head and a reed in His right hand." (Matthew 27:29)

HAIL MARY

"Abraham said; 'God himself will provide a victim for the sacrifice'Then he saw a Ram with his head caught in thorns." (Genesis 22:8,13)

HAIL MARY

"Behold the Man!" (John 19:6); (Isaiah 53:3)

HAIL MARY

"And bending the knee before (Jesus) they mocked Him saying, 'Hail, king of the Jews!" (Matthew 27:29)

HAIL MARY

"We are tired of this wretched (bread)!" (Numbers 11:6,21:5); "And they spat on Him, and took the reed and kept striking Him on the head." (Matthew 27:30)

HAIL MARY

"Behold your King!" (John 19:15) "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done." (Matthew 6:10)

HAIL MARY

"Lord of Lords and King of Kings." (Revelations 17:14) "Of His Kingdom there shall be no end." (Luke 1:33)

HAIL MARY

"God is King of all the earth."
(Psalms 47: 7-8)
"All the kings of the earth shall adore
Him...all nations shall serve
Him." (Psalms 72:11); (Rev 21:23-24)
HAIL MARY

4TH SORROWFUL MYSTERY JESUS CARRIES THE CROSS

"Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after justice." (Matthew 5:6)

"Pilate said to (Jesus), 'Don't you know I have the power to crucify You, and I have the power to release You?' Jesus answered, 'You would not have any power over Me whatsoever, unless it was given to you from above. Therefore, he that delivered Me to you has the greater sin.' Pilate sought to release (Jesus)." (John 19:10-12)

"But they all cried, 'Let Him be crucified.' Now Pilate, seeing that he was doing no good, but rather that a riot was breaking out, took water and washed his hands, saying, 'I am innocent of the blood of this just Man; see to it yourselves.' And all the people answered, 'His blood be on us and on our children." (Mat.27:23-25)

FRUIT: PATIENCE

OUR FATHER

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life." (John 14:6)

HAIL MARY

""Whoever wishes to come after Me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow Me... For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, but lose his soul?""

(Matthew 16:24,26)

HAIL MARY

HAIL MARY

"Behold the lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world." (John 1:29)

"He laid the wood on Isaac his son...they went up the mountain." (Genesis 22:6)

HAIL MARY

"They forced a man named Simon of Cyrene to take up His Cross. They came to a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull." (Mat.27:33)

HAIL MARY

"He humbled Himself, becoming obedient unto death, even to death on the Cross. For which God also has exalted Him and has given Him a name which is above all names." (Philippians 2:8,9)

HAIL MARY

"That in the name of Jesus, every knee should bend and every tongue shall confess, to the glory of God the Father, that Jesus Christ is Lord." (Philipp. 2:10-11); (Isaiah 45:22-25)

HAIL MARY

"Daughters of Jerusalem weep not for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For if these things happen when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?" (Luke 23:28,31)

HAIL MARY

"Be followers of me, brethren...for many who walk are enemies of the Cross of Christ." (Philippians 3:18)

HAIL MARY

"Christ sent me to preach the Gospel. Not in wisdom of speech or else the Cross of Christ would lose its power." (1Cor. 1:17); (Gal 6:14)

HAIL MARY

Meghan: This is great to pray on the actual road to Calvary that Jesus would have walked on 2000 years ago.



Return to Pontius Pilot's Praetorium:

We return to the Praetorium to pick up a cross and journey with Jesus along the Via Dolorosa.

So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" When the chief priests and the temple guard saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

"If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against Caesar."

He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar."

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." Then the people as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. (Matthew 27: 11-26)

Chapter 52 14 stations of the Cross They are marked by little plaques on the way.

"Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world" (John 1:29) Jesus spoke, now He is going to Redeem. Because of the offense done to God, no one in man's 4000-year history was able to go to Heaven. The doors to Heaven were closed. Jesus Christ was willing and able to pay the price for me. Jesus Himself said, "there is no greater love than this." As the hero of heroes Jesus once again opened the door to Heaven for us. We can look at the Cross as a big key to the doors of Heaven. For any keys to work, they must be inserted into the right spot. The right spot is not here but up on top of Golgatha. As we follow Jesus along His Way, we will ask for the grace to someday enter into the open door.

The Prayers: Let us enter these stations knowing when He suffered He was thinking of each one of us personally. After announcing each Station, we pray: "We adore You Oh Christ and we praise You, because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world."

After each station, as we walk to the next one we pray; One Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be. **Sing,** "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom, Jesus, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom."

1st Station: Jesus is condemned to death. ("We adore....)

Pontius Pilate orders Your death. Jesus' face shows resignation. Pilot does not want to do it but he is pressured by the world. How many times have I killed Your grace in me with mortal sin? Jesus, you give us many pleasures in life. When we want to please ourselves or the world more than we want to please You, this disorder leads to sin. Please give me the strength to resist pressures of the world so that I may always love you, follow you and give glory to you. Amen.

2nd Station:

Jesus carries His cross

Jesus' face shows joy as He embraced the Cross like a big key that He will use to unlock the gates to Heaven. How often do I avoid the cross that God Wills for me? Lord Jesus help me to embrace my Cross and unite it with Yours so at the end of my journey I will be able to get through that gate into Heaven.

3rd Station: Jesus falls the first time



Jesus' eyes were open wide as He falls. Jesus fell the first time because the weight of the Cross was very heavy. Sometimes the challenges encountered during my pilgrimage of life seem too tough. You showed me how to get back up and move forward. God knows how heavy the cross is. With His grace we will complete the journey. Inspire us with hope to overcome all the challenges in life. Amen.

4th Station: Jesus meets his mother



Lord Jesus, you struggled forward among so much hatred from the very people that You are trying to save. You give Divine Love and you receive curses, spit and stones. We see You smile through the pain as You meet Mother Mary. Her love is encouraging and such a comfort amongst so much hostility. Thank You for giving Her to us as our Mother, for we cherish Her encouragement and support on our journey through life. Please give us the grace to appreciate all those who help us through our trials. Amen.

5th Station: Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry his cross

Lord Jesus, God the Father
Willed that someone help You to
carry the Cross. Jesus was
exhausted when He met Simon on
the way we noticed His face was
filled with gratitude as His burden
was lifted for a time. Lord, help
me to overcome my pride that
wants to do everything on my
own. In a spirit of gratitude,
please help me to see God's
Divine Providence at work when
others help me along my journey.
Amen.

6th Station:

Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

When Veronica was courageous and comforted You in the midst of the hostile crowd, You placed a miraculous impression of Your face on her veil. There is an expression of love that can be seen behind the swelling, the blood, the dirt and spit that is on Your face. Dear Jesus, please imprint the image of Your face onto my soul, so that I will always be courageous for You no matter what the opinion of the world holds. Amen.



7th Station: Jesus falls the second time

Jesus fell the first time because the Cross was heavy. Jesus falls the second time because the uphill road to Calvary was a long way. Jesus' expression is one of determination as He gets back up. Not everything in our life can be solved with a quick fix. Lord Jesus, help us strive for endurance to do God's Will in all things. Amen.

8th Station: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

Jesus looks serious as He told the weeping women to, "Weep not for Me, but weep for yourselves and your children." This is a clear call to look at our lives and embrace with seriousness the grace that is offered to us through Jesus Christ. Lord Jesus help us to share the fire of your love with our friends and family members for the good of our eternal souls. Amen.

9th Station: Jesus falls a third time

The Cross was heavy. The journey was long. Falling the third time shows that Jesus gave all of His strength to fulfill His mission. Flat on the ground, the expression on Jesus' face is one of complete exhaustion. Lord Jesus, you gave everything for Me, help me to give myself totally to You. Amen.

10th Station:

Jesus is stripped of His clothes
Jesus eyes are opened wide as the
cloth stuck to the dried scabs on
His Body is violently stripped off.
Please help strip me of my pride
and all the material things that
keep me from You. Amen.

11th Station:

Jesus is nailed to the cross

Jesus' eyes are closed and His teeth are clenched as the nails are driven into His hands and feet. Jesus' hands, the very hands that provided so many blessings and so many good miracles were pierced. Jesus' feet, the very feet that walked so many miles to share the good news were pierced. Jesus is repaid with torture on account of my sins. Lord Jesus please give me the grace that my hands and feet always give glory to God. Amen.

12th Station:

Jesus dies on the cross

Jesus looks with love as He cries out, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." "Behold thy Mother." We realize that three times Jesus was a helpless slave. Once, in the joyful womb of the Blessed Mother. Once, among the tortures of the Cross. Once, in my

body after receiving Holy Communion. Dear Jesus, help me to prepare myself with love so Holy Communion will be an experience of joy for You. Amen.

13th Station: The body of Jesus is taken down from the Cross

Jesus' face looked peaceful as His dead body was placed into His Mother's arms. Mary's face shows resignation but also shows the pain of a sword passing through Her soul. With all Her strength we see Mary offering up Her wounded love of Jesus as a sacrifice to the Father for the salvation of sinners. Lord Jesus, when our loved ones are taken away, help us to offer the pain up as a sacrifice of love as Mary did. Amen.

14th Station:

Jesus is laid in the tomb

As Jesus is placed in a dark tomb, the reality of His Mission looks hopeless. Through Mary's sorrowful face, we see a glimmer of faith and strength as She starts to pray in expectation of the Resurrection. Lord Jesus, when the circumstances of our lives make the situation look hopeless, please instill in us great faith. Amen.

Chapter 54 Mount Calvary Chapel/ Golgatha Proof #15 Jesus Holy Death



We are here in the Church that is on top of Mount Calvary, known as Golgatha. The original Church was built in the 300's by Emperor Constantine's mother, St. Helen. The engineers put the dirt from the top of Calvary that was moved in order to build a Church there into the hull of a ship and brought it to Rome. Once in Rome, they laid the dirt on the ground as a foundation for the Church of the Holy Cross of Jerusalem. That Church contains many of the existing relics that were used in the Crucifixion. We visit that Church when we pilgrimage to Rome, to this day.

Here in the Holy Sepulcher Church, underneath the main altar that belongs to the Orthodox, is a hole that you can put your hand through and touch the spot where Jesus' Cross was located. The mosaic to the right shows where He would have been nailed to the Cross. That is the Catholic altar. We see a small altar in between dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows.

Beneath the outstretched arms of Jesus on the cross, we see Plexiglass that reveals the top of Mount Calvary. Look close and you will see a large, deep crack in the rock that was formed when the great earthquake struck as Jesus died.



As we are in line to venerate the sacred spot of the Cross underneath the altar, we will pray the 5th sorrowful mystery and we will imagine we are at the foot of the Cross with John and Mary Magdalene.

FIFTH SORROWFUL MYSTERY: THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

"No one has greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13); (Gal.3:13) "They crucified Him...They put over His head the cause written; 'THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS'... They that passed by, blasphemed Him, 'You that will destroy the temple and in three days rebuild it, save Thyself, if Thou art the Son of God, come down from the Cross.' The chief priests with the scribes mockingly said; If He be the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the Cross, and we will believe Him." (Mat. 27:35-42) "Jesus said; "When you lift up the Son of Man, you shall know that I Am He." (John 8:28); (Ezekiel 37:12-14)

FRUIT: PERSEVERANCE OUR FATHER

"Love one another, as I have loved you." (John 13:34)

HAIL MARY

"They have pierced my hands and my feet. They divided my garments amongst them and upon my vestures they cast lots." (Ps 22:17-19)

HAIL MARY

"Love your enemies. Pray for those who persecute you." (Matthew 5:44) "Father forgive them, for they know not what they are doing." (Luke 23:34)

HAIL MARY

""Lord remember me when You come into Your kingdom.' And Jesus said; 'Amen I say to you, this day you will be with Me in paradise." (Lu.23:43)

HAIL MARY

"Jesus said to His mother, 'Woman behold thy son' and to the disciple He said, 'Behold thy Mother.' After that he took Her into his home." (John 19:27); (Psalms 87); (Galatians 4:26)

HAIL MARY

"My God, My God, why has thou abandoned Me?"
(Matthew 27:47); (Psalms 22:1)
"A man shall leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife and the two shall become one flesh. This is a great sacrament. In Christ and the Church." (Ephesians 5:31-32); (Genesis 2:24)

HAIL MARY

"I thirst...it is finished." (John 19:28,30); (Psalms 69:22) "Father into Thy hands, I commend My Spirit.' Upon saying this (Jesus died)." (Luke 23:46); (Psalms 31:6)

HAIL MARY

"His side was pierced with a lance, immediately, blood and water flowed forth." (John 19:34); (Zech. 12:10); (Revelations 1:5); (Genesis 2:21-23)

HAIL MARY

"There was darkness over the whole earth. The curtain of the temple was torn into two and the earth quaked. Many bodies of Saints arose. The centurion said, 'Truly this Man is the Son of God.'" (Mat. 27)

HAIL MARY

"We preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Gentiles...but Christ is the power and the wisdom of God." (1Corinthians 1:23-24)

HAIL MARY

Moving to the back of Mount Calvary

We are in the holiest place in the world. This is the place where the God-Man died to give us a chance to have Eternal Life.

One thing that Jesus said while dying on the Cross can puzzle people unless they look at it in terms of our relationship. Before Jesus died He said; **My God, My God, why has thou abandoned Me** (Matthew 27:47)? Is our hero despairing amongst the torture? Does He as God not know why the Father is withdrawing His presence from Him? Maybe He knows, but Jesus wants us to ask that question. Father God, "why are you abandoning Jesus?" First of all, Jesus is not only reciting Psalm 22 written 1000 years earlier, that starts out with the phrase, My God, My God why has Thou abandoned Me, Jesus is fulfilling the scripture. Psalm 22 then describes the crucifixion scene including the details "they have pierced my hands and my feet" (Psalm 22:16) and of people casting lots for His clothes (Psalm 22:19). Then Psalm 22 goes on to describe the triumph of His Church in the whole world including the gentiles.

As incredible as that is, there is even something more amazing here to think about that we will share in Chapter 48 on Holy Saturday.

Jesus also said to John, **Behold thy Mother** (John 19:27)!

Jesus Christ has given us everything. His wisdom, His example, His miracles, and now His Blood. Jesus knows all too well that it still will not be enough to get a good response from many. So, He gives us one more gift to help us get to Heaven. "Behold thy Mother!" Our Lady's sweetness, love, humility and patience especially in Her apparitions such as Lourdes, Fatima and so many other places encourage Her children to accept Jesus' gift of redemption. That gift of Jesus was given here. We do not hear Our Lady's response but all the Marian apparitions in the world throughout history indicated that Mary said, "Yes" to Her dying Son's last request. Thank you, Jesus and Mary!

Proof #15 is Jesus Holy and Powerful Death. "From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon... Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.

The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"" (Matthew 27:45-55)

Looking closely at the God-Man Jesus Christ as He died on the Cross. Imagine we were there and as His blood is dripping and we hear Jesus asking His Father to forgive us. Imagine seeing the sun being darkened. Imagine hearing Jesus crying out and then dying. Imagine feeling the earth quake so strong that it split the rock of Calvary right here and tore the veil of the temple into two. Imagine seeing the tombs open up and many saints arouse, and people could see them. (Fulfilling Ezekiel 37:12-14 – "I will open your graves, and have you rise from them, then you shall know that I am the Lord your God!") What were the saints doing? What were they saying?

"When the centurion and all those who were with Him, keeping watch over Jesus saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe, and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!""

Proof #15 is Jesus Holy and Powerful Death. He went out with a bang that even impressed a pagan Roman soldier to convince him that he was the Son of God. Did anybody else's death impress anybody? Not Buddha's death, not Confucius, not Mohamed only Jesus Christ our God, Him and none other.

One thing to point out is that the great earthquake that split open the crack in this great boulder, also tore the veil of the temple in two. This is very significant because the veil of the Temple was protecting the Holy of Holies where God's presence was. Scholars say that when the veil was torn into two, the presence of God left the temple, never to return. The temple was just a dead shell until it was destroyed less than 40 years later. God had a different plan for where He wanted His presence to dwell.

The burial Preparation Slab

As we come down the stairs from Calvary, we see a beautiful mosaic located in back of the slab. It depicts three things. First, it shows Jesus dying on the Cross, then, Jesus' body being prepared for burial on a marble slab, and Jesus being laid in the tomb. This is the marble slab that Jesus was placed on. We will read the Word of God from Mark 15 and John 19, before we venerate the relic.

Preparing Jesus Body: Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced." After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there. (John 19:32-42) He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James saw where the body was laid (Mark 15:46-47). The Word of the Lord.

John said it was the "Jewish Day of Preparation". Do we know what that means? The next day is Passover. At three p.m. on the "Day of Preparation" is when the Jewish people are killing and preparing the Passover lamb. So by Divine Providence Jesus the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world is dying the same time all the lambs are being killed.

So Jesus was prepared on this marble slab and was laid in the tomb close by there. The scriptures say, the Marys saw where the Body was laid. We will go into the tomb, later on.

The Pillar of the Crowning:

As we come to the back of the Church, we see a side altar that has a short column underneath it. The painting above shows Jesus being crowned with thorns as He sits on this column.

Finding the True Cross:

Down the stairs in the chapel below is where St. Helen is said to have found the True Cross in 326 A.D.

They found three Crosses. Tradition holds that a young man had just died so they touched his body to each cross. When they touched it to the true Cross he came back to life again. That was how they knew it was the True Cross. They split it up into several pieces. Some large relics of it are in Rome and in other monasteries around the world. There are many small splinter pieces that were put in Cross reliquaries so that the faithful could venerate it around the world.

Adams tomb located near Calvary – Our common parents.

Divine Providence is so incredible that we cannot comprehend it, we can only praise our awesome God. We return to the beautiful mosaic that is located on the back of the slab that Jesus was laid on for burial preparation and we see something very interesting. Note that underneath where Jesus was crucified there is a skull. It is a very common site, yet most people do not know what is special about that skull. A Jewish guide told me about it and I had to look it up for myself to check the validity of tradition. This is one of the most mind boggling spots in the world because Golgotha in Hebrew means *Place of the Skull*. The skull referred to here is Adam's skull or Adam's burial place and tomb are said to be here. St. Paul described Jesus Christ as the new Adam. Jesus "yes" had to undo Adam's "no."

Directly underneath the spot where Jesus Christ died is Adam's altar! Look through the Plexiglass and you can see the large crack in the rock made by the earthquake. The crack travels from where Jesus died all the way down to Adam's tomb. By a miracle of Divine Providence,

some blood would have trickled down into that crack and one drop would have landed on Adam's skull. We all pray that by Jesus Blood we are washed clean of our sins. We cannot redeem ourselves by ourselves; we need the Blood of Jesus to redeem us. Amen.

Why is it not politically correct to talk about Adam and Eve anymore? Since the French Revolution, in 1789, there has been much propaganda spread in an attempt to ridicule and put down the concept of Adam and Eve being our common parents. The French Revolution totalitarian regime ended up killing 40,000 of their own Frenchman because they did not agree with their view of liberty. Why do totalitarian regimes always want to push a godless evolution opposed to us coming from one common set of parents? If we have one common parents, created by God, then we are all brothers and sisters created in the image and likeness of God. This lineage gives us all a common inherent value. It is not the government who gives us our value or rights; the government is there to ensure that our values and rights are protected just as America's Declaration of Independence states.

Totalitarian regimes always try to trick us through propaganda. They will say, "Get God out of your culture and then we will take care of you. You will be free to sin all you want. Once God is out, what rights will you have? If God is out, history will repeat itself and the only rights that will remain will be similar to the rights that Hitler, Stalin, Mao, or another tyrant offered to the people they governed. These tyrants will decide what rights they will give people based on their value of you, not God's value. In their regime your personhood will no longer have value based on being a brother or sister who was created in the image and likeness of God. This concept is actually too inconvenient for to them when they want to steal from you or even kill you. In a world filled with murder and refugees, it is great if we realize that we are all brothers and sisters.

Let us look at a few scientific facts that prove we all come from common parents. For example, if you take someone from Ireland who has a twin brother, and someone from Africa that has a twin brother, and someone from China that has a twin brother and one of them needs a blood transfusion. The person in Ireland's twin brother might not be

able to donate blood because it is incompatible with his blood. The same thing could happen in China. The blood of the Chinese twin might not be compatible with his own twin brother. The same thing could happen in Africa. However, the guy from Africa's twin brother could be compatible with the guy from Ireland, and the same thing with the Chinese twin. There is a great deal of evidence based research that supports the hypotheses that we come from one common set of parents.

It is always good for us to keep in mind that what Jesus did by His resurrection is a world changer. It is no longer only one nation that could belong to God, but the entire world is welcome. Jesus redeemed the human race and anyone who wants to accept Him as Lord can be His. Those who receive Jesus, He gave them power to become children of God (John 1:12). We are all born children of Adam, everybody, but now we see what Jesus did for us, through this door of Baptism, we become children of God. In Jesus Christ, even a slave becomes our brother.

Before we take a break, we will venerate this spot here and see Adam's chapel, later we will come back by the tomb to experience Christ's Resurrection.

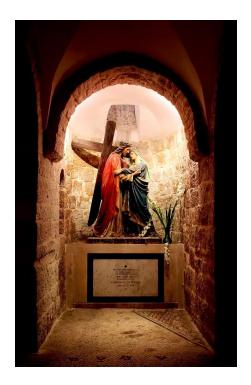
Chapter 55 Holy Saturday – Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary



We are here at the fourth Station of the Cross to meditate on Holy Saturday with the Blessed Mother.

The oratory, named Our Lady of the Spasm, was built in 1881, but its crypt preserves some archaeological remains from former Byzantine buildings on the site, including a mosaic floor

The Blessed Virgin Mary had to undo everything Eve did. Where Eve said no to God, and stole God's fruit, Blessed Mother gave Her total yes, and gave up which fruit? *Pause, Jesus.* The Fruit of Her womb, Jesus, which is also the Fruit we are going to get to have everlasting life.



When Jesus' closest friends abandoned, denied, or betrayed Him, Mary continued to believe what she was told by the Angel Gabriel. "The Lord God will give Him the throne of David His father, He will reign in the house of Jacob forever and of His Kingdom there will be no end" (Luke 1: 32-33).

What would Mary ponder as She waited for Jesus to be raised from the dead? She probably would have been meditating on the five joyful mysteries of the Rosary, reflecting on a time when Jesus was a child.

Simeon prophesied at the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple, that Mary's heart will be pierced by the sword to reveal the thoughts of many. (Luke 2:35)

The first half of this prophecy was fulfilled at the foot of the Cross. Her heart was pierced through the sufferings of Her by the soul when she watched Her only Son die on the cross. We believe the second part of the prophecy, "To reveal the thoughts of many", is being fulfilled by the request of the child Jesus and Our Lady of Fatima when they ask us to make reparation on the Five First Saturdays of the month. This devotion reveals whether we want to pull the sword out of Mary's Heart with reparation or push it in further with our sins.

This is the first "First Saturday", Catholics all over the world respond to Our Lady of Fatima's call of praying the five first Saturday devotion as a solution to the ills of the world. One who practices this devotion is promised they will help to convert Russia and God will send Our Lady at the hour of death with enough graces for the soul's salvation. Pope Francis visit to Fatima on the 100-year anniversary of the apparitions, forever marked the events as he canonized the seers Saint Francisco and Saint Jacinta.

For five consecutive first Saturdays of the month, we are to:

- 1. Go to Mass and receive Communion. (Eat the fruit from the tree of Life)
- 2. Pray five decades of the Rosary. (The weapon against the devil)
- 3. Go to Confession, one is given eight days before or eight days after. (Get soul in a state of grace by washing spiritual robes in the Blood of the Lamb.)
- 4. **Meditate** with Mary for fifteen minutes on the mysteries of the Rosary. (Antidote to propaganda.)
- 5. Offer all that up in reparation for the sins and blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

God can change the world in an instant and does not need our help to do it, however, in His Wisdom He gives His creatures an opportunity to help. This remedy is within the grasp of every Catholic in our country. If you want to help the world to become a better place, practice the Five First Saturdays of Reparation.

FOURTH JOYFUL MYSTERY: PRESENTATION OF JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

And when the days of her purification were fulfilled according to the Law of Moses, they took (Jesus) up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord" and to offer a sacrifice..., a pair of turtledoves. (Lu 2:21-24) (Ex 13:2)

FRUIT OF THE MYSTERY: **OBEDIENCE**

OUR FATHER

Simeon was just and devout, and the Holy Spirit was upon him...He took (the Child Jesus) into his arms. (Luke 2:25,28)

HAIL MARY

"Now Thou does dismiss Thy servant, O Lord, according to Thy word, in peace; Because my eyes have seen Thy salvation." (Luke 2:29,30)

HAIL MARY

"Thou has prepared before the face of all peoples, a light of revelation to the Gentiles, and a Glory for Thy people Israel." (Luke 2:32)

HAIL MARY

"Behold this Child is destined for the fall and the resurrection of many...And for a sign that shall be contradicted." (Luke 2:34)(Isa 8:14)

HAIL MARY

"(Mary), thy own soul a sword shall pierce, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."(Luke 2:35)

HAIL MARY

Anna, a prophetess,,,,was at the temple, serving night and day by fastings and prayers. She spoke of Him to all that looked for the redemption of Israel. (Luke 2:36-38) HAIL MARY

An Angel of the Lord appeared in sleep to Joseph saying, "Arise and take the Child and His mother and flee into Egypt:Herod will seek the Child (Jesus) to destroy Him." (Matthew 2:13) (Osee 11:1)

HAIL MARY

Then Herod perceiving he was deluded by the wise men, was exceedingly angry and sending killed all the male children in Bethlehem. "from two years old and younger. (Matthew 2:16) (Jeremias 31:15)

HAIL MARY

And the Child (Jesus) grew and became strong. He was full of wisdom and the grace of God was upon Him. (Luke 2:40)

HAIL MARY

For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. (John 1:17)

HAIL MARY

Include Meditation on Last 7 words of Jesus.

St. Paul helps us to connect the dots with Jesus words," Father, why have You abandoned Me" and "Behold thy Mother!" Jesus is fulfilling Genesis 2:24, "A man shall leave his father and mother and cling to his wife and the two shall become one flesh. This is a great sacrament in Christ and the Church" (Ephesian 5:31-32). When we look at our relationship with Jesus our God, He has to die on the Cross and leave His Father and Mother, so He can come into my body during Holy Communion and the two of us become one flesh. As we have now seen Calvary, let us look at how much redemption of the human race cost Him. He did that for me. What will I do for Him? Praise the Lord for this greatest of mysteries.

Chapter 56 The Shroud of Turin Proof #16 Miraculous Images from God.





Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. 4 The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.

6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7 and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. 8 Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also

went in, and he saw and believed; 9 for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples returned to their homes.

The Notre Dame outside the New Gate of Jerusalem contains an excellent display about the shroud of Turin, the miraculous burial cloth of Jesus.

The scientist even found images of money in the shroud that were coined by Pontius Pilate in 29 AD.

Pope Benedict XVI said; "One could say that the Shroud is the Icon of this mystery, the Icon of Holy Saturday. Indeed it is a winding-sheet that was wrapped round the body of a man who was crucified, corresponding in every way to what the Gospels tell us of

Jesus who, crucified at about noon, died at about three o'clock in the afternoon." ... he bought a linen cloth, and after Jesus was taken down from the Cross, wrapped him in that shroud and buried him in that tomb (cf. Mk 15: 42-46).

Proof #16 Includes the Shroud of Turin, The miraculous image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Veronica's Veil in Manoppello and other miraculous images. Does anyone else have these miraculous images associated with them or their Church? Not Buddha, not Confucius, not Mohamed only Jesus Christ our God, Him and none other.



Chapter 57 Holy Sepulcher– Jesus' Tomb Proof #17 is Jesus raised Himself from the dead and appears to many witnesses.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the greatest of all the miracles that Jesus has made. Jesus raised Himself from the dead on the third day and there were witnesses. Only the God made flesh could do that. Conquering death, Jesus now lives forever at the right hand of the Father preparing a place for us His beloved. This is proof #17. Has any other religious leader raised themselves from the dead? Not Buddha, not Muhammed, not Confucius, only Jesus Christ our God, He and none other.

His resurrection is not only His greatest miracle, it confirms everything Jesus said and everything the prophets predicted about Him. It also confirms all the supernatural power of the sacraments of the Church that are available to forgive our sins.

As Jesus Christ appeared to many of the apostles and disciples, they became witnesses to Jesus' Resurrection. This is a very serious hinge point in Christianity. St. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15. "If Jesus Christ be not risen again, your faith is vain, for you are yet in your sins... Then they also that are fallen asleep in Christ, are perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable... But now Christ is risen from the dead, Death is swallowed up in victory. But thanks be to God, who hath given us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Thousands upon thousands of future miracles in Jesus Christ's Church will confirm that Jesus rose from the dead and that He is the Son of God.

How can we receive Jesus in Holy Communion if He did not rise from the dead? How can He forgive our sins in the Sacrament of Penance? How can we journey with Jesus if He is not alive?

So, what happened on Easter morning?

Let us arise early on the first day of the week and go with the Marys to the tomb. They were going there because they wanted to finish anointing his body with spices and oils. On Good Friday, it was getting late and the Sabbath was starting so they wanted to finish the job early on Sunday morning. An angel came like lightning and rolled the stone away. The guards were struck with terror and became like dead men.

The angels say the famous line, "Do not be afraid, you are looking for Jesus, He is not here, He has risen as He said, Come and see the place where they laid Him."

This is one of the Angel Stories of the Angels of the New Era. As we watch the angel, listen to the angel, and imitate the angel, we will pick up all the principles of mental prayer.

I will imitate the angel and say, "Come and see the place where they laid Him." That is exactly what we are going to do, we are going to take the angels advice and see the tomb, the place where they laid Jesus. As this grace strengthened the women's faith, it will strengthen our faith as well.

The angel tells them to go tell Peter and the other disciples that Jesus is risen. Peter and John went running to the tomb. They find nothing but the linen clothes lying there. When John saw the linen clothes, he believed. Of course the linen clothes happened to be the "Shroud of Turin" as it is known today. It has the miraculous imprint of Jesus' Body on the linen cloth that we can see to this day.

Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene and other women disciples, but does not appear to the apostles until evening on Easter Sunday. The tradition is that Jesus would have gone to His Mother, the New Eve and comforted Her and told Her they won.

Praying the scriptural first glorious mystery, the Resurrection, is great preparation to visit the tomb.

What we will see is two small rooms. The first room is the preparation room, where Jesus Body would have been prepared. In the center of this small room there is a pillar that has part of the stone that enclosed the entrance of the tomb. Pilgrims have picked at it over 2000 years and that is what remains.





The second room is the actual tomb. Underneath the altar is the stone slab that Jesus would have been laid. That is the actual spot of the Resurrection. Praise the Lord. The Lord is risen. Alleluia.

FIRST GLORIOUS MYSTERY: THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

"Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy."
(Matthew 5:7) "Jesus said; 'Destroy this temple...in three days I will raise it up."" (John 2:19); (Jonas 2:1)

"When it began to dawn towards the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, to see the sepulcher. And behold, there was a great earthquake. For an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and coming, rolled back the stone and sat upon it. And for fear of him, the guards were struck with terror and became as dead men. The angel said to the women: 'Fear not, for I know you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for He has risen as He said. Come and see the place where they laid Him."' (Matthew 28:1-7)

FRUIT: FAITH OUR FATHER

"Christ, having risen from the dead, will never die again, death has no power over Him. You must die to sin, be alive for God in Jesus Christ." (Romans 6:9-11)

HAIL MARY

"The angel said to Mary Magdalene, 'Go, tell His disciples and Peter that He goes before you to Galilee; there you shall see Him, as He said." (Mark 16:7)

HAIL MARY

"Peter and the other disciple ran together to the sepulcher and saw the linen cloths lying there. The other disciple saw, & believed." (Jn 20:4-8)

HAIL MARY

"(Thomas) said to them, 'unless I shall see the print of the nails and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." (John 20:25)

HAIL MARY

"Jesus came, though the doors were locked and said, 'Peace be to you. Thomas, put your finger in My hands, put your hand into My side, and be not faithless but believe." (Jn 20:27)

HAIL MARY

"Thomas replied; 'My Lord and my God." (John 20:28)

HAIL MARY

"Jesus said, 'Blessed are they that have not seen, and have believed." (John 20:29)

HAIL MARY

"They knew (Jesus) in the breaking of the bread." (Luke 24:35)

HAIL MARY

"Just as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will come to life." (1Cor. 15:22); (Romans 5:9-21)

HAIL MARY

"Jesus did many other signs. These are written, that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and that believing, you may have life in His name." (John 20:30-31)

HAIL MARY

The Lord is risen. Alleluia. In back of the Holy Tomb is a side chapel that has a portion of the pillar that was used at the "Scourging of the Pillar."

The Mary Magdalene Chapel close by Christ's tomb is where Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene.

"But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her: Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her" (Jn 20:11-18).

Unrepentant souls / The Report of the Guard

Many people, Jews and Gentiles embraced Christianity. However, some remained unrepentant.

"While they were going, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests everything that had happened. After the priests had assembled with the elders, they devised a plan to give a large sum of money to the soldiers, telling them, "You must say, 'His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep.' If this comes to the governor's ears, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble." So they took the money and did as they were directed. And this story is still told among the Jews to this day" (Matthew 28:11-15).

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained" (John 20:19-23).

Jesus and Thomas - But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples

told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with

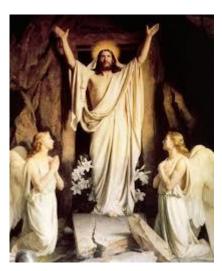


them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." (John 20:29)

Encouragement or moments of grace that help us to believe.

When I first read (Matthew 28:5-10), I was puzzled. "But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going

ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.""



Why would God send the angel to tell the woman that Jesus is risen in verse 5, and then in verse 9, Jesus appeared to them? Why not just appear to the women directly Himself?

Then I read verse 17, "When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted." Jesus even ends up rebuking them for their little faith for not believing those who saw Him after he had risen. (Mark 16:14).

Upon looking at the resurrection accounts, it is apparent that they were traumatized and the disciples lost all their faith during the crucifixion. The Lord finally humbled them and now He is ready to mold His New Church through them.

There were many hints of moments of grace that the disciples received to help **prepare** them to believe and encounter the risen Christ more properly. For example, when the angel first appeared to the woman, when they encountered Jesus then they took hold of His feet and worshipped Him. When the angel did not appear to the disciples, some of them encountered Jesus with doubts and gave Him a poor welcome. Human beings have souls that always need encouragement that Jesus is risen! Totally Yours finds that helping pilgrims encounter these things on our list helps to strengthen their faith.

Below is a list of ten of the items that the scriptures said helped the disciple's faith so that they could encounter the Risen Lord with love and not unbelief. This list is important to all Catholics because we encounter Jesus, the Risen One in Holy Communion.

- 1. **Remembering Jesus words.** "He has risen **as He said**" (Matthew 28:6). Therefore, read the scriptures, especially Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
- 2. **Visiting the tomb of Jesus.** "Come and see the place where they laid Him" (Matthew 28:6). This grace strengthened their faith. That is why we go on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.
- 3. **Apparitions from Heaven** (Angels, Mary, the saints) proclaiming the Resurrection (Matthew 28:6). More apparitions are even happening until this day and that helps our faith.
- 4. **Observing the burial cloths** (Jn 20:8)."The disciple believed." Jesus image on the Shroud of Turin has inspired millions.
- 5. **Seeking Jesus with all your heart and tears** (John 20:11-18). Mary Magdalene searched with tears. When Jesus says her/our name personally, it is a moment of grace.
- 6. **Sharing your testimony.** "Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead" (Matthew 28:7) Yes, when you share out of love, it is a moment of grace for you as well.
- 7. **Hearing the testimony of people who encountered the Risen Christ** (Mark 16:14) Imagine if you were the apostles, at first you hear the women and do not believe, then you hear others and you still are not sure, then you hear disciples who are on the road to Emmaus and then you start to wonder, "Am I the only one who has not seen the Lord?" When Jesus appears to them He reprimands them for lack of faith and stubbornness for not believing the witnesses. The same thing happens with the numerous Marian Apparitions in our day.
- 8. **Hearing the Old Testament Prophecies that Jesus fulfilled** (Luke 24:27) See chapter 6 for numerous examples of these prophecies. Your heart will burn within as your faith increases.
- 9. **Celebrating Holy Mass** (Luke 24:30) On the road to Emmaus. The Mass is the greatest moment of grace for Christians.
- 10. **Seeing Jesus' wounds.** (Jn 20:28) This helped the doubting Thomas say "My Lord and My God." In our time, we know of Padre Pio, Fr. Sudac and many others who have received the "Stigmata" or wounds of Christ. These manifestations encourage many people to trust that Jesus is Risen.

Chapter 58 Jesus Ascension into Heaven



We are on top of Mount Olivet at the chapel where Jesus ascended into Heaven. It is located very close to the Our Father Church and not too far from the Palm Sunday route.

Jesus gathered the disciples up here to give them a final blessing and last instructions. "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in



the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Jesus also told them wait in the city until they received the Holy Spirit.

Then by Jesus own power, He was raised up and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

In the 300's St. Helen built the original chapel here over the miraculous foot imprints that Jesus left here as the last spot that He touched on earth. The original chapel had a hole in the dome, similar to the Pantheon in Rome. This way people could see the sky from within the chapel.

The original structure had been destroyed and rebuilt by 670 AD. Historians noted that pilgrims reported looking at the footprints of Jesus

Today it is a Muslim Mosque because the last church on the site was captured by the Muslim sultan Saladin when he defeated the Crusaders in 1187.

The Muslims also believe in the Ascension of Jesus, that is why it was converted into a mosque.



The Muslims allow Christians to venerate the spot because we share some beliefs.

The right footprint is in the chapel/mosque; the left footprint was moved to a mosque inside the Old City.

As we venerate the sacred spot, let us pray the second decade of the Rosary and ask for a firm hope that Jesus will come again. Amen.

SECOND GLORIOUS MYSTERY: JESUS ASCENDS INTO HEAVEN

"You shall see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of the power of God." (Matthew 26:64) "For forty days Jesus appeared to them and spoke of the kingdom of God." (Acts 1:3)

"Jesus said; 'Go into the whole world and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved...In My name they shall cast out devils...speak with new tongues...take up serpents...and if they shall drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them. They shall lay their hands upon the sick, and they shall recover."

(Mark 16:15-18); (Ezekiel 36:25-28)

FRUIT: HOPE OUR FATHER

"Then (Jesus) opened their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures...Jesus said; 'Preach penance and remission of sins, in His Name, to all nations." (Luke 24:46-47)

HAIL MARY

"As the Father has sent Me, I also sent you." (John 20:21) "I am the Vine, you are the branches...He that lives in Me and I in him, will bear much fruit." (John 15:5); (Revelations 22:2)

HAIL MARY

"(Jesus) breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Ghost, whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven, those you retain, they are retained." (John 20:22-23); (Genesis 2:7)

HAIL MARY

"Simon Peter, son of John, do you love Me?...Feed My sheep." (John 21:17); (Psalm 23:1-2)

HAIL MARY

"Jesus said...'Thou art Peter; and upon this rock I will build My Church,...I will give thee the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and whatever you shall bind on earth, it shall be bound also in heaven." (Matt. 16)

HAIL MARY

"All power is given to Me in Heaven and earth...Teach them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and behold I am with you all days, even to the end of the world." (Matthew 28:18-20)

HAIL MARY

"Stay in the city, till you receive power from upon High." (Lu 24:49)

HAIL MARY

""(Jesus) was raised up: and a cloud received Him out of their sight.." (The Angel) said 'This Jesus...will come again, as you seen Him going to Heaven." (Acts 1:9-11)

HAIL MARY

"They preached everywhere: the Lord worked with them, and confirming the Word with signs that followed." (Mark 16:20); (1 Timothy 3:16)

HAIL MARY

"Rejoice always! Pray without ceasing! In all things give thanks...Do not extinguish the Spirit...do not despise prophecy. Test all things, hold fast to what is good."
(1 Thessalonians 5:16-21)

HAIL MARY

This is one of the angel stories. On a journey with Jesus, this is a good place to meditate. Let us imagine Jesus smile as He gives us His last blessing. We hear His voice as He reassures us that He will be with us all times, even to the end of the world. We can imagine Jesus being lifted up to the blue sky and a white cloud receives Him out of their sight. We look up at the cloud for a long time in awe. We see an angel dressed in white. We hear the angel say, "This Jesus will come again, the same way you seen him going into Heaven." We imitate the angel and will tell others, "Jesus will come again on a cloud for all to see. For now, we will be filled with the Holy Spirit and help build up the Kingdom of God."

Remember the anti-Christ will not return on a cloud but will probably go through the Golden Gate across from here. (See chapter 31)

Guess who the MUSLIMS say will come again from Heaven?

Surprisingly the Muslims do not believe Muhammed will come again but Jesus will come again and in the same way. Jesus will come on a cloud for all to see. Jesus will not go through the Golden Gate, He already fulfilled that prophecy 2000 years ago.



Jesus' name is written 25 times in the Koran, this is more than Muhammed.

Wrap your heads around that one.

Chapter 59 Cenacle - Holy Upper Room of Pentecost



The Cenacle is on the upper floor of a two-story building near the Church of the Dormition, south of the Zion Gate in the walls of Jerusalem's Old City. Before Jesus Ascension into Heaven He said, "Stay in the city, till you receive power from upon High." (Luke 24:49)

After the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven, the Apostles were making a nine-day novena in prayer with Mary to prepare themselves. (Acts 1) It is very important to note that Jesus Christ did not pick the replacement Apostle for Judas, nor did people pick themselves to be elected Apostles. Jesus let the Church under Peter's guidance do it and they have been selecting the Apostles or Bishops ever since. (Acts 1)

Whenever they gathered, the doors were locked for fear of the Jews. Here is where the Holy Spirit came upon them. It was heard by all as a strong driving wind. Parted tongues of fire sat on each one of their heads. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and the fear left them and they boldly evangelized the "Good News" that Jesus Christ is risen.

In Genesis 11, the people tried to build the tower of Babel for themselves and because of their pride, God confused their speech and they went their separate ways. Now people of different languages were able to understand the apostles and they were called to this new unity. To come back together and build up the Kingdom of God.

Jesus' Church lives through the power of the Holy Spirit – So many political and various forces tried to kill the Apostles and the disciples. The lives of the early Christians gave testimony to the greatest miracle; the Resurrection. The Roman Empire was the superpower of the world at that time. For over 250 years, they tried to crush Jesus' group of fisherman. Their powerful witness along with the growth of the Church in spite of bloody persecutions along with the infallible nature of the official doctrines of the same Church make up the 19th proof that Jesus Christ is the Messiah, the Son of God.

The well-respected Pharisee named Gamaliel said; "If this work is from men, it will fail. If it is from God, you will not be able to stop it, else you will be even fighting God" (Act 5:38-39).

THIRD GLORIOUS MYSTERY: DESCENT OF the HOLY SPIRIT

"The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things." (John 14:18,26) The Spirit of Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Piety, Fortitude, Knowledge, Fear of the Lord." (Isaiah 11:2-3) "They were persevering with one mind in prayer with the women, and Mary the Mother of Jesus." (Acts 1:14) "When days of Pentecost were accomplished...there came a sound from Heaven, as of a mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them parted tongues of fire, and it sat upon every one of them: And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they began to speak with foreign tongues....The multitude came together and were confounded in mind because every man heard them speak in his own tongue." (Acts 2:1-6)

FRUIT: LOVE OF GOD OUR FATHER

"Jesus said: 'When the Spirit of Truth comes...He shall glorify Me because He will take what is Mine and reveal it to you." (John 16:13,14)

HAIL MARY

"Peter standing up said...'It shall come to pass, in the last days, says the Lord, I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh.'" (Acts 2:17)

HAIL MARY

"Your sons and daughters shall prophesy... I will show wonders in the Heavens above and signs on the earth." (Acts 2:19)

HAIL MARY

"God raised Jesus again, and we are His witnesses...God has made both Lord and Christ this Jesus whom you have crucified." (Acts 2:32,36)

HAIL MARY

"Do penance, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of your sins: and you will receive the Holy Ghost." (Act 2:38); (Ex 14:29)

HAIL MARY

"Save yourself from this perverse generation...' And there were added that day about three thousand souls." (Acts 2:40,41); (1Peter 3:20-21)

HAIL MARY

"They were persevering in the doctrine of the apostles, and in the communication of the breaking of bread and in prayers." (Acts 2:42) "As they prayed, the (walls) shook...all were filled with the Holy Spirit." (Acts 4:31)

HAIL MARY

"If this work is from men, it will fail. If it is from God, you will not be able to stop it, else you will be even fighting God." (Act 5:38-39); (Ps 130:30); (Num 11:25)

HAIL MARY

"Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit,,, for you have been bought at a great price. Glorify God and bear Him in your body." (1Cor 6:19-20)

HAIL MARY

The fruit of the Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Faith...and Chastity." (Galatians 5:22)

HAIL MARY

Chapter 60 Holy Dormition of Mary

Proof #18: Numerous apparitions of Jesus, Mary and the Saints (Modern day prophets)

There are various traditions about what happened to Mary after the Ascension of Jesus. She stayed with the Apostle John who gave Her Holy Communion every day. Some people say She went to Ephesus. I like the tradition that She remained in Jerusalem area, in one of Lazareth's secluded properties at the Mount of Olives and prayed the way of Jesus passion every day for the rest of Her life. Personally, I think She appeared to John at Ephesus many years later and that is how the tradition was started there. She was at Pentecost and we can assume that Our Lady was always encouraging everyone to pray and have great faith just as She does today. When Jesus was dying on the Cross He appointed Her to be Our Mother Of course that means She can help us more than our angel can.

It is a dogma of the Church that Mary's Body and soul was Assumed into Heaven. "Ascension" means by His own power. The "Assumption" means that God lifted Mary up. This truth gives certainty to the "Resurrection of the Body" by which we hope all of us will make it to Heaven. The statue is made of cherry wood and ivory. The dome above the statue is adorned with mosaic pictures of six women of the Old Testament: Eve, Miriam, Jael, Judith, Ruth and Esther.

Our Lady with Her Body assumed into Heaven appears frequently throughout history. God sends Our Lady because She helps us remember that "The Kingdom of God is within us." The battle is in our hearts. Love is our only weapon. She is full of grace. As She helped Jesus, She will help give us zeal so we can pray out of love, fast out of love, read the Bible out of love, Confess our sins out of love and receive Jesus in Communion out of Love. Other people will think that the solution to the world's problems is to sell more arms to everyone and others will promote cutting people's heads off, but in Our Lady's simple school of faith, we will learn all about loving Jesus Christ our God and human beings as created in the image and likeness of God

THE 4th GLORIOUS MYSTERY: ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

"All generations shall call Me blessed." (Luke 1:48)

"In the end, three things last; Faith, Hope and Love and the greatest of these is Love." (1Corinthians 13:13) "Jesus said...' Thou shall love the Lord thy God with your whole heart, whole soul, and whole mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment." (Matt. 22:37) "Arise, make haste, my love, my dove, my beautiful one and come... Thou art all fair, o my love, and there is not a spot in thee."

"Rejoice for joy...all you that mourn for Her...Behold I will bring upon her as it were a river of peace." (Isaiah 66:10,12)

GRACE OF A HAPPY DEATH OUR FATHER

"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither has it entered into the heart of man, what things God has prepared for them that love Him."

(1 Corinthians 2:9); (Isaiah 64:4)

HAIL MARY

(Songs 2:10, 3:7)

"Whoever eats My Flesh, and drinks My Blood, has everlasting life: and I will raise them up on the last day." (John 6:55)

HAIL MARY

"All good things came to me together with Her, and innumerable riches through Her hands...the Mother of them all...an infinite treasure to men." (Wisdom 7:11-14)

HAIL MARY

"In the midst of her own people she shall be exalted, and shall be admired in the holy assembly." (Sirach 24:3)

HAIL MARY

"Come to Me all you that yearn for me." (Sirach 24:18) "I will yet pour out doctrine as prophecy, and will leave it to them that seek wisdom." (Sirach 24:18, 46)

HAIL MARY

"Mary said...'Do whatever (Jesus) tells you." (John 2:5) "Jesus said, 'Whoever does and teaches others (to keep My commandments) shall be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven." (Matthew 5:19)

HAIL MARY

"She is an aura of the might of God... the spotless mirror of the power of God, and the image of His goodness ... And passing into holy souls She makes the friends of God and prophets." (Wisdom 7:25,26,27)

HAIL MARY

"Her ways are beautiful ways, and all Her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to them that lay hold of Her: he that retains Her is blessed."

(Proverbs 3:17-18)

HAIL MARY

"You are a garden enclosed." (Songs 4:12); (Matt. 13:23)

HAIL MARY

"In My Father's house, there are many mansions." (John 14:2) "let him that is thirsty come...and let him take the water of life freely." (Rev. 22:17)

HAIL MARY

Our Lady of GuadalupeThe Great Sign from Heaven
Some Jewish people convert to
Catholicism because they asked,
"Why did God speak to His people
for 4000 years and now He only
speaks to the Catholics?"
Next to the statue of the Dormition
of Mary, is a miraculous image of
Our Lady of Guadalupe. We have
one more scripture quote to think
about as you look at the Our Lady
of Guadalupe. Notice the way Her
beautiful image was left on the
cloak or "Tilma" of Saint Juan

Diego of Mexico. From Revelations, Chapter 12, vs. 1, "Behold, a great sign appeared in Heaven, a Women clothed with the Sun, with the Moon under Her feet, and on Her head, a crown of twelve stars. And being with Child, she cried, and was in pain, to be delivered." This is a picture of the miraculous Tilma that scientists declared a miracle that hangs in the Shrine in Mexico City. There has been no scientific way to explain the cactus fibers lasting for 450 years. Everyone can see it there to this very day. It ended up on Juan Diego's cloak, in 1531 after Our lady appeared to him. It is often called a postcard from Heaven. When you hear the scriptures, that we just read about the battle between Satan and the Woman clothed with the sun along with St. Michael the archangel, people often ask who is the woman?

The Christian missionaries tried to evangelize the Aztecs for almost forty years, but had little success in convincing them to leave their violent pagan gods and embrace Jesus.

Then through the apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the miraculous image spoke to the people in a way that they could understand.



"The great sign,,, The Woman was clothed with the sun" (Rev 12). They knew She was more powerful than their god the sun. "With the moon under Her feet" (Rev 12). They knew She was more powerful than their god of the moon. "Being with child" (Rev 12). In the miraculous image, She is praying. The question became, "Who is the God that She is praying to?"

All the Aztecs knew that She was pregnant because She is wearing a Mexican maternity bow. This happened on December 12th. They could tell by the number of loops in Her belt that She was 8 ½ months pregnant. She appeared on December 12th and what happens ½ month later? Christmas! So they all knew that the true God is Jesus. It is an incredible miracle. Praise the Lord.

Mary's Apparition convinced them that God was their Father, Mary was their Mother, Jesus was their brother and the Church was their home. That is why 8 million Aztecs embraced Christianity in a 9-year period. It is the greatest Christian conversion event so far in history.

The "Tilma" is called a postcard from Heaven because God does not want anyone to be confused as to who the "woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under Her feet and on Her head a crown of twelve stars and being with Child", is. The Woman is Mother Mary and She is battling Satan. The Woman and Her children are bringing souls closer to Jesus Christ. The devil and his children are pulling souls away from Jesus Christ. That is the battle that we are in right now. So whose side

do we want to be on? We want to be on the Woman's side. *Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us!* How does the Woman ask us to fight? *With the Rosary!* That is the Weapon!

When dying on the Cross, Jesus said, "Behold Thy Mother!" God not only sent Mother Mary to help the Aztecs believe in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, but God sends angels and His Mother Mary numerous times throughout history in miraculous ways to help us.

Our Lady appeared to St. Dominic, St. Francis, St. Ignatius and hundreds of other saints. There have been several apparitions around the world including; Guadalupe, Our Lady of Lourdes France, Our Lady of Lourdes France, Our Lady of Fatima, and I personally believe, Our Lady of Garabandal, Our Lady of Medjugorje, Our Lady of Queen of Heaven. There are estimates that over 2500 times in history people claimed that God sent Our Lady to encourage the faith that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

Every authentic apparition

Every authentic apparition whether it is of Mary or the angels or saints or Jesus Himself make up the seventeenth proof that Jesus Christ is God. Do these numerous miraculous apparitions confirm Buddha, Muhammad, Confucius or anyone else? No, they only confirm Jesus Christ as Lord, Him and none other.

FIFTH GLORIOUS MYSTERY: THE CROWNING OF MARY AS OUEEN OF HEAVEN.

"God that's mighty has done great things to Me." (Luke 1:49) "The queen stood on thy right hand, clothed in gold. (Pslms 45:9); (1 Kings 2:19) "Jesus said 'Behold thy Mother." (John 19:17,27); (Ps 87) "Behold a great sign appeared in heaven: a Woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under Her feet, and on Her head a crown of twelve stars. And being with child, She cried...and was in pain to be delivered." (Revelation 12:1,2)

FRUIT: TRUST IN MARY'S INTERCESSION OUR FATHER

"My little children, of whom I am in labor again until Christ be formed in you." (Gal. 4:19); (Genesis 3:20)

HAIL MARY

"We are many members of one Body. The Body of Christ." (1Corinthians 12:20,27) "Christ is the head of the Church. (Jesus) is the Savior of His Body." (Ephesians 5:23)

HAIL MARY

"God said to the serpent, 'I will put enmities between you and the Woman and your seed and Her seed. She shall crush your head and you shall lie in wait of Her heel." (Genesis 3:14-15)

HAIL MARY

"And there was a great battle in heaven, Michael and his angels fought with the dragon...That old serpent who is the Devil and Satan." (Revelation 12:7,9)

HAIL MARY

"The (Devil) persecuted the Woman...The serpent cast out of his mouth, water as a flood after the Woman. That he might cause Her to be carried away." (Rev 12:13,15)

HAIL MARY

"The earth helped Her" (Rev 12:16)
"Many waters cannot quench love,
nor the floods drown it." (Songs 8:7)
"Only prayer and fasting can drive out
this demon." (Mat. 17:20)

HAIL MARY

"The dragon was angry against the Woman: and went to make war with the rest of Her seed, who keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."

(Rev 12:17); (Rom 13:11-14)

HAIL MARY

"Blessed are they that suffer persecution for justice sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven." (Matthew 5:10)

"I fought the good fight, I kept the faith, a glorious crown awaits me." (2Timothy 4:7); (1Cor 9:24-27); (Daniel 8:11)

HAIL MARY

"Receive the crown of life, which God has promised to them that love Him." (James 1:12)

HAIL MARY

"The king will say to those on his right hand; 'Come, blessed of My Father, take possession of the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

(Matthew 25:34); (Psalms 45:17)

HAIL MARY

Chapter 61 St Ann's chapel Solomon's portico

Building up the Kingdom of God

We are at the ruins of Bethsaida which means "Having five porches." The ruins are also known as Solomon's Porch which is next to the Church of St. Ann. We are on the east side of where the Temple would have been. Whether this St. Ann was Mary's Mother or the Anna, the prophetess at the temple described in Luke chapter 2, is open for discussion. The acoustics for singing are incredible in the Church of St. Ann's however.

John's Gospel chapter 5 described that the sick used to come here and

watch the pond. When the angel Of Lord went into the water, it moved and the first one who went into the pond was cured. There was lame man who was coming here for 38 years, but someone always

got in the pond ahead of him. Jesus cured the man, and the Pharisees found fault with Jesus because it was the Sabbath. Jesus was teaching us that good deeds could be done on the Sabbath.

Building the Kingdom!

King Solomon built the first Temple and it was destroyed. He was responding to God's call of "What kind of house can you build for me?"

Jesus called us to build up the Kingdom of God.

Jesus said, "Do you love Me? Feed My sheep." This is fundamental in building up the Kingdom of God.

After Pentecost, the disciples evangelized. Acts chapter 5, described that they came here often to Solomon's Portico or



Porch. The people would just lay the sick down and hoped that Peter's shadow would fall on them and the sick would be cured. Other cities came here as well and they were all cured.

The Pharisees were envious and arrested them, but an angel let them out of prison and told them to continue to preach the Good News.

It was politically incorrect to talk about Jesus but their love was great. They all had to suffer for the Name of Jesus. They were building up the Kingdom of God.

As we have journeyed with Jesus around the Holy Land we have seen a variety of beautiful architecture ranging in size, shape, color, style, and age. We have also seen how the Franciscan' priests serve at most of the shrines to help the pilgrims have a good experience. The founder of their order is St. Francis of Assisi.

As we see the ruins here in this famous Solomon's Porch. God's call to Francis comes alive for us. "Francis, rebuild My Church for it has fallen into ruin."

After going on this pilgrimage, we can put our name in there.

"Rebuild My Church for it is fallen into ruin."

Today, we are called to build up the Kingdom of God. Many people go on a pilgrimage and are excited to share Jesus Christ and help build up the Kingdom of God. As you are sharing or evangelizing, sometimes what happens is a Lutheran will say, "We have the Bible." The Catholic usually responds, "You do?"

You keep on evangelizing then a Pentecostal will say, "We have the Bible." The Catholic usually responds, "You do?" You become a little discouraged but You keep on evangelizing and then a Baptist will say, "We have the Bible." The Catholic usually responds, "You do?"

The others will make you feel like an oddball but if we have the same Bible, why is there all this division?

There are differences in the way people are interpreting the Bible. When you feel like an oddball, it is important to know that the Lutherans do not only disagree with how the Catholics interpret the Bible, but they disagree with the Pentecostals and the Pentecostals disagree with the Baptists and it goes on and on.

Today there are over 30,000 groups interpreting the Bible their own way.

Actually, the Catholic could say, "We wrote the Bible!" Jesus Christ did not give us a Bible and say, "Here it is, figure it out for yourself, goodbye." Jesus gave us a Church. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John were part of the Church. The Church gave us the Bible and the Church has the authority to interpret the Bible.

Remember that quiz that we were going to get at the end of the pilgrimage? What scripture quote confirms that the Pope has the God given authority to interpret the Bible? Matthew 16. Praise the lord. (See chapter 22) If anyone discusses the topic, you can always say, "The first thing we must ask ourselves is; did Jesus establish a Church?" Then take out your keys and read Matthew 16. When you are certain of that, your faith is on a rock and not on moving sand.

How do we build up the Kingdom?

This might be the most important topic on our Journey with Jesus. Engineers design things, build things and fix things. Rebuilding a Church building is similar to

rebuilding the collapsing faith of our brothers and sisters. To rebuild a building, you need to know three distinct levels of information

- 1. There are some things you must believe.
- 2. There are some things you must obey.
- 3. There are some things you have an opinion about.

When an engineer knows where to draw those lines of distinction, then he can begin to build.

What do we have to believe in order to build? We have to believe in God's laws of nature. We have to believe in the law of gravity. We have to believe in the balance of forces. We do not have a choice. If we take exception to that, what is going to happen to our building? Yes, it will collapse.

What do we have to obey? We have to obey the building codes of the state.

We do not have to believe them, but we have to obey them. These codes can change from time to time and from country to country. The building codes from fifty years ago are different from today and the building codes here are different from those in the USA. Engineers know that these codes must be obeyed or the state will fine you or shut you down.

There is a whole different level of things we have an opinion about. For example, I want a blue building and not a brown one. I want two round windows on the south side and not one square one. I want my wall eleven feet high instead of ten feet high. The engineer has to use his talents or his genius to utilize these three levels to come up with a building that is functional, economical, beautiful and safe.

Building up the Kingdom of God is very similar. We have to know and distinguish three levels.

- 1. There are some things you must believe.
- 2. There are some things you must obey.
- 3. There are some things you have an opinion about.

What are the things or interpretations of the Bible called that you must believe? Pause. They are called "dogmas" or doctrines of the faith. They are revealed by the Holy Spirit to the Church and these truths are valid forever.

"God is all powerful," is a dogma. "God is all knowing," is a dogma. "God is eternal", is a dogma. Jesus Christ is true God and true man is a dogma, true forever. "Jesus Christ is alive under the appearance of bread in Holy Communion" is a dogma true forever. "Mary is a perpetual Virgin" is a dogma true forever.

Where do we get these dogmas from? The Holy Spirit reveals it infallibly to the Church. When does, the Holy Spirit reveal these dogmas?

The successor of Peter can declare these dogmas by himself but typically they are declared in meetings called "Councils."

During a "Council," the apostles or their successors known as bishops get together in the name of Jesus, pray to the Holy Spirit and discuss interpretations of scripture. When they are unanimous and Peter the Pope agrees, then the teaching is declared a dogma of the Church and that interpretation must be believed. There have been 21 Councils throughout history. The first one was here in Jerusalem around 50 AD, the last one was at Vatican II in the early 1960's.

In the Bible, the Acts of the Apostles chapter 15 describes the first "Council".

For over fifteen years, the disciples of Jesus were building up the Kingdom of God and spreading the Good News all over the world. However, an interpretation problem arose. Some disciples said that people needed Circumcision or you would not be saved and others like St. Paul said they did not need Circumcision, instead one must embrace the grace of Jesus Christ imparted by Baptism and the other sacraments in order to be saved. The two different groups of interpretation would argue with each other. The arguments slowed the building up of the Kingdom of God. What did they do?

They gathered together with Peter the first Pope here in Jerusalem and discussed these issues. The Acts of the Apostles chapter 15 describes this first Council of Jerusalem. After much debate, Peter stood up and declared, "It is by the grace of Jesus Christ that we are saved, no circumcision is necessary."

Remember, every organization has a visible leader who can make decisions or there is chaos. Peter had the Keys to the Kingdom of heaven, with the God given authority. What the Holy Spirit revealed through St. Peter is good forever. Once it is declared, the faithful are obliged to believe it.

What would happen if two years later someone tried to evangelize and said; "when I read the Bible for myself, I think we need circumcision." That person would cause much confusion and the building of the Kingdom would suffer

Councils are a very powerful work of the Holy Spirit. Think about the last one at Vatican II. Over 2000 bishops or successors of the Apostles, some from every country in the world, gathered together in the name of Jesus and called on the Holy Spirit.

Each Bishop could bring a theologian with. Together they had all the knowledge of the New Testament, the Old Testament, the languages they spoke and the cultures they lived. When this Council discusses an interpretation, and are unanimous and the Holy Father agrees, that is the Holy Spirit. Guaranteed. Jesus words were spoken in Aramaic and written down in Greek to a people 2000 years ago

in a culture that is different from America today.

Imagine one person, who is not a successor of the apostles, who does not even know the entire Old and New Testament of languages etc. today says, "When I read the Bible for myself, I think all those bishops are wrong in their claimed infallible interpretation, you should follow my interpretation instead, because the Holy Spirit is working through me!"

Well even though the Church teaches, that the Holy Spirit can work outside of the Bishops, it is certain that the Holy Spirit will not contradict the dogmas of the Church. Praise the Lord for Peace and Unity.

There is a second level in building up the Kingdom of God and those are the **things we must obey.**Does any of the pilgrims know what we call those? Those are the **Canon Laws of the Church.**

Similar to building codes, these laws can change from time to time and even country to country, but they must be obeyed. Specifics about how to receive Holy Communion or Baptism are detailed out in Canon law.

The third level in building up the Kingdom of God are those things we have an opinion about.

For example, there is a Canon Law that says we have to go to Church on Sunday, this takes about one hour a week. St. Paul says that we must pray without ceasing. How you pray the other 167 hours in the week is up to you.

Now the punch line.

Engineers will use a handbook that contains the main things that we have to believe and obey.

When I have my handbook, I can fearlessly go anywhere in the world and design, or fix a system. What happens when I do not have a handbook? I become afraid that I might make a mistake. I can no longer use my genius but I start playing monkey see, monkey do.

I become suspicious of anything that looks different. Typically, I become so afraid that I do not do any building at all.

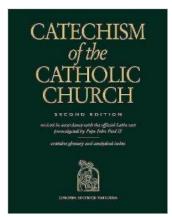
The Solution:

The great Saint John Paul II saw that the people of God did not have the "Building of the Kingdom" handbook in their hands and that the building was

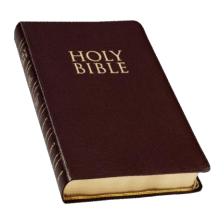
being reduced to very little. He did a great deed by putting that book back into our hands Does any pilgrim know what that book is called?

correct interpretations of the Bible and then you are safe. "Be Not Afraid!" "Rebuild My Church for it is fallen into Ruin!" Praise the Lord!

The Catechism of the Catholic Church.



When you get home you will get two books. The Bible and the



St. Ann's Chapel:

Let us go into St. Ann's chapel and sing a song to Our Lady so She can intercede for us and help us become great evangelizers for Jesus. Amen.

Personally, I hold the opinion that the St. Ann, who lived here, was not the Mother of Mary who lived in Nazareth but "Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser; she was far advanced in years, and had lived with her husband seven years from her virginity." as described in (Luke 2.:36)

Chapter 62

St. Stephen's martyrdom.



Proof #19 is Witnesses of Jesus' Church

Martyrdom seems to be a destructive defeat on the surface. However, in Christianity suffering has value.

St. Paul said; "Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake. I fill up in my own flesh what is lacking in the sufferings of Christ for the sake of His Body the Church" (Colossians 1:24).

In Christianity, we unite our sufferings to Jesus' sufferings on the Cross and Heavenly Father sees our good will and showers the grace of conversion, that Jesus won for us, on the world.

The Stoning of Stephen – "When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died."

In Greek, Martyr means witness. The early Christians were being killed because they were witnesses to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ our God.

Would an Orthodox Jew deliberately lie and jeopardize his soul to go to hell? Would anyone get disowned from their family, lose all their property and inheritance, be imprisoned and killed, all for a lie? No way. They died for the faith only because they thought it was true and held eternal life more valuable than their earthly life.

Their faith unto death is proof #19 that Jesus Christ is God. Is there any other reason that so many people died for the faith unless it was true?

They remembered Jesus words. He who denies Me before men, I will deny before My Heavenly Father. (Matthew 10:33) Give glory to God!

Chapter 63



Road to Emmaus – Aware that Jesus is on your journey

Then he opened their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures (Luke 24:45).

Although this event took place on Easter Sunday, we are moving it a few chapters towards the end to stress the fact that Jesus Christ has been with us on our Journey even though we did not recognize Him. It is our hearts burning inside that made us aware of Jesus' presence.

The Crusaders settled on Kiryat el-Enab as Emmaus. They built a church here in 1140 and called the place Castellum Emmaus.

On Easter Sunday, two of the disciples were on a journey walking away from Jerusalem. They were still devastated after what had happened on Good Friday. They had already heard the reports from the women about angels telling them that Jesus was alive. Jesus joined their journey and walked with them and starting with Moses, explained everything about the Christ that was in the Old Testament.

"That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What is this conversation which you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since this happened. Moreover, some women of our company

amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; and they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb, and found it just as the women had said; but him they did not see." And he said to them, "O foolish men, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He appeared to be going further, but they constrained him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized him; and he vanished out of their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven gathered together and those who were with them, who said, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread (Luke 24:13-35).

Notice that they received the grace to recognize Him during the Mass.

At first, they were sad because life had dealt them a severe blow. When Jesus was explaining the scriptures to them, they described a "burning within them". This is how a soul reacts when it **hears the truth**. Their souls started shouting YES! This is the reason that I was created. This is the reason for my pilgrimage on earth. I want more and I want to share it with others because true love shares. YES! These disciples had the energy to walk all the way back to Jerusalem and share the Good News! They had certainty of their love for Jesus and the promise of eternal life.

Chapter 64 - Abu Gosh

Notre Dame of the Ark "The Real Battle"

Fulfilment for the New Jerusalem (Purified Church)

On the outskirts of Emmaus, where Jesus walked with the disciples on Easter Sunday, is a stunning, church called Our Lady of the Ark of the Covenant.

One of the church's most impressive attributes on this 2000-foot-high elevation is the large statue of Our Lady holding the Baby Jesus, which depicts the fulfilment of the Ark of the Covenant. It is complete with angelic cherubim.



The structure was built in 1924 and according to tradition takes the place of the house of Abinadab. This is where the Ark of the Covenant rested for twenty years until King David took rein of Jerusalem. A Byzantine church was built here in the fifth century to mark the importance of this holy place.

Remember, the Blue book described all the problems in the Old Testament. God, in His great Love and Mercy, proved He did not want to wipe us out as we deserve, but offered us an even greater and more intimate relationship with Him through a new covenant. This new covenant with man can be likened to a Bridegroom to his beloved bride. As man responds and unites himself with God, the two become one. God gives us the power to become children of God. Praise the Lord!

This is the last stop on our pilgrimage because 1000 years BC, before David, by the grace of God, took reign over ancient Jerusalem and became king, the Old Testament Ark rested here in this spot. Now, that you are here, you are being asked to help Jesus reveal and establish His Kingdom in the New Jerusalem! Jesus' Kingdom will come on earth as it is in Heaven.

Remember everyone quotes Revelation chapter 16 as the great last battle of Armageddon as if it were the end of the world. **This place,** "Our Lady of the Ark", reminds us that it is essential to take the scriptures in context by incorporating Revelation Chapter 11 and beyond, all the way to the end of the Bible, Revelation Chapter 22. When we understand the book of Revelation's message in this light it is clear that the scriptures point to end of Satan's reign, and **not** the end of the world. That is a big difference!

When we look at the Statue of Mary Ark of the Covenant we can visualize Revelation chapter 11 and 12 that reads, "And the temple of God was opened in heaven: and the ark of His Covenant was seen in His temple, and there were lightnings, and voices, and an earthquake, and great hail. And a great sign appeared in heaven: A woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars" (Revelation 11:19, 12:1).

According to the Fathers of the Church, the New Jerusalem starts in our purified hearts then becomes a purified Church and purified world where, His Kingdom comes, God's will is done on earth as it is in Heaven. Jesus has us praying for this and by His Cross, won for us the grace for this New Jerusalem. This is the ultimate revelation in the Bible, the relationship between God and mankind is to be so close that it resembles the intimacy of a healthy marriage.

"For the marriage of the Lamb has come: and His wife has prepared herself" (Revelation 19:7). Blessed are they that are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:19).

The second to the last chapter in the Bible reveals how God's plan all comes together. "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth. For the first heaven and the first earth was gone, and the sea is now no more. And I John, saw the holy city, **the new Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a **bride adorned for her husband.**

And I heard a great voice from the throne, saying: Behold the tabernacle of God with men, and He will dwell with them. And they shall be His people; and God himself with them shall be their God.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes: and death shall be no more, nor mourning, nor crying, nor sorrow shall be any more, for the former things are passed away" (Revelations 21:1-4). Praise the Lord!

Of course, when the Ark was here, David did not have Jerusalem yet because there were more battles to fight.

We are here and we are still not in the New Jerusalem yet. As we all noticed, there is a big battle still going on.

At the end of the battle of Armageddon comes the triumph. Our Lady of Fatima tells us about the great battle that "In the end, My Immaculate Heart will Triumph, Russia will be converted and a period of peace will be given to the world."

How do you help? As chapter 8 on the Valley of Armageddon (Blue Book), chapter 9 on Our Lady of Grace, chapter 17 on the battles at Jericho (Red Book), chapter 46 on Our Lady (Gold Book), and several other places indicates, once we have total faith that God is all powerful and He could click His fingers and all the evil in the world would be gone in an instant and all the problems throughout our history is caused by our pride, then we can see How awesome God's plan is.

God's plan is going to use the humility of the Blessed Mother to crush the proud head of Satan, a great victory. God can do it without our help, but in His wisdom and goodness, our Heavenly Father is giving us opportunities to Help out by utilizing spiritual weapons.

Winning the battle! Because the battle is to purify our hearts of all that junk that is described in Revelation 21 & 22, the great chain to bind Satan (Revelation 21:2) is the Rosaries that we pray. This purification frees the arms of our soul in order to embrace our God in love. In the Old Testament, they needed the Ark to win battles. If you want to win the great battle it is recommended that you enter into the Ark by Saint Louis DeMontfort's Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary. By the way, we are happy to give our pilgrims the 33-days "Preparation for Consecration" so you can become Totus Tuus (Totally Yours). This means you will be consecrated to Jesus through Mary's help. God respects our free will. When someone consecrates

themselves to Jesus through Mary it allows Our Lady to intercede for us even more powerfully than our angel. In this way we allow ourselves to be used us as instruments in the great Battle to bring Jesus' reign on earth as it is in Heaven.

The consecration to Jesus through Mary had such a profound effect on Saint John Paul II that he chose the Totus Tuus motto for his entire pontificate, which made the consecration famous.

So how does the battle end? Revelation 22:14 states, "Blessed are they that wash their robes in the blood of the Lamb: that they may have a right to the "Tree of Life", and may enter in by the gates into the city."

Of course, washing the clothes in the Blood of the Lamb is making a good "Sacramental Confession" where Jesus will clean our soul. The Tree of Life is "Mary, Jesus, The Cross, and the Catholic Church".

The fruit that the Tree gives us to eat to live forever is Holy

Communion when we receive in the state of grace. (See chapter 11).

This Holy Communion is the Risen and living Jesus Christ, our God in person coming into our mortal body and the two become one.

Only this fruit, "The fruit of Her womb" will undo the effects of the forbidden fruit and we will enter the gates of the city which is the New Jerusalem destined for Heaven with God. The New Jerusalem has at its foundation the twelve apostles of the Lamb, because it is the purified Catholic Church.

In Holy Communion, hugging the all Good, the all Powerful, the all Knowledge, the all Beautiful, the all Peaceful, the One Who is all Truth, the One Who is all Love, not only satisfies my body and soul, it helps me look forward to the eternal WWWOOOWWW in Heaven.

Everyone who was written in the "Book of Life" was there. Your life's conversion story is in that Book. The Bible ends by saying; "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen" (**Revelations 22:2**).

Chapter 65 The Holy Land Retreat.

We experienced so much on this Journey with Jesus in the past 11 days that we find that if we jump on a plane and go home then we do not digest the experience properly. We find it very helpful to review the places that we have gone and take a few minutes to let God touch our hearts. Very soon, we are going to ask for a miracle from everyone. We are going to mention a few little points about the places we went to on our Journey with Jesus and meditate on it We ask for 12 whole minutes, think one minute for each apostle. For 12 minutes, we are going to be completely silent. No shopping, No picture taking, for 12 whole minutes!

As we mediate, remember it is using the three powers of our soul, our memory, intellect and our will to encounter God. That is what we are going to be doing here in those 12 minutes. God is speaking to us all the time. Most people refer to it as your conscience (CCC #1776). But that is actually the normal way that God speaks to you. That is why going to confession and praying really helps to condition your conscious and allows you to hear God speak to you more clearly. Most of the

time when He speaks, it comes as thoughts and images to the mind and soul, through your memory, intellect and will.

Memory, once again is the step when we ask the question "what"? Most of the time, when we are given something to meditate on, we do not know what to do or where to start. Like the guy who did not know what gear to put the car in. Just ask the question, "what?" What do I see? What do I hear? What do I smell? What do I feel? To move this step of the meditation along, just ask "what."

Then the Holy Spirit starts moving and some images in your mind will attract you, something will catch your attention. You will feel a beauty, a kind of a peace when you are looking at this image in your imagination. For example, a smiling face, or a tall mountain.

Once you notice that, you will move to the next step of the intellect and start asking the question why. Why is that so beautiful? Why is that so interesting? That is the next power of the soul. The intellect analyzes. You are just going to ask the question why and how and let the Holy Spirit illuminate you. It is very simple. Understanding is a gift from the Holy Spirit and God may illuminate you to why

you are so attracted to that image. God usually wants to tell you something through that image.

When you understand something, then after a while, you think about what God is asking me to do in my life. **This next step is the Will**. How is He asking me to change to get closer to Him because of what I am seeing and understanding? Of course we do this resolution in our life for the greater glory of God.

We saw so many beautiful things in the last 10 days. We are going to mention a word of the place we went to, and you are going to try and remember some of it. We are just going to take a minute to go thru all of them. Once we mention them, you will have 12 minutes to meditate. You will think about all the places that we went to and when one place or image in particular starts popping in your mind...let us say Mt. Tabor, then you start asking, "What did I see up on Mt. Tabor?" I saw the beautiful blue sky...the beautiful cloud...the beautiful valley. You are just going to say, what? What? What? What did I feel? What? What? Then when you start seeing something beautiful, then you are going to start asking why. Why is this particular place attracting me

more than the others? You say why? Why? When you ask yourself why, as you start to understanding why, then ask, what is God asking me because of this?

Have faith, the Lord will let you know. That is all we are going to do here. It's very simple. We could all do it. Remember, the first lesson the angel gave to the Shepherds about encountering Jesus, he said, be not afraid. So be not afraid to mediate. It is easy and you will be able to do it. Let us begin.

Holy Land meditation phrases:

We will start the meditation by that little prayer: Dear God, *pause...let pilgrims repeat...Dear God*, I beg you, *pause*, to please give me the grace, *pause*, that the three powers of my soul, *pause*, my memory, pause, my intellect, pause, and my will, pause, will be for the greater glory of God. *Pause* Amen

We are going to imagine that Jesus called us by name and He has been journeying with us on our trip. As we say the places we have traveled to, we will give you a word for meditation.

Let the image come to your mind. We will pause 5 seconds between each place.

The Journey with Jesus

Promise Land – Heaven

Elijah Mt. Carmel - Old Battles

Armageddon – Today's Battles

The Annunciation Grotto -

The First Hail Mary

Nazareth - Family

Cana – Wedding

Visitation – Tree of Life

Shepherds Field -

Angels Singing

Bethlehem – Baby Jesus

The Jordan River - Our Baptism

The Walls of Jericho – Barriers

The Mt. of Temptation – Trials

Dead Sea Scrolls - God's Word

The Dead Sea - Stagnate

The Sea of Galilee – Friendship

 $\boldsymbol{Mount\ of\ Beatitudes} - Blessings$

Multiplication of Loaves –

Satisfy

Capernaum Synagogue –

Bread of Life

Rock at Caesarea Philippi -

The Keys of the Kingdom

Primacy of Peter – Guidance

Mt. Tabor – Close to God

John the Baptist Tomb - Repent

Jacob's Well - Reunite family

Our Father Cave – Relationship

Lazareth's Tomb – Great Miracle

Palm Sunday Route – Hosannas

Dominus Flevit – Jesus Weeping

Wailing Wall -

Missed opportunities

Last Supper Room -

New Covenant

Agony in Garden - Concern

Cock Crows - Denials

Way of Cross – Patience

Mount Calvary - Redemption

Adams Chapel - Freed

Mary's lament – pierced Heart

Jesus Shroud – Price paid in full

Jesus' Tomb - Risen Lord

Emmaus Chapel – Walks with us

Ascension Chapel - Hope

Upper Room - Powerful Spirit

Dormition of Mary –

Woman Clothed in Sun.

Solomon's portico –

Building the Kingdom

St Ann's chapel -

Heavenly Music

Ark of Mary -

To Jesus through Mary

Take twelve minutes of silence and have faith that the good God can inspire you. Go find a quiet spot so you can reflect.

(After twelve minutes) We close the meditation by saying. "Dear God, I thank you for giving me the grace that the three powers of our soul, our memory, our intellect and our will, will always be for the greater glory of God. Amen."

Very good. Let those images put a burning "Yes" into your heart. Write down what you experienced the first opportunity you get. Do not be afraid to share. Amen.

Conclusion: The Journey with Jesus Proof #20 is "You"

Your soul found its created purpose and you are ready to respond. Love is at the heart of Jesus Christ and His Gospel. We proclaim that peace is a gift that can only come from God and you cannot have joy without peace. We hope that this Journey with Jesus our God has lead you closer to Jesus' most Sacred Heart.

We thank you Jesus for writing our names in the "Book of Life!"

As your relationship grows and you get to know Jesus Christ, experience His love, live His way and then sincerely proclaim that He alone is the fullness of life, then you become proof number 20 that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. You and all the people who proclaim and live that Jesus Christ fulfilled the deepest longing of the human heart.

Even though the "prince of this world" does all he can to make it politically incorrect to admit this truth, Jesus Christ had more of an impact on the progress of modern society than all the armies that ever marched, all the navies that every sailed, all the kings that every reigned put together. Jesus Christ truly is the "Light of the World." Others have tried to take

a portion of His Light and then fashion it in a way that does not give glory to God, but these systems eventually crumble.

Today the "Prince of this world" is deceiving many of our brothers and sisters with a new paganism called secular humanism, where we claim to elevate "Man" as a god who can reveal what is right and wrong and decide who can live or die. Ironically by telling us that we are the only god we reduce man to objects to be used as opposed to "Children of God" to be loved. In order to do this, the enemy has to convince us that we do not have an eternal soul or to just trust those in charge of the media or political correctness with your soul and to determine what is right and wrong. Since man's opinion changes with the wind, the lie of our day is a heresy that the great saint Pope John Paul II called moral relativism.

We will pray for our brothers and sisters. We will share Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ alone is the answer to all the problems in the world. When people get to know Him and experience His love, His grace through you, can change their hearts and then the world!

The Purpose of This Book (John 20:30-31)

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

If a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, a journey with Jesus helped your relationship with Christ, we invite you to come again and share the "Good News" with others. Amen.

See – www.MEDJ1.com

The list for those 20 proofs that Jesus Christ is the Son of God are:

- 1. Proof #1 is numerous Old Testament Prophecy describing Jesus Christ
- 2. Proof #2 is Jesus' Virgin Birth
- 3. Proof #3 is the Angels and other supernatural manifestations to witnesses
- 4. Proof #4 is the Precursor for Jesus is John the Baptist
- 5. Proof #5 is the Spiritual Sense of Scriptures describe Jesus
- 6. Proof #6 are Jesus' miracles, healing, multiplying loaves.
- 7. Proof #7 is Jesus absolute power over the evil spirits
- 8. Proof #8 is The Divine Wisdom of Jesus Christ' doctrine that stood the test of time
- 9. Proof #9 Jesus absolute power over nature. The wind and seas obey Him.
- 10. Proof #10 is Jesus passes on power in His Name to His disciples
- 11. Proof #11 is the Infallibility of the Church's teaching
- 12. Proof #12 is God the Father's voice confirms Jesus and is heard by witnesses
- 13. Proof #13 Jesus brings a decomposed body (slime) back to a living healthy human being.
- 14. Proof #14 Jesus' Holiness. God is Holy, Holy, Holy.
- 15. Proof #15 Jesus Holy Death
- 16. Proof #16 Miraculous Images from God.
- 17. Proof #17 Jesus raised Himself from the dead.
- 18. Proof #18 is the Numerous apparitions of Jesus and Mary
- 19. Proof #19 is Witnesses of Jesus' Church
- 20. Proof #20 is "You"

It is good to know these, so we can give people a reason for our hope and they may embrace Jesus Christ and have eternal life.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you, save souls.

Totus Tuus

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