



Holy Thursday 2020

Dear family in Christ,

Having begun our Triduum, that is, 3 days of intense participation, prayer and reflection upon the offering of Jesus, at the Last Supper, upon the Cross and into the Resurrection, we are called to keep our faith strong.

Holy Thursday should remind us of the Last Supper of Jesus with His disciples before being crucified. This celebration also brings to mind Jesus call to service for one another, as he washes their feet. We also have the institution of the Eucharist, Jesus' perpetual offering of Himself in the Sacred Species, Holy Communion. Which not coincidentally also brings about the institution of the Sacred Priesthood of Jesus Christ. Which we are brought into through our Baptism as our common priesthood, and also the initiating of Holy Orders, the ordained priesthood of Jesus Christ.

As people of God, in His Church, we should also defend and protect the priesthood as given by Jesus Christ to His Church. We should never allow others to dissuade us, even Catholic writers, from the priesthood that has been in place for the last 2,000 years. It was given by Christ as a reality that cannot change in its' foundation.

And the Eucharist is Christ's gift to us to also be protected and never watered down in our understanding. We truly receive, substantially, the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ. Let us make a prayer of spiritual communion to keep us united to the gift of Jesus Himself, especially when we are unable to receive physically.

Of course, our celebration of the Lord's supper leads us into tomorrow, and the Good Friday offering of Jesus, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity, upon the Cross to the Father for the Eternal restoration of the covenant with God. That is one reason why the Eucharist is never just something spiritual, because the Eucharist is a reality incorporated by the offering of Jesus upon the Cross, which definitely wasn't just a spiritual offering.

May this day be a day of reflection that leads us to the offering of Jesus always. That calls us to service to one another, especially in our offering for one another in His Church, even if that is done from our homes.

With prayers and blessings, Fr. Rosenbaum.