



“Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me.” *From today's Gospel, Jn 13, 1-15.*

Today's Gospel in commemoration of the Lord's Supper comes from John. As you may know, on this day Jesus instituted the Sacrament of the Eucharist and the Ministerial Priesthood. However John, the beloved disciple focuses on the washing of the feet, unveiling the foundation of the priestly vocation: service. The disciples were surprised at the idea of their master washing their feet, and at first they refused, but Jesus insisted that *“Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me.”*

The disciples had grown to know Jesus, spending entire days with Him. They traveled together, prayed together, and ate together, they loved each other as a family. Perhaps they didn't exactly understand what He meant by *“you will have no inheritance”* in that moment, but they knew they wanted to be near him, and trusted in all He did, so they allowed Jesus to wash their feet.

Would we allow Jesus to wash our feet today? Would we let him see our faults? The traces of the steps we have taken? He is inviting us to allow Him to address the parts of us that we wouldn't normally be comfortable with, and speaks to us personally also saying, *“Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me.”* Let us not be afraid to receive Him.

After Jesus finished washing their feet He told his disciples that they “ought to wash one another's feet.” Can you imagine seeing someone else's faults and not judging them but loving them through our service? This is part of what is asked for all of us, the

extraordinary invitation to live and to serve as people of faith and deed, this is what defines us as the Catholic Church.

As we gather in spirit to commemorate the beginning of our Lord's passion, let us remember our priest and be grateful for bringing Jesus to us in the sacrament of Eucharist, absolve our sins through the sacrament of Reconciliation, as well as all of the sacraments they administer with much love and dedication, they are for sure a gift to us. Even during this time of social distancing they are praying for us and offering Mass for our intentions. They wish to serve their people, to be with you, and pray with you. So let us pray in thanksgiving for our priests. Let us pray especially for our Pope, our Cardinal, and our Bishops that they may be strengthened to shepherd us with the wisdom and love from the same Spirit that bestowed on them the Sacrament of the Priesthood.

We hope you have a Blessed Holy Thursday. Here is a list of some online resources you can visit for mass and also to help you pray during this week.

Holy Week message from Pope Francis: [click here](#)

Holy Week services at St. Patrick's Cathedral: [click here](#)

Holy Week at home resources from Liturgical Press: [click here](#)