

A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY
FORTY FIVE DAYS TOWARDS THE CROSS
FROM DEACON CHRIS
LENT 2024

Nineteenth Station: Fourth Sunday in Lent. Wise Men come from abroad to pay homage to the Infant King and are challenged by a despot to tell him where the child is so that he can go and murder him.

“We adore you, O Christ etc.

Scripture Reading

Matthew Chapter 2 verses 1 to 12.

The Epiphany.

Reflection.

Even at this early stage in our Lord’s life there is trouble for him. The Wise Men have come from afar and arrived in Jerusalem. It is reasonable to think that a king may be born where a king lives. The Wise Men bring out the worst of Herod but he is clever and hides it from them. Herod is told what it says in scripture and he should have been reassured by it. But no. We have a repeat of what happened in Moses’ times.

The Wise Men follow the star to where the Child is and they offer their gifts. Then go back by a different route.

We follow a Light. Not a star. The light is the light of Christ. A light that will never fade. A light that was brought into the world by Mary his Mother. As we celebrate Mother’s day we remember all mothers and we pray for them especially those who for whatever reason have not being able to care for their children.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be.

I love you, Jesus ..

Monday of Week 4 in Lent: Twenty Seventh Station: Joseph has to take Mary and the child Jesus into exile in Egypt.

“We adore you, O Christ etc.

Scripture Reading

Scripture Reading.

Matthew Chapter 2 verses 13 to 18

28th December The Holy Innocents

Reflection.

When Mary gave her ‘Yes’ to God and Joseph was enlightened in a dream little did they know what lay ahead of them. They had to move from one place to another to comply with the law, to escape a murderous king and then avoid that king’s brother. They had a lot to learn. Many people are moving from one place to another for the same reasons. Peace should be the world’s priority and out of that will come equality in all aspects of life. The Infant Jesus brings peace to everybody. It is up to the world to accept it.

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Tuesday of Week 4 in Lent: Twenty Eighth Station : Jesus goes missing and doesn't appreciate the concern of his parents.

"We adore you, O Christ etc,

Scripture Reading

Luke Chapter 2 verses 41 to 51

19th March St. Joseph.

Reflection.

You can hear Mary trying to be calm and reasonable when they find our Lord. But what a response from him. This gives us a little sign of what Jesus knows about himself but he is not ready. He lived under their authority. He displayed his human nature. He needed to be educated, he needed to learn about life. This is a sword that pierces Mary's heart. Authority seems to be a dirty word these days. Many people try to bend the law to their way of life and respond negatively when it goes against them. It applies in football, too. We need good authority in the land, in our homes and in our Church.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be. I love you, Jesus....

Wednesday of Week 4 in Lent : Twenty Ninth Station: Jesus is baptised in the Jordan by John.

"We adore you, O Christ etc.

Scripture Reading

Mark Chapter 1 verses 7 to 11

The Baptism of the Lord Year B.

Reflection.

John is doing what he was sent to do. He is preparing the way. Not only is he baptising but he is also promoting our Lord. John is not downgrading himself but showing true humility and acceptance of his position. When Jesus was baptised we see a Trinitarian event when Father, Son and Holy Spirit are together.

The Scouts' motto is *Be Prepared*.

We have to be prepared to accept what life brings us. We have to be prepared to accept our true position in God's world because when we do we will receive his grace in a plentiful supply that will help us through each day.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be. I love you, Jesus.....,

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Thursday of Week 4 in Lent: Thirtieth Station: Jesus goes out into the wilderness and after forty days he is very hungry so the devil seizes the opportunity to tempt him.

Scripture Reading

Matthew Chapter 4 verses 1 to 11

1st Sunday of Lent Year A

Reflection.

Forty is a number that we find many times in the Scriptures Old and New. Our Lord is preparing himself for his ministry. He fasts and just like any other human being he is hungry. Hunger can leave us with our mental defences down. This is when the devil tries to tempt us. Not just with food but a promise of power. What do we have to do to get this? Worship the devil. Sadly some people do. They may be okay at the moment but when that great day comes; what will happen to them?

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be. I love you, Jesus.....,

Friday in Week 4 of Lent : Thirtieth First Station: Jesus calls the first of his disciples.

“We adore you, O Christ etc.

Scripture Reading

Mark Chapter 1 verses 14 to 20

Monday Week 1 Year 1

Reflection.

Mark tells us that John has been arrested and Jesus is now starting out on his ministry. Peter and Andrew are fishermen but Jesus calls them to follow him. No introduction just a call to follow and change what they are doing. Jesus goes on a little further and calls two more brothers. They follow him.

We get our call to follow the Lord when we are baptised. That is our lifelong vocation. We may get another calling to follow in an additional way. That calling may be as sudden as that of the two sets of brothers or it may be more subtle and may take a while. We test our vocation to whatever we believe we are called. Do we test the vocation that God is actually calling us to? A big difference between the two. If God wants us to do something he will give us all that is necessary to do it.

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Saturday in Week 4 of Lent: Thirtieth Second Station: Jesus goes up the hill and sits down to teach.

“We adore you, O Christ etc.

Scripture Reading

Matthew Chapter 5 Verses 1 to 12

Monday Week 10 Year 1

Reflection.

This is a very important event during our Lord’s ministry, the Sermon on the Mount. He is gathering the people around him. He is telling them how to live in the spirit of Law not in the words of law as laid down by the authorities. We hear so many stories of red tape and the like getting in the way of being human. Rules and regs are important but they have to be workable and helpful.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be. I love you, Jesus.....,