

Good Friday

(Is 52:13-53, 12/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1-19, 42)

Theme: The Cross is the sign of Victory.

Today we celebrate the victory of the Cross. Our celebration today is the celebration of the climax of Christ's love for humanity. This is manifested in the sufferings, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. The prophet Isaiah in the first reading, explained "He was oppressed and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth.....surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases.

Today, Our Lord Jesus willingly offered himself to be crucified on the cross to bring us freedom, healing, liberation and salvation. The book of Hebrews (4:14-16) reminds us that in Christ Jesus we have a high priest who has passed through the heavens, who sympathizes with our weaknesses, and with His prayers and supplications has won for us mercy and grace from God.

From the reading of the Passion, we have seen that Christ's journey to victory on the cross was not easy for him. He was insulted, abused, flogged, crowned with thorns, despised and abandoned to die a shameful death on the cross. He fell down three times on his way to Calvary. Yet he did not lose hope nor abandon His cross. For he knew that all these sufferings were momentary.

In our lives today, everybody has a cross to carry. There is no one or no family in the world today without a cross. Do not feel that you are the only one who has a cross to carry, or your family. From today on, stop asking 'why me?' or 'why my family?'

Do not allow what is happening in your life or family now cause you to give up hope on life and God. Let us walk with Christ always. For with him on our side our crosses will be light. With prayer and faith in God we shall conquer. As we journey in life with our crosses, let us keep looking upon our Saviour who hung on the cross, for there lies our life and salvation (Jn 3:14-16).