

Day 5- Wednesday of Holy Week: Jesus is determined to obey the Father, all the way to the Cross

Proclamation: Jesus went through great suffering during his passion and death. He was completely obedient to the Father and he did it all for me. I will thank Jesus for this great gift and practice obedience too.

Scripture: Isaiah 50:4-9 (first reading from daily Mass, Wednesday of Holy Week)

The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. Morning after morning he opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord God is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame. He is near who upholds my right; if anyone wishes to oppose me, let us appear together. Who disputes my right? Let him confront me. See, the Lord God is my help; who will prove me wrong?

Reflection: In this Scripture the Prophet Isaiah is writing about Jesus, as if Jesus is the one speaking. He says "I gave my back to those who beat me." Does that remind you of when Jesus was scourged at the pillar? He says, "My face I did not shield from spitting." Do you remember when the soldiers spit at Jesus? Then He says "I have set my face like flint." Do you know what that means? It means that Jesus was determined to do all that His Father asked of Him, even if it meant the suffering of the Cross. Think for a moment of how great that love is, that someone would suffer all that pain and humiliation and then die for you. What would you like to say to Jesus? And what would you like to *do*?

Activity 1: In the box below, draw a picture of one of the ways that Jesus suffered for you. Draw yourself in the scene, to help you remember that Jesus suffered it out of love for you. Here are some ideas for what to draw: Crowning with Thorns, Scourging (beating) at the Pillar, Carrying of the Cross, Dying on the Cross. While you draw, listen to one of these songs:

[I WILL FOLLOW](#) Chris Tomlin [HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE](#) Fernando Ortega

[LEAD ME TO THE CROSS](#) Hillsong [O, BE CAREFUL](#) and [THE WISE MAN AND FOOLISH MAN](#) - Wee Sing



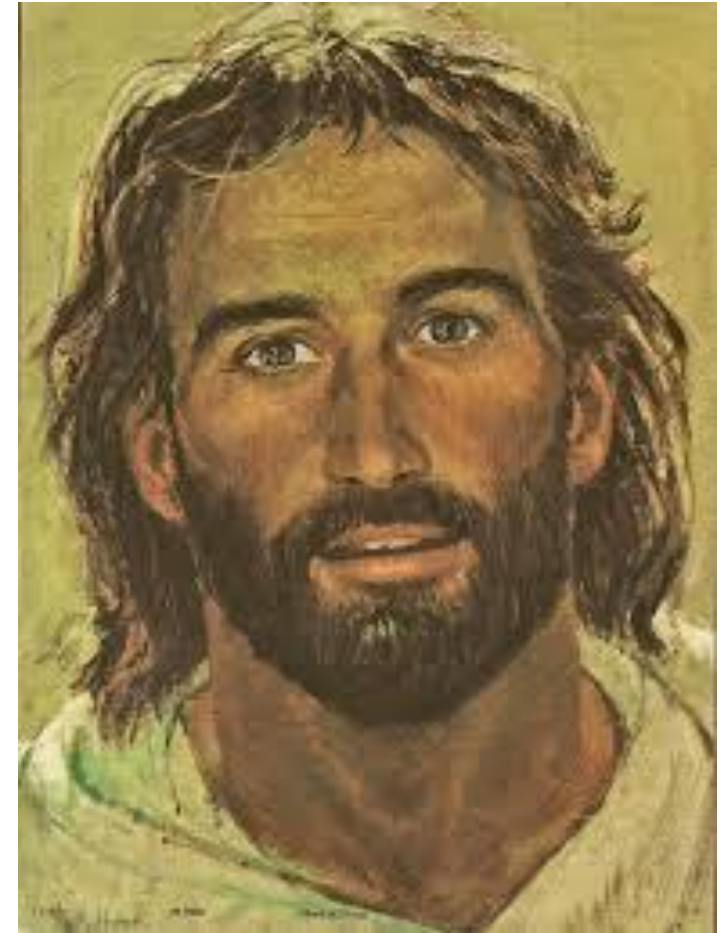
Activity 2: Visio Divina: Pray with the two images of Jesus. Use the ideas in the textboxes to help you.



Ecce Homo (Behold the Man), by Murillo (1617-1682)

Prayer:

Dear Jesus,
thank you
for all you
suffered on
the way to
the cross. I
know you
did it for
love of me.
Help me to
think of
you often
and
remember
to love
others.
Amen.



Look at the two pictures of Jesus.

Think about:

- ✓ How much does Jesus love you?
- ✓ How is Jesus calling you to love Him?

Application:

- ✓ How can you show Jesus' love to others?
- ✓ In what ways can you "set your face like flint" like Jesus, to do what God asks you?