April 5, 2020

**Palm Sunday Homily by Father Mike**

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Patient suffering. What do these words bring to your mind? Do we ever want to be patient? Do we ever want to suffer? Social distancing has become stay at home, two weeks has become two months, and economic highs have become economic lows. Suffering will come to all of us but will we choose to be patient?

As Jesus entered Jerusalem with a throng of people filled with joy and exuberance, waving palm branches greeting Him as King, he knew in His heart that the week would not end in similar fashion. The week would give way to heartache, with betrayal and desertion of His chosen twelve. A king’s crown would be decorated with thorns, His garments torn from a body scourged, and screams of pain will ring out as nails pierced hands and feet. No more shouts of Hosanna, but rather crucify Him, crucify Him!

Why would Jesus put Himself through all of this? You know the answer, He loves you. He makes the ultimate sacrifice for each of us. He does so, that we might have an example of His great love, that we might experience His life. Obedience to the will of the Father is the path that Jesus walked and is the path that he offers us. He walked to the top of the Calvary hill, He stretched out His arms, and He took His last breath giving His spirit over to the Father. St. Paul puts it better, “becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.” He has already walked the path of suffering we are experiencing, He has already cried over the dying, he felt the pain of trying to breath, and He has redeemed us from our sins. Never do we need to think we are alone; He is truly with us. We will get through our time of suffering, we will strive to be patient and with God’s help we will give glory to His name. We have been redeemed by Grace. His suffering is redeeming, His love is unfailing

For an uplifting song click on the link below and skip the ads.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cgsbaBIaoVc>

God bless you!

Fr. Mike