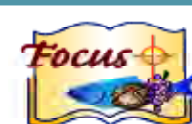




Suffering was the way for Christ to enter his glory.  
It was the way for him to show his love for God's people.  
His risen life is our hope in face of sorrow, death and suffering.



Take UP  
your CROSS



The question 'Who do you say that I am?' is key to Mark's Gospel. The disciples are on a journey with Jesus – not just the physical journey around Galilee, but one of discovery. Jesus makes it clear that there are dark days ahead as he predicts his suffering and death, and Peter's rebuke demonstrates that the disciples do not yet understand. They are like the blind man earlier in Mark chapter 8, whose encounter with Jesus sees him move from blindness to partial sight to clear-sightedness. It's only in the context of Jesus' death and resurrection that they will truly 'get it,' and at that point there will be no going back, they will forge a new path following in the footsteps of Jesus.

Pope Francis has identified our ecological crisis as a 'summons to profound interior conversion' (LS, §217). The call to ecological conversion is a call to transform our vision of ourselves, our sisters and brothers, the world, God – to come to realise that creation, incarnation and salvation all spring from the God of love. Like the disciples, we are called to an awakening, a lifting of the veil. This is a personal journey for each of us and it is not an easy journey. It is also a communal journey of ecological consciousness. We can no longer make the excuse that we were unaware – the world has woken up to how destructive our modern ways of living are and to the actions needed to mend our relationship with our common home. Our conversion story is being written today. 'Who do you say that I am?' God created the world. If we won't take care of it, what does that say about our response to the question of what we think of God and God's Creation?

Jane Mellett

Adapted from "The Deep End – A Journey through the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Matthew" (Messenger Publications, Dublin, 2002).

**Jesus' Story**

Fr. Liam Hickey

Jesus called Himself 'The Way'. He shows the way to happiness and He leads us. Jesus taught that our hearts grow bigger the more we give away. When we give a gift, or give a seat to someone on the bus we feel good. When we praise and admire others we feel good. Jesus calls it 'losing' to give time to others, like parents who lose sleep caring for children, the sick and lonely.

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Look with favour on our supplications, O Lord, and in your kindness accept these, your servants' offerings, that what each has offered to the honour of your name may serve the salvation of all. Through Christ our Lord.

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right and just.**

**SANCTUS**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

**AFTER THE CONSECRATION**

*The mystery of faith.* We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

**INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

Behold the Lamb of God, ..... Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

**How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

May the working of this heavenly gift, O Lord, we pray, take possession of our minds and bodies, so that its effects, and not our own desires, may always prevail in us. Through Christ our Lord.

**CONCLUDING RITE**

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.** Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life. **Thanks be to God.**



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**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

**Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.**

**GREETING**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

**PENITENTIAL ACT**

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.** You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.** May almighty God have mercy on us... **Amen.**

**THE GLORIA**

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.



**OPENING PRAYER**

Look upon us, O God, Creator and ruler of all things, and, that we may feel the working of your mercy, grant that we may serve you with all our heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING Isaiah 50:5-9**

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah** The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed. My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against

me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me?

**The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Ps. 114:1-6, 8-9**  
**R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living. or Alleluia!**

1. I love the Lord for he has heard the cry of my appeal; for he turned his ear to me in the day when I called him. **[R]**
2. They surrounded me, the snares of death, with the anguish of the tomb; they caught me, sorrow and distress. I called on the Lord's name. O Lord my God, deliver me! **[R]**
3. How gracious is the Lord, and just; our God has compassion. The Lord protects the simple hearts; I was helpless so he saved me. **[R]**
4. He has kept my soul from death, my eyes from tears and my feet from stumbling. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living. **[R]**

**SECOND READING James 2:14-18**

**A reading from the letter of St. James** Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty', without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead. This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds - now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

**The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

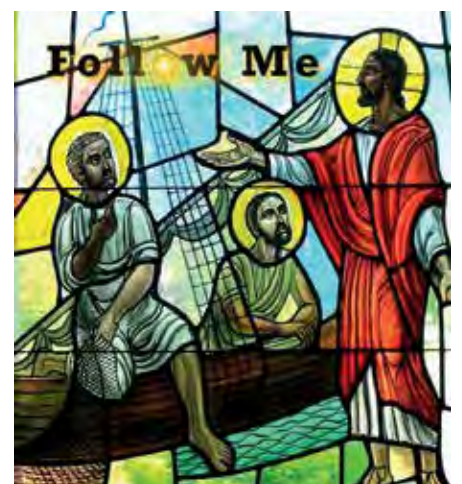
**Alleluia, alleluia! I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord; no one can come to the Father except through me. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL Mark 8:27-35**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark** Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I

am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him. And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

**The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



**APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, All bow for following two lines: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

Pray brothers and sisters, ..... **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**