

Have You Found Him For Yourself?

DMG

Upbeat

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We enter into the annual commemoration of Christ's suffering, death and resurrection on Palm Friday Vespers when we sing: "*Having fulfilled the Forty Days...we ask to see the Holy Week of Thy passion.*"

The whole life of the Church is one continuous remembrance and commemoration. Daily we celebrate the memory of an event or of particular saints; but behind all memories is the Church's remembrance of Christ.

When you remember someone what you love, even someone that you will never again see in this life, it is possible to picture him exactly as you knew him, as a living reality. You can easily recall events, remember incidents, and even imagine that you are "reliving" a happening. The key to this vivid memory is the fact that *you knew him!*

Can one really commemorate Christ's suffering, death and resurrection if we don't know him? And more, is not our Faith based on the sacred memory of one Man, one Event, on that one Night when He said: "*do this in remembrance of me.*"

The most popular books for teens today are those in which the writer gets inside the chief character's mind and feelings, showing his inner struggles. Did you ever think about the Gospel as the book that does *this* about Christ...and the writer is the Holy Spirit!

Do you know enough about Christ, enough to think of Him as a living reality?

If we look for Him in the Gospel, we will find Him with a clarity of vision which nothing can ever divert...always clear and firm and decisive in His judgments...unerring in His estimates of men...never deceived or drawn away by a surface impression. A true and not a patronizing or condescending friend, never does He weary of one in preference for another, much less exclude one for the sake of another. Never is He weak, or overindulgent, or too blinded by affection to see the evil or the limitations of His beloved. His love went out to even the most loathsome.

We shall find Him ever constant...giving no thought to consequences or fruits or rewards – the doing of the work that He has to do is all that He considers. We find Him looking out on men with infinitely tender eyes – while others find reason to condemn, He finds reason to save.

He does not compel men...He invites us to draw near. Do you feel His presence when you receive His Body and Blood?

There is a knowledge of our Lord which can be gained by living in His company, as He glides through the pages of the Gospel. There is the knowledge that can be gained by participating fully in the liturgical life of the Church.

As we begin the Holy Week this year, let us take this opportunity to become personally involved in the events of His Passion...as the Church leads us into the re-entrance of these events – leading to the Glorious Resurrection.