

THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER – ACCORDING TO JHON

DO YOU KNOW WHAT I HAVE DONE TO YOU?

My dear friends... Holy Thursday is the day to celebrate, to give thanks, and to adore the **Love of all loves**... Today we're invited **to feel more like brothers and sisters... closer... more united**...

Today, words are summed up **in a gesture**... in an image that tells us everything... To see Jesus kneeling before each apostle in the humble act of washing their feet... allows us to rediscover what His life was... and the meaning of our own existence... Without words, He teaches us that love for our neighbor knows no limits... even to the point of kneeling, if necessary...

And... that, the mark of a disciple of Christ is that we love one another... **He asks only that of us**... Nothing more... and nothing less! That we love...

Today, we're all invited to sit at the table with Jesus... It's a farewell dinner... where there is no lack **of sadness, nostalgia, confidences, and emotion**...

Every Church in the world today becomes that Upper Room where the Lord celebrated His supper... Today, around every altar, **the Eucharist, fraternal love, and the priesthood** come together...

Three moments in one same place... **The Eucharist**... entrusted to the Church through the Sacrament of Holy Orders, **the memorial of His self-giving**... From it, **we're sent to become bread as well**...

Broken bread and shared for the world... poured out blood and a life given... That allows us to make Jesus present, visible, and credible every day of our lives...

What a beautiful and undeserved gift...

May your commandment be love... and out of love, may you spend your life in service of the Kingdom of God... care for the portion of the Kingdom entrusted to you... Welcome to the ministry of love and service...

I treasure those words that a priest friend gave me on the morning of the day I was ordained... and today they echo within me... and... **I want to offer them to you as well**... because they apply to each one of us... from our own specific vocation...

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May your commandment be love... and out of love, may you spend your life in service of your neighbor...

Then... the question of Jesus to His disciples becomes alive in each one of us... **Do you understand what I've done for you?**

Once again... this isn't only a question for the apostles... it's a question for each one of us... here! **Today!**

Because we can contemplate the gesture... we can be moved by the scene... we can even admire the humility of Jesus...

But the Lord goes further... He doesn't want us only to admire Him... **He wants us to understand...** and above all... **to live it...**

Because what He did... wasn't just a beautiful act... **It was a way of life...**

Jesus didn't wash feet just once... Jesus lived kneeling His entire life... **servicing... forgiving... welcoming... giving Himself!**

And then, the question changes direction...

If you already know what I've done for you... **what're you willing to do for others?**

That... is where, **this celebration stops being just a memory... and becomes a commitment...**

Because we cannot receive Communion with a Christ who kneels... **and live standing up indifferent to others...** We cannot receive the broken Bread... **and not break our lives for others...** We cannot say Amen... **and not translate that Amen into concrete gestures of love...**

The Eucharist we celebrate today... isn't only to be adored... **It's to be lived...**

It's Christ who remains... but it's also Christ who sends us... He sends us to be His presence... to be consolation... to be closeness... **to be humble service in the midst of the world...** And in the midst of this holy night... one word naturally arises... **Thank you!**

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DO YOU KNOW WHAT I HAVE DONE TO YOU?

Thank you, Lord, for the Eucharist... thank you, because you didn't want to remain far away... thank you, because you made yourself food... presence... companionship... **And thank you as well... for the priesthood...**

For so many priests who, in silence... continue making this mystery present every day... **who continue breaking the bread... and breaking their lives...**

Today... is also a day to pray for them... to support them... to thank them for their self-giving...

Today is a day to give thanks **for the baby priests...** and **for those who have been on the journey longer...** that the Lord, who one day, looking at us with eyes of mercy, called us to be instruments of His love, may continue to grant us the grace to be faithful...

And of course... also to pray for new vocations... **Because the Eucharist needs hands... needs hearts... needs lives that are spent out of love...** And in the end... we return to the beginning...

Do you know what I've done to you? May this question not remain without an answer...

As we leave here... may we not only remember this gesture... but extend it into our lives... at home... in our families... at work... with those who're more difficult for us... with those who need us...

My dear brothers and sisters... May our lives... little by little... also become... a washing of the feet... And then... the world will be able to recognize... that we're disciples of Christ... Because we love one another... **as He has loved us...**

Fr. Moices Rafael C.