

GOOD FRIDAY

No Cross, no crown

Already last week just before Palm Sunday I received Happy Easter text messages

A lot more came during the Holy Week from Monday, up to Yesterday.

NB: I do not know how you react to such messages:

NB: I do not mind Cards but I find those instant messages quite dislocating.

- ❖ I need each and every day of the Holy Week before I can think Easter.
- ❖ I particularly need the experience of Good Friday before I can break into Easter.

Human nature being what it is, we are prone to “**bypasses.**”

The human mind is very clever

- to avoid anything that is demanding and
- to go around that which will cost us something.

If a bypass to Easter is available why not use it –

- I do not need to go through the horror of Friday,
- I don't need to dwell on the cross.

There are so many versions of Christianity that will snub Catholics for the prominence they render to the cross.

All we need they think is to keep singing “**Alleluia**” and “**praising God.**”

I am sorry, the key to Easter is Good Friday.

The first people to experience the resurrection are women who remained at the foot of the cross and the beloved disciple.

NB: it was not the other disciples who took to flight – those who avoided the pain of Good Friday!!

- We cannot get to Easter without going through Good Friday.
- **No cross, no crown**

Even in real life you cannot achieve “**a long-term gain**” without pain.

- ❖ Yes, it is nice **to bathe in a long-term gain** but there is no long-term gain if you bypass **a short-term pain**.

Living the Christian vocation necessarily involves **a kind of dying** to oneself in the service of others.

There is no way we can overlook that moment of pain and call ourselves Christian.

Applying it down to our life, anything that causes us

- to hold back,
- to delay,
- to put off a needed action, **is an avoidance of Good Friday**

Standing up to challenges is the only way to achievement.

This includes our

- behaviour-patterns,
- addictions,
- compulsions

If we keep postponing and hesitating, we cannot resurrect – we cannot overcome!

In all we need this day: we need the experience of Good Friday.