

Maundy Thursday

Homily: Fr. Marco Park

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Dear brothers and sisters,

Tonight, we are invited into a very personal moment with Jesus. In the Gospel, St. John says something simple but very powerful: "Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end." (John 13: 1)

Not just when things were going well. Not just when the disciples were faithful and strong. But all the way to the end. And we know what happens next. They fall asleep. They run away. One denies him. One betrays him.

We also try to be faithful ... and then sometimes we forget - maybe even before our first cup of coffee in the morning.

Sometimes we pray well ... and the next day we're impatient with someone at home.

Sometimes we come to Mass ... and then get annoyed in the parking lot right after.

But Jesus doesn't change. He keeps loving. All the way to the end.

Tonight, Jesus shows us what that love looks like.

He kneels down and washes feet, and then he gives us the Eucharist and says: "This is my body that is for you." (1 Corinthians 11:24)

There is a beautiful saying from a Korean cardinal, Stephen Kim Sou-hwan. He often said, "I should become a meal... like food for others." Food is something that is given, shared ... even used up. To become "food" means to live not just for myself, but for others. And that's exactly what Jesus does tonight. He becomes bread. He



becomes a gift. He gives everything. And I believe that we live this more than we think.

It's not just big sacrifices. It's small, everyday moments:

Letting someone else have the last word instead of trying to win the argument.

Listening to the same story again ... even though you've already heard it many times.

Being patient with someone who is slow, or forgetful, or just having a bad day. Even just saying, "Go ahead, after you," when you're tired and in a hurry.

That's it. That's how we become "bread" for others.

Tonight, Jesus says: "Do this in memory of me." not only at this altar, but in the quiet, ordinary moments of our lives. Because every time we love like this, we are living the Eucharist.