

Dear Beloved Parishioners of Christ on the Mountain,

Today I would like to share with you some of the highlights I reflected on after listening to the Holy Father's Palm Sunday Homily. He started by quoting scripture "Jesus emptied himself, taking the form of a servant" (Philippians 2:7)

God saved us by serving us. We often think we are the ones who serve God. No, He is the one who chose to serve us. For He loves us. St. Angela of Foligno said she heard Jesus say "my love for you is no joke." The Lord is serious about serving us.

The Lord served us to the point of experiencing the most painful situation of love, betrayal and abandonment. We hear this as He is dying on the cross. He cries out "My God, My God why have you abandon me?" The lover who has poured out everything for the one loved and then is betrayed and abandoned. The pain and the anguish plummeting to the depths of love.

Why did all this happen? Jesus did all this to serve us because He loves each one of us. He did this for you and me. He says to us "do not be afraid, you are not alone. I experienced all your desolation in order to be ever closer to you!" Jesus became our servant out of love.

Today in the tragedy of the pandemic, in the face of many false securities that have now crumbled in the face of so many hopes betrayed, in the sense of abandonment that weighs upon our hearts. Jesus says to each one of us: "Have courage open your hearts to my love. You will feel the consolation of God who sustains you." We need to pray for courage, the great gift of the Holy Spirit, each day.

What can we do to be like Christ who served us? We can remember that life is of no use if not used to serve others. For life is a gift we receive only when we give ourselves away, and our deepest joy comes from saying yes to love, without ifs or buts. Jesus is our servant out of love and we are called to be servant to others out of love. Then we will have life to the fullest. Yes to love! Yes to Service!

In His love and service,

Fr. David