

SENIOR RE-MON-EXAM: A1 / A2 / A3 / B1 / B2 / C2 / E1 / E3 / G2 / G3 / H13
 JOB: LD.1.1 / 1.3 / 1.4 / 1.5 / 1.8 / 2.1 / 2.2 / 2.7

Feast day: September 14th

MARK 8:27-35



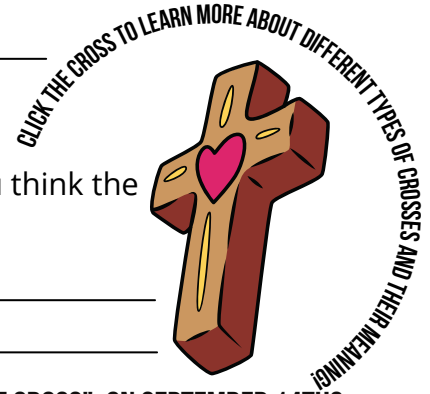
Why do we exalt the Cross?

If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him take up his cross and follow me.

THINK ABOUT ALL THE PLACES YOU HAVE SEEN AN IMAGE OF THE CROSS OR THE CRUCIFIX. DO YOU WEAR ONE? DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO WEARS ONE? IS THERE ONE IN THE ROOM WHERE YOU ARE NOW?

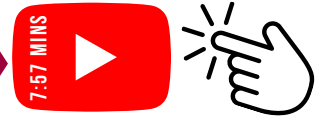
HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT WHY CHRISTIANS DISPLAY OR WEAR THE CROSS?

After all, it was the instrument of torture and death for Jesus. Why do you think the cross is used as the defining symbol for Christians?



DID YOU KNOW THAT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH EVEN HAS A FEAST DAY CALLED "THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS", ON SEPTEMBER 14TH?

WATCH FR MARK MARY CFR EXPLAIN "WHY WE HAVE A FEAST DAY FOR THE CROSS" AND HOW WE SHOULD REALLY LOOK AT THE CROSS IN OUR EVERYDAY LIVES.



Fr Mark Mary discusses some Catholic practices and customs that can seem strange to non-Catholics (and sometimes even to Catholics who don't understand their origin or meaning!) Can you think of any examples? Do you know their origins / meanings?



Why does Fr Mark Mary think the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross could be seen as the most scandalous and surprising of all the church celebrations?

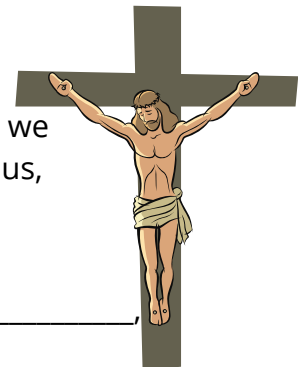
MAKING SENSE OF IT!

Reason 1:

The Cross reveals to us the _____ that God has for us. While we were still sinners, the _____ sent His Only Begotten Son to _____ for us, to _____ us, to _____ us.

Reason 2:

The Cross is the instrument of the _____, of the triumph of God over _____, of Jesus over _____. Jesus conquered death with His _____.



THAT'S EXCELLENT NEWS! THAT'S REASON FOR REJOICING! BUT.....

If our rejoicing over the Good News of Jesus, ' victory over sin and death is just giving thanks, or just a matter of the _____ or just having a cross around our _____ or on the _____, then our gratitude or exaltation of the Cross is a little bit broken!



WHY DO WE EXALT THE CROSS?

MARK 8:27-35

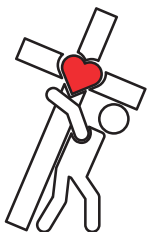


RELICS OF THE TRUE CROSS:

[Click here](#) to read an account of how St Helen discovered the cross on which Jesus was crucified. Do you know of any church that has a fragment of the true cross? Try to find out!



THE RELIC OF THE TRUE CROSS VS THE CROSS THAT WE CARRY



Sometimes the Lord will give us the opportunity to mystically, mysteriously and truthfully share in the cross, but we run from it and do everything we can to avoid it.

Venerating the Cross is important, and there's a great grace attached to it but in comparison to our sharing in the cross, e_____ and e_____, our carrying the cross well, the fruitfulness of that is unmatched!

How does Fr Mark Mary use the analogy of cleaning up after the party to explain how we respond to the Cross?



Now Read Mark 8:27 - 35



Peter wasn't at all happy with the message that Jesus, His Friend and the Messiah, would have to suffer and be put to death. To die by Crucifixion was a horrific punishment inflicted by the Romans on the worst of criminals - it was a shameful death as well as a torturous one.

Peter tried to discourage Jesus from taking up His Cross and Jesus rebuked Him. While we can understand Peter's attitude, it's also important to always remind ourselves that Jesus sees the big picture. He told His disciples He would rise from the dead, but at the time they didn't grasp what that meant. His suffering was never going to be pointless or fruitless, and it was not something He would avoid. It was necessary to bridge the unbridgeable gap between God and humanity, to pay the price of our salvation. Our sufferings, when united with Jesus, can have great value too. Let's never forget that.



MISSION!

BE CONSCIOUS THIS WEEK OF THE LITTLE WAYS YOU CAN EXALT THE CROSS: LITTLE INCONVENIENCES THAT COME YOUR WAY WHERE YOU ARE TEMPTED TO COMPLAIN OR MOAN (FLAT TIRES, BAD HAIR DAYS, MESSED-UP LUNCH ORDERS...) INSTEAD CHOOSE TO UNITE THEM SILENTLY WITH THE CROSS OF JESUS, OFFERING THAT PRAYER FOR SOMEONE WHO NEEDS HELP.



PRAYER TIME!

Morning Offering: O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer You my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for the intentions of all my relatives and friends, and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father. Amen.



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON THE CROSS THIS WEEK



- [Once Again \(Matt Redman\)](#)
- [When I survey the Wondrous Cross \(Watts/Scott\)](#)
- [O Come to the Altar \(Elevation Worship\)](#)
- [At the Foot of the Cross \(Kathryn Scott\)](#)
- [You are my all in all \(Nordeman\)](#)
- [At the Cross \(Hillsong\)](#)
- [Worthy is the Lamb \(Hillsong\)](#)
- [For the Cross \(Bethel Music\)](#)

Click the links for the YouTube videos to listen to some suggestions!

