



A WITNESS TO FAITH

On January 3, 2018, Jim Caviezel launched a clear and lively message to more than 8,000 Catholic students in Chicago. His name may be unfamiliar to us ... the actor has interpreted the role of Christ in Mel Gibson's film "The Passion of Christ". His intervention was both a testimony and a call ... that can also challenge us.

*"I want you to go out to this pagan world," Caviezel stated, "I want you to have **the courage to step into this pagan world and shamelessly express your faith in public.** The world needs proud warriors, animated by their faith, warriors like St. Paul, and St. Luke, who risked their names, their reputations, to take their faith, their love for Jesus into the world.....**God is calling each one of us – each one of you – to do great things.** We often fail to respond, dismissing God's call. And it is **now time for this generation to accept that call to give ourselves entirely to Him,** returning to prayer and fasting, scripture and the sacraments.*

*...We have a shrine to freedom now where all choices are equal no matter what the consequences are. **Do you honestly think this is true freedom?***

Speaking of his role in the film "The Passion of Christ" when he was barely 33 years old he had this to say of his experience: **"When I was up there on the cross I learned that in His suffering was our redemption. Remember the servant is no greater than the master. Each of us must carry our own cross."**

At the end of March the film **"Paul, Apostle of Christ"** will be released with Jim playing Luke, Paul's disciple. That will be followed by the sequel to "The Passion," another film directed by Mel Gibson: **"The Resurrection"** where Jim will one more reprise his role as Jesus Christ.

90th ANNIVERSARY

The first phase of the **College of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament in Salvador-Garcia, Brazil** was blessed on March 3rd 1928. The Chapel was dedicated to Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament in 1936. Various extensions have been added over the years to accommodate the growing number of pupils and respond to the pedagogical requirements of the curriculum. Currently 1020 pupils, children and young people up to the age of 17, benefit from and educational project inspired by the Charism of Bl. Peter Vigne: Christian values, moral formation and a range of skill sets and experiences.

On March 3rd 2018 the religious and educational community will give thanks to the Lord for all the good he has done during these 90 years. A very happy Feast of thanksgiving.....and many blessings on the way ahead to the Sisters, the educational team and pupils. May Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament and Blessed Peter Vigne journey with you.



N° 03+04 2018



Lent and Paschaltide are the two liturgical seasons that fall within these two months. The reading from Peter Vigne might indeed surprise us! Who would have thought that we could "steal" something from God? Father Vigne's meditation invites us to think about it...with Christ carrying his CROSSand to sing ALLELUIA with paschal joy on EASTER SUNDAY.

PLENTIFUL REDEMPTION

"Jesus was led away to Calvary with two thieves, to make known to us the mystery of his sufferings. The two thieves were a symbol and also a summary of the reasons for his death.

Addressing his Father and the whole of humanity Jesus said:

"This is what leads me to die on the Cross, those who are sinners:

the poor and the rich;

the hardened sinner and those who wish to be justified and enter with me into Paradise;

It is for everyone that I wish to suffer and die, because my love has no limits.

Father, I want to die for all sinners.

They have in some way,

stolen the glory which belongs to you alone;

stolen the Sacraments I left them, receiving them without much preparation, and in an unworthy state;

stolen the time you gave them to do penance, using it even to offend you;

stolen your talents...gifts for body and soul, putting them at the service of the Evil One, while you are the Master of all.

So, it's for all those that I climb the hill of Calvary and for them I am going to shed my Blood"

O my Saviour, what mercy! What kindness!

By your Cross, the fruits of life will overcome the bitter fruits of sin.

You wish to bestow on us the fruits of unlimited Mercy and plentiful Redemption.



For you and for all without measure

“Jesus is led to Calvary” and lives every moment of his Passion. But He doesn’t do it just to hold us accountable! If He suffers insults, scourging, mocking, spitting, etc....He doesn’t treat it as a financial transaction to increase our debt to Him! With Peter Vigne, let us accompany Christ as He makes His way to Calvary and listen to Him as He speaks with the Father. It is to Him that he offers his sufferings and death. Jesus gave Himself in one great offering of Love: **“It is for everyone that I wish to suffer and die, because my love has no limits”**. He recognises that there is a gulf or separation between the attitude of his “brothers”, - of us all-, and the love of his Father. **“They have stolen your Glory, .the Sacraments...time... talents”**.



Now He himself will correspond fully to this Love for all of us. **“So, it’s for all those that I climb the hill of Calvary”**. He does so with boundless generosity or rather according “to his measure”, which is infinite! He does it **freely and willingly....without presenting us with the bill!** St. Paul writing to the first Christians said: *“Because we broke God’s laws, we owed a debt—a debt that listed all the rules we failed to follow. But God forgave us of that debt. He took it away and nailed it to the cross”* (Col.2, 14) He simply tore up the bill! During the Easter Vigil we will hear the beautiful song of the Exultet proclaim: *“Christ ransomed us with his blood and paid for us the price of Adam’s sin to our eternal Father”*

So, during these weeks of Lent and Holy Week, **when you read or listen to the Passion Narrative, when you take part in the Way of the Cross**, your first feeling, **your first attitude** should certainly be gift/gratitude and a **thank you that sings deep within your heart**.

“We proclaim your death, Lord Jesus”!

BR

A Song of Joy—Psalm 66

Shout with joy to God, all the earth
Sing to the glory of his name;
Proclaim his glorious praise...
Come and see what God has done...
Let us therefore rejoice in him...
He continues to give us life
and keeps our feet from stumbling.
Praise God
Who did not turn away from me..
He listened to my prayer
He continues to show his love to me.



HE IS RISEN

They left the tomb at once,
in holy fear, yet with great joy,
and they ran to tell the news
to the disciples.
Gospel of Matthew 28, 8.

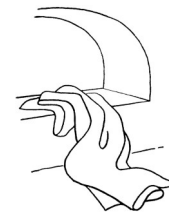
“I will never forget...

your glorious Resurrection,
*which strengthens my faith
and hope in resurrection like you...*

*... I fail to understand how a follower of Christ
who has some faith, and who knows perfectly
that every gift is from above,
sent down to us by our Father of Heaven,
would fail to thank him;
since he was so grateful to those who once invited him
to a meal”*

H.N. 160—2-80

**We celebrate
your RESURRECTION**



Vigne p. 4

When the Church celebrates the Eucharist, the memorial of her Lord's death and resurrection, this central event of salvation becomes really present... **This is the faith** from which generations of Christians down the ages have lived.

I wish once more to recall this truth and **to join you in adoration before this mystery: a great mystery, a mystery of mercy**. What more could Jesus have done for us? Truly, in the Eucharist, he shows us a love which goes **“to the end”** (Jn. 13:1), a love which knows no measure. N°11

In the Eucharist we have Jesus, we have his redemptive sacrifice, we have his resurrection, we have the gift of the Holy Spirit, we have adoration, obedience and love of the Father. Were we to disregard the Eucharist, how could we overcome our own deficiency? N°60

John Paul 11 *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*

ON EASTER SUNDAY the Lord speaks to us:

“I arose and now I am still with you,” he says to each of us. My hand upholds you. Wherever you may fall, you will always fall into my hands. I am present even at the door of death. Where no one can accompany you further, and where you can bring nothing, **even there I am waiting for you, and for you I will change darkness into light.**

Benedict XVI Easter Saturday 2007

**Joy to the world
The angels sing
The Lord is risen
The light shines again
Heaven and nature sing
ALLELUIA**