

Thank you to all the prayer warriors who stayed after Mass on Shrove Tuesday, to pray prayers of reparation to the Holy Face of Jesus.

Here is a little history on Shrove Tuesday and it's significance to our Catholic faith...

The day before Ash Wednesday is Shrove Tuesday. It is also the Feast of the Holy Face of Jesus. This is not random. This is one of the powerful ways the Church prepares our hearts for Lent.

The devotion to the Holy Face, of Jesus started with the Passion of Christ. When our Lord was carrying His Cross to Calvary, St. Veronica stepped forward, paying no attention to the soldiers. Veronica could only see Jesus with love and compassion. She offered Jesus her veil to wipe the blood and sweat from His Face. (The Sixth Station of the Cross)

In response to Veronicas' charity, Jesus left the miraculous impression of His Face upon her veil. The veil has been treasured as a sacred object since the start of Christianity.

This devotion is not modern. It is ancient. It is deeply Catholic. It began with LOVE offered to Christ in His suffering.

The Holy Face devotion is closely connected to reparation. It is a way to make amends for the sins of the world. Instead of judging our enemies, we pray for their conversion and offer reparation for the sins, which offend God. By practicing the Holy Face devotion, we are offering love to God in return for the offenses and indifference against Him.

What better time to do this, than during the Lenten season!!

Before giving up sweets, before fasting, and before you take on sacrifices, will you LOOK at Him? Will you LOVE Him? Will you make reparation?

In the 1800's the Lord said to Sister Marie of St. Peter, "All who honor My Holy Face in a spirit of reparation thereby perform for Me the services of the pious Veronica."

To honor the Holy Face of Jesus is an invitation to us, to be like Veronica, and boldly step forward and offer comfort to Our Lord, who suffered and died for us.

"Lord, let me not turn away!"

* Please help yourself to information on the Holy Face devotion in the gathering space or join us on the fourth Tuesday of the month after 9:00am Mass, to offer prayers of reparation. These prayers can also be offered anytime, anywhere.

Our next prayer date is Tuesday, February 24.

Sincerely,
Mary Kujawa and Patty Lewison