

September 15, 2020 – Tuesday - Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows



“Holding the hands of our Compassionate Mother, who is ever with us in our every sorrow, as she helps us, to follow Her Crucified Son and Our Strengthening Savior, Jesus!”
(1 Cor 12:12-14,27-31 Jn 19:25-27)

A prayer meeting was on. The participants were reciting the Rosary of the Seven Dolours (the seven sorrows of our Blessed Mother Mary). It came to the fifth sorrow, which is “Jesus dies on the Cross”. However, the one who was leading the prayer, by mistake said, “Mary dies on the Cross”. A few participants, who heard this mistake, burst out into laughter, at the mistake! But in hindsight, if we consider that statement, there is so much of truth and meaning in it – “Mary dies on the Cross!”

While on earth, there was no one who was closer to our Blessed Lord than His Own Beloved Mother. He received His body from Her. With Him, She rejoiced! With Him, She suffered! And finally, in those deepest agonizing moments on the Cross, there was none who suffered more than Her!

Every pain of Her Little Child, was experienced by the Blessed Mother. Mary was the Woman Who was most happy at the birth of the Lord. Mary was also the Woman Who was most sorrowful at the death of the Lord. Today, Holy Mother the Church keeps the memorial of Mary, the Sorrowful Mother of Jesus. This feast is dedicated to the spiritual martyrdom of our Blessed Mother.

The title “Our Lady of Sorrows” focuses on Mother Mary’s intense suffering during the Passion and Death of Jesus and invites us to meditate especially through

the Seven Sorrowful and Dolorous Moments in the life of our Blessed Mother.

- **The Prophecy of Simeon**
- **The flight into Egypt**
- **The Loss of Jesus in the Temple**
- **Mary meets Jesus on the Way to Calvary**

- **Jesus dies on the Cross**
- **Mary receives the Dead Body of Jesus in Her arms**
- **The Body of Jesus is placed in the Tomb**

Suffering is an immense and intense reality of our lives. Many times, sufferings hit our lives when we least expect it and are least prepared for it. Such moments of pain and agony, when encountered without any faith, can cause us to lose any meaning in life and renders our life to be shorn of hope, can cause us to question God and His goodness and strips our faith of its strength, and can cause us to have recourse to “unbecoming” means to relieve ourselves from pain.

However, such moments of suffering and difficulties, when faced with deep faith and trust, will become occasions of God’s overflowing grace filling our lives and making us stronger, will become occasions for us to depend deeper on our Creator and to feel His power more strongly and will become occasions for us to realize the value of life, and become more compassionate towards others.

This time of the pandemic has been extremely harsh and painful for the entire world. However we need to ask ourselves: have we been able to increase our faith and trust in the Lord, and know the God is very much with us, even in this unexplained time of suffering? or has our faith wavered, and is our life cluttered with many uncertainties and questions of hopelessness?

Our Blessed Mother Mary – the Mother of Sorrows and the Mother of Compassion – teaches us many important and vital lessons for life. She had every reason to complain and fight against God. She had every reason to protest and abandon God and His Will. She had every reason to murmur and let go of the plan of God for Her. But, the “Yes” that She pronounced at the Annunciation was echoed all through Her life at every step be it in times of joy and calmness and be it in times of sadness and calamity

The “Yes” She said was the Final Profession She made just as the Religious make on the Day of their Profession, just as the Priests make on the Day of their Ordination, just as the Married make to each other and to God, on their Day of Wedding and just as the Baptized make to the Lord and seek to live, from the time of Baptism.

It was a binding for life. It was a commitment to, with conviction. It was to be lived in sincerity, with dedication. The Feast of the Mother of Sorrows is a beautiful reminder and reflection on “Two Hearts that were united to each other, burning with love” – the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Blessed Mother Mary. These two Hearts underwent immense pain and suffering yet, rejoiced in Love.

We are invited to live a life free from sin, filled with love, firm in conviction, and fashioned in grace like our Beloved and Blessed Mother Mary. Mamma Mary invites all of us to live a life of joy, even when the clouds of sorrow paint the skies of our lives.

Her Seven Special Moments of Joy.

- **The Annunciation.**
- **The Nativity of Jesus.**
- **The Adoration of the Magi.**
- **The Resurrection of Christ.**
- **The Ascension of Christ to Heaven.**
- **The Pentecost or Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and Mary.**
- **The Coronation of the Virgin in Heaven are a reminder to know that God reigns over every situation in life, and we need to “wave the Flag of Joy in our lives always”**

May we be filled with the courage and grace to truly make it our prayer:
“Holy Mother, pierce me through in my heart, each wound renews of my Savior Crucified.”

Wish you a Happy Feast of our Compassionate Mother, who is ever with us in our every sorrow as she helps us, to follow Her Crucified Son and Our Strengthening Savior, Jesus!

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, help me to love with the love of Your dear Mother. Help me to feel the same holy sorrow she felt and to allow that holy sorrow to deepen my concern and compassion for all those who suffer. Speak your word to me and give me renewed hope, strength, and courage to follow you in the midst of life's sorrows and joys.

Mother Mary, pray for us.

Jesus, I trust in You.