This is Holy Week in the church's calendar and so we are encouraged to celebrate these next seven days with extra attention because they say something not only about Jesus the Christ, but about ourselves as well.

The stories of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection are the very first ones to be told, the very first to be written and the very first to cause the disciples to struggle. We find in them so many human emotions. We see the power of political and religious leaders trying to stifle the message of Jesus' compassion and care for the poor and outcast.

We see the tenderness of the brave women who stay with Jesus when all of his male disciples abandon him in fear. We find in these stories hatred and love; faith and doubt; friendship and betrayal; sin and forgiveness. These stories, in a sense, are our stories as well as the world's stories too. We can find in them our pain and our struggle. We find in them death, and we find eternal life.

We are all **encouraged** to make every effort this week to follow **Jesus** in his **journey** to the cross and resurrection.

Come to our **Holy Thursday** Mass at 7:00pm. Come to our **Good Friday** Service at 7:00pm.

Come to our **Great Vigil of Easter** on **Saturday** at 7:00pm.

Let us try to make Jesus our focus this week.