

Monday, March 29, 2021 and Tuesday, March 30
HOLY WEEK

Yesterday, the priests of the Diocese gathered at the beautiful Basilica of Saint Stanislaus Kostka in Winona for the Chrism Mass, where we had the Renewal of Priestly Promises with Bishop Quinn. Normally, this celebration is scheduled for Thursday morning of Holy Week but with the distance of travel for some of our priests, it is done in many dioceses on Monday of Holy Week.

Yesterday and today, the first reading at Mass comes from Isaiah, and we hear proclaimed the First and Second oracles, respectively, of the Servant of the Lord, fulfilled in Jesus. The Gospels for both days are from John and we heard of the plot of the chief priests to kill not only Jesus, but also Lazarus, whom Jesus raised from the dead. Judas figures in both of the Gospels as well, complaining about the aromatic nard which Mary anointed Jesus with, and saying it should have been sold to help the poor. Today, Judas betrays Jesus and Peter contends: "I will lay down my life for you." Peter does not know himself very well until he weeps over his three denials of Jesus. May we allow the grace of God to enlighten the reality of our weakness and our sinfulness, and thus the immense compassion of Jesus and the love of God the Father!

God Love You!

Fr. Jim Starasovich

