

APRIL 7TH REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS. MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

First Reading Isaiah 49:1-6

V 1 Islands, listen to me,
pay attention remotest peoples.

The Lord called me before I was born,
from my mother's womb he pronounced my name.

Psalm 70

It is you, O Lord, who are my hope,
my trust, O Lord, since my youth.

On you I have leaned from my birth,
from my mother's womb you have been my help.

Gospel Reading

Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

While at supper with his disciples, Jesus was troubled in spirit and declared, 'I tell you most solemnly, one of you will betray me.'

.... When Judas had gone, Jesus said:

'Now has the Son of Man been glorified,
and in him God has been glorified.'

.... Simon Peter said, 'Lord, I will lay down my life for you.' Jesus answered, 'I tell you most solemnly, before the cock crows you will have disowned me three times.'

Reflection

A friend of mine who wrote a weekly letter to Cardinal Pell during his imprisonment shared with me one of the replies that he received from the cardinal. It contained no trace of self-pity or fear, much less of recrimination.

Jesus approached his being hand over and the cowardice of his friend, Peter, as intrinsic moments of his vocation to give glory to God.

Jesus did not gloss over the truth of these men. Nor did he destroy their dignity.

He knew that the Lord was his hope since his youth (and from eternity).

Archbishop Comensoli has written a letter today to us, summarised in the 'Comfort my People' REFLECTION on the website. He asks us to give thanks for the nation's respect for truth and justice, while upholding the worth of all the parties to the court action, and of all who have suffered directly or indirectly from the sexual abuse committed by clergy.