Homily by Deacon Luis P. Villanueva for 8AM Mass on Monday, May 1 7, 2021 at St. Joseph Church, Devine, TX-Fr. Antonio Hernandez, Pastor. Gospel: John 16:29-33

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, amen.

On the night He was betrayed, in his weakest moment Jesus told his disciples "In the worldyou will have trouble. But take courage, I have conquered the world".

He was saying to them and us today, in your life you will undergo some very dark moments, very trying times, challenges, storms, afflictions, and persecutions that will cause you to loose faith in me, to doubt me and my words, to shake you to the core, but do not be afraid, take courage, I have conquered the world!

And it will take people of great faith in God, people who are constantly celebrating the Sacraments and evangelizing the Word of God, people who are living with the grace of God in them and them living in God to trust such words.

It will be their great faith in Jesus that will cause them to remain firm and not flee from Jesus for they walk by faith not by sight. It will be normal for the body to react to any great crisis they face with nervousness, and anxiety but in spirit they will remain faithful to the words of Jesus "take courage, I have conquered the world! "

The more we are made aware that we will have times of testing and prepare for these times by maintaining ourselves connected to Jesus and his holy Word, the more we will be able to weather the storms we will face each day. And with each storm that we endure and survive, we become stronger in our faith in Jesus. God bless you.

En La noche en que fue traicionado, en su momento mås débil, Jests les dijo a sus discipulos: "En el mundo tendréis problemas. Pero animate, he conquistado el mundo

Él les estaba diciendo a ellos y a nosotros hoy, en su Vida pasarån momentos muy oscuros, tiempos muy duros, desafios, tormentas, aflicciones y persecuciones que les harån perder la fe en mf, dudar de mi y de mis palabras, de sacudarte hasta el corazon, pero no tengas miedo, animate, ihe conquistado el mundo!

Y se necesitarån personas de gran fe en Dios, personas que constantemente celebran los sacramentos y evangelizan la Palabra de Dios, personas que viven con la gracia de Dios en ellos y ellos en Dios para confiar en tales palabras.

Serå su gran fe en Jests 10 que IOS harå permanecer firmes y no huir de Jests porque caminan por fe, no por vista. Serå normal que el cuerpo reaccione ante cualquier gran crisis que enfrente con nerviosismo y ansiedad pero en espfritu se mantendrå fiel a las palabras de Jesüs "iAnimo, he conquistado el mundo!"

Cuanto mås seamos conscientes de que tendremos tiempos de prueba y nos prepararemos para estos tiempos manteniéndonos conectados con Jesüs y su santa Palabra, mås podremos resistir las tormentas que enfrentaremos cada dia. Y con cada tormenta que soportamos y sobrevivimos, nos fortalecemos en nuestra fe en Jests. Dios los bendiga.