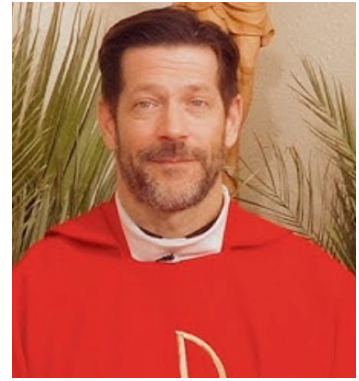


## Putting On Christ's Passion

*From Fr. Mike Schmitz's Homily - April 24, 2024*



*I'm invited not just to believe the story, I believe that I have been invited to enter into the story, what is missing is this insight, it says your suffering is sanctifying, that your pain united to Christ has power... we sometimes think that it's the teaching, it's the learning, it's the preaching, it's the healing that changes the world, that's how we participate in God's salvation of the world. Jesus has revealed something more powerful to us, he's revealed to us that we are called to enter into the story by uniting our sufferings to Christ.*

*For centuries in the in the history of the life of the church there are monks and nuns who have entered into the convents and into the monasteries, they have prayed and they have offered up their ordinary daily sufferings and that has been the fuel for the conversion of the world that those hidden monks, those hidden nuns, who have lived these hidden lives of ordinary suffering but united to the cross of Jesus Christ has transformed the world and has been the fuel for the gospel to go out into all corners of the world. But now there are fewer monasteries, now there are fewer convents and there are more nursing homes, and we need to allow these nursing homes to become the new convents and the new monasteries. If you're stuck at home this is the new convent this is the new monastery this is the new opportunity, it's the new moment for all of us to discover .... that my pain is powerful united with Jesus, that my suffering is not senseless when it's united to the cross. This is true about your situation as well. You might find yourself stuck in a bed unable to get out of bed, to unite that suffering with the sufferings of Jesus Christ literally will save lives.*

*You might experience a great and powerful loneliness in this moment, to unite your loneliness to the loneliness of Jesus Christ has the capacity to transform this world ... Accept every moment as from God's hand to surrender and give him access to every aspect of your life and take action knowing that your suffering is salvific that your pain does have power.*