**Homily for Holy Thursday – The Last Supper Celebration, 2025**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

**Tonight, we gather to enter into the great mysteries of our faith.** Holy Thursday brings us **to the upper room,** where Jesus shared His final meal with His disciples before His Passion. In this sacred moment, Jesus leaves us three extraordinary gifts: **the Eucharist, the model of humble service, and the commandment to love one another.**

**First, we reflect on the institution of the Eucharist.** In the Gospel tonight, Jesus takes bread, blesses it, breaks it, and gives it to His disciples, saying, "This is my body, given for you. **Do this in memory of me."** Then He takes the cup, saying, "This is my blood, poured out for the forgiveness of sins." **In these words, Jesus transforms a simple meal into a sacrament of His abiding presence.**

**Each time we celebrate the Eucharist, we encounter Christ Himself, who offers His body and blood for our salvation.** He gives Himself fully to us, so that we may be nourished and strengthened to live as His disciples. **The Eucharist is not only a gift; it is also an invitation to become what we receive-Christ's body, broken for the world.**

**Second, Jesus gives us the model of humble service** asHe **kneels to wash the feet of His disciples**, even though He is their Master and Lord. This act challenges us to ask ourselves: **Are we willing to serve others,** **especially the poor, the marginalized, and those in need**? True discipleship calls us to imitate Jesus by embracing humility and loving others through acts of service.

**Finally,** **Jesus leaves us a new commandment: "Love one another as I have loved you."** This love is not superficial; it is sacrificial, self-giving, and unconditional. **It calls us to lay down our lives for one another and to become living signs of God's love in the world.**

As we journey with Jesus through His Passion, death, and resurrection, let us take to heart the gifts He has entrusted to us. **Let us embrace the Eucharist as the source and summit of our faith.** **Let us follow His example of humble service.** **And let us live out His commandment of love in our families, our communities, and beyond.**

Tonight, as we commemorate this holy night, may we draw closer to Christ, who loved us to the end and calls us to do the same.

**Concluding Prayer:**

Lord Jesus Christ,

On this holy night, we thank You for the gift of the Eucharist, the model of humble service, and the commandment to love. Help us to live in Your grace and to share Your love with others. May we, like You, lay down our lives in humble service and build a world where Your love reigns. Strengthen us to carry the cross with faith and walk in the light of Your resurrection. We ask this in Your most Holy Name. Amen.