

Reflection Tuesday Week 29 Sts John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues and Companions 2021

Between 1642 and 1649 eight members of the Society of Jesus, who had travelled to North America to preach the true faith, were killed by the native Huron and Iroquois tribes after horrible tortures. Isaac Jogues died on 18th October 1647, and John de Brébeuf on 16th March 1648.

It is clear that John, Isaac and their companions were dressed for action and were truly welcomed by Christ. The words of St Paul to the Romans must have been encouraging and uplifting. They would have found courage in them. The grace of Jesus death and resurrection is far greater than any atrocity that has ever been committed, Paul says. This is how much Jesus wants to save us. This free gift speaks of the generosity of God and how special we are in God's eyes. It is hard for us to fathom the richness and value of this gift. The more we contemplate the gift of life from Jesus, the more we will want to live in God's way. The synod is calling us to speak to each other about what our faith means to us openly and freely. Where two or three gather together in the name of Jesus, the Holy Spirit will most certainly be present. A question that rings loudly at present concerns creation. It is as if God is saying *"What are you doing to creation, you are so much better than to let it destroy itself?"* Just as the Holy Spirit will guide us in our reflections on our faith and the Church, the Spirit will guide us in our reflections on creation and show us how to restore it, not only to its former beauty but into something even better!!!