

Reflection Saturday Week 28 – 2023

Jesus lived today's Gospel passage to perfection. He was arrested, interrogated, falsely condemned and questioned by the Chief Priest, Herod and Pontius Pilate. During His interrogations, sometimes He spoke and at other times remained silent. In preparation for these interrogations, Jesus did not study each ruler ahead of time, trying to figure out what He should say and not say. He did not prepare a defence but relied upon His perfect union with the Holy Spirit and with the Father to be led at every moment of His life.

This Gospel passage, when clearly understood and lived, should have a calming and reassuring effect. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states that "*To avoid rash judgment, everyone should be careful to interpret insofar as possible his neighbour's thoughts, words, and deeds in a favourable way*" (# 2478). The key message Jesus gives is to trust that the Holy Spirit will always lead us as we humbly and continually seek to follow His every prompting. This is only possible by building a firm habit of attentiveness to the Voice of God within.

The Holy Spirit will speak to us, inspire us, console us and give us the grace needed to respond in accord with God's will. Do not doubt this. Have faith and confidence in the words and promises of our Lord.