

“Postmodernism” (a title that describes the period in which we live) has given us the term “hermeneutic of suspicion.” Put simply, it means that this era is characterized by increasing cynicism toward institutions and time-held value systems. Truth has become relativised – which means that any claim to absolute truth or authority is no longer relevant. People make up their own minds about what is right or wrong.

This is the reality in which the church finds itself today. While postmodernism does offer some healthy critique of institutions – the church included – it equally leaves us bereft on any foundational story that can guide and give meaning to life.

But for all its faults the church has continued to pass on the foundational story which for us as Christians is the story of Jesus. By entering into the story of Jesus we find meaning, hope and liberation.

It is especially in the liturgy that the story of Jesus is told over and over again through the various seasons of the church (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter). To enter into these mysteries is to unite our stories with the foundational story of Jesus. In this we find our true identity is in Christ and our purpose in life in sharing in Christ's mission for the world. Holy Week begins today with Passion Sunday. This marks the beginning of Holy Week, the last days of Lent in which we prepare with greater intensity to celebrate the highpoint of the liturgical year: the *Easter Triduum*. The *Triduum* is one great liturgy comprising of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. To journey over these days is to enter in a most profound way Jesus' dying and rising to new life.

I wish you all a happy and blessed Easter!

***Peace and blessings,
Gerard***