

Our culture oftentimes encourages us to be rather individualistic. We are encouraged to take “me time” ... if you were born in certain decades you may be part of the “me generation” ... online we have “mobile me” and “my space” ... and since 1969, Frank Sinatra’s been encouraging us to do things “my way.”

Yet too much of this individualism can spawn a dysfunctional narcissism.

Human nature, aside from cultural influences, causes us to focus inwardly. We see things through our eyes ... hear things with our ears ... and what we perceive with our senses is filtered through our brain ... our thoughts ... our minds.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus we hear of Judas’ betrayal. And the narrative carries over into the Last Supper. When Our Lord states that one of the twelve would betray Him ... instead of concern for Christ, the disciples begin to ask Him “one after another, ‘Surely it is not I, Lord?’”

On hearing of prediction of the betrayal of the Second Person of the Trinity ... the Word of God made flesh ... the Messiah ... the Son of the Living God ... the apostles quickly distill the message into a personal one ... “what about me?”

This handicap of humanity makes it often difficult to live our lives for Jesus Christ - yet that is what we are called to do ... live our lives for Christ.

As we enter into the Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter ... let us reflect on the fact that Christ died for each one of us ... and that His death was brought on by our sins.

Yet the sacrifice of Jesus brought about our redemption ... and the graces that pour from the Cross can help us to rise above our own mediocrity. May those graces, which flow from this altar during the Eucharistic Sacrifice, transform us into true followers of Jesus ... as we prepare to follow Him to Calvary.