

St. Isaac Jogues (1607-1646) was a Jesuit missionary and martyr who travelled and worked among the native populations in North America. Jogues was born at Orleans in France. He was martyred by the Mohawk at their village of Ossemenon, a site near present-day Auriesville, New York.



First Reading: (Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21-21) Sin came into the world through one man and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all men sinned. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. Then as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one man's act of righteousness leads to acquittal and life for all men. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous. But where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,

so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ps 39:7-10, 17

R./ Here am I, Lord that I may do your will.

Gospel: (12:35-38) Jesus said to his disciples, "Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast, so that they may open to him at once when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes; truly, I say to you, he will gird himself and have them sit at table, and he will come and serve them. If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them so, blessed are those servants!"

REFLECTION

We are all inter-related because all of us are in Christ who is the beginning and end of our lives, our Alpha and our Omega. Therefore, our goodness and all our virtues affect every other human being and so too our evil. Our sins need forgiveness and reconciliation because of our communitarian nature. Paul reminds us of this truth of our inter-relatedness with all humans as well as with Christ our true liberator and saviour. What is required of us is our alertness to his presence to us. Are we aware of our being with him and in him? **The fullness of this communion is the eternal table-fellowship with the Father, the Son and the Spirit.**