



Following an interesting couple of days, we arrived in Madrid just in time to prepare for Holy Week, which began in earnest on Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup>. Holy Thursday is considered the day of priests, and so, living in a house full of them, it



was celebrated in style, starting with an elaborate and delicious lunch. The traditional washing of the feet could unfortunately not be performed this year, but the day was not lacking priestly action. Many of the Disciples' priests have been working tirelessly to bring a devout and meaningful Holy Week to the families in quarantine, starting with two holy hours on Thursday night livestreamed on YouTube, one for families and one for youth and young adults. Later

that night, we participated in a more private tradition: we each sat with the Lord in prayer for one hour throughout the night to accompany him through his night in Gethsemane. Good Friday was, as it should be, subdued and contemplative. We fasted, prayed, and shared the Stations of the Cross with the families. We also viewed *The Passion of the Christ*. On Holy Saturday we prayed a rosary with the families via Zoom, for which they took turns praying the decades and singing at the end of every one. That night we celebrated the long anticipated Easter Vigil. Traditionally, the Disciples celebrate the Triduum in Villaescusa; this year we used the chapel of Stella Maris La Gavia. However, calling it a chapel is almost misleading. It is larger than most parish churches and superbly decorated wall to wall with Fr. Ioan Gotia's iconographic paintings. A



parent from the school came as well to help present a high quality video on the livestream. All of the Navigare and most of the brothers sang a psalm (with added tension because of the live television congregation), the performances of which were greatly helped by Stephen, who



rehearsed with everyone and played the organ for all the Holy Week events (and every day at mass). Following the Vigil, and thanks to the Disciples' extremely generous benefactors, we feasted on several Spanish sweets and mimosas. Two masses on Easter morning were livestreamed as well.



Happy Easter from all here!



