Wednesday of Holy Week

Gospel text (*Mt* 26:14-25): One of the Twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, “What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?” They paid him thirty pieces of silver, and from that time on he looked for an opportunity to hand him over.

On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the disciples approached Jesus and said, “Where do you want us to prepare for you to eat the Passover?” He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, ‘The teacher says, “My appointed time draws near; in your house I shall celebrate the Passover with my disciples.”’” The disciples then did as Jesus had ordered, and prepared the Passover (…).

The Easter

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Today, the apostles are getting ready for Easter. Judas is plotting the “business” of surrendering the Master, without suspecting that his treason “provides” the Victim of the new Easter. The rest of the apostles are preparing the banquet, not realizing that Easter will not anymore be that of the Old Testament, but that of the New Testament: Jesus, Eucharistic food and victim on the Cross.

Easter means “passage”: passage or transition from slavery to freedom, passage through the desert, the Jordan, the Red Sea… A God’s step that always means protection and salvation. It was the Jews’ most important feast: sacrifice and banquet together, celebrating their history of salvation.

—Lord Jesus, I also wish to prepare your Easter as your disciples did. I know that your “hour” is approaching, by your own “surrendering”, by the sacrifice of the Cross and by the death. That your “passage” be also mine, and your Easter be my passage into a new life in You.