

The Easter Triduum

Deacon Mike Walsh

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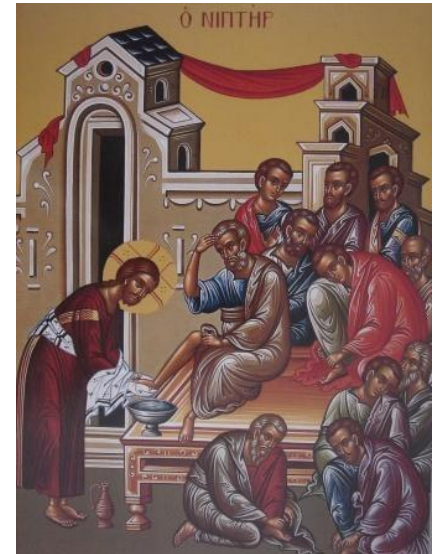


- What is the Triduum?
- How do we Celebrate the Triduum?
- Where we find meaning in the Triduum?

What is the Triduum?

Easter Triduum/ Holy Triduum

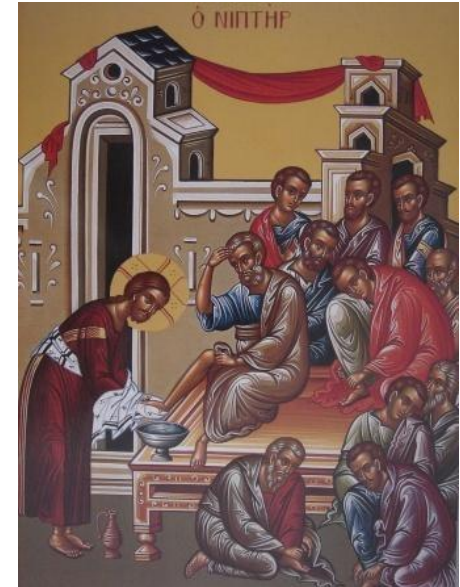
- The period of three days during 'Holy week':
 - Holy Thursday
 - Good Friday
 - Holy Saturday
 - Easter Vigil (Easter Sunday)
- It begins with the Thursday ***Mass of the Lord's Supper*** and ends with evening prayer on Sunday.
- After the ***Gloria*** at the Mass of the Lord's Supper all ***church bells are silenced*** and the organ is not used.



How do we celebrate the Triduum?

Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper

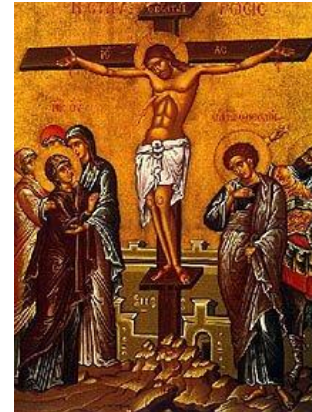
- After the homily of the Mass a ritual **washing of the feet** is envisaged.
- The Mass concludes with a procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the altar of repose.
- Eucharistic adoration*** is encouraged after this, but if continued after midnight should be done without outward solemnity.
- The liturgical colour for the Mass vestments and other ornaments is white.



How do we celebrate the Triduum?

Good Friday

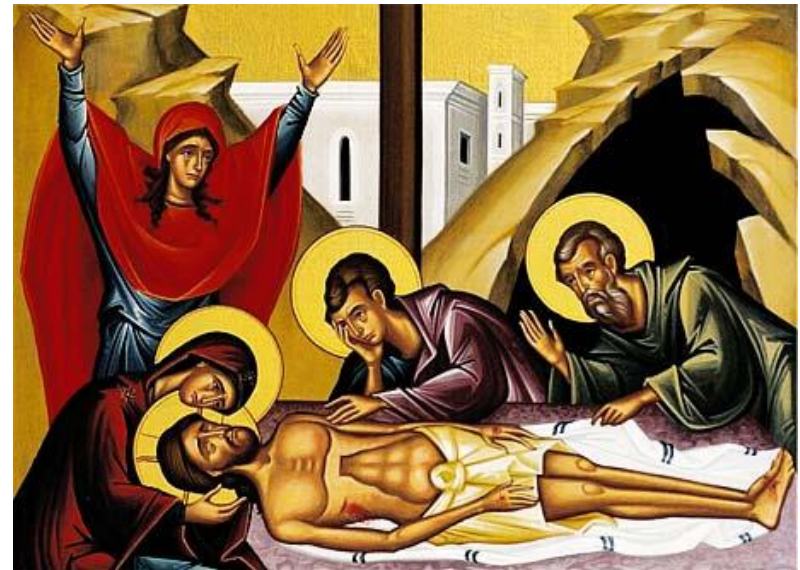
- On Good Friday, Christians recall the *Passion* and crucifixion of Jesus.
- In Roman Catholicism, the clergy traditionally begin the service prostrate in front of the altar. Mass is not celebrated on Good Friday and the communion distributed at the Celebration of the Lord's Passion is consecrated on Holy Thursday, hence the name *Mass of the Pre-sanctified*.
- Also in Roman Catholicism, images of saints are either kept or veiled until the Easter Vigil. Crucifixes that are movable are hidden, while those that are not movable are veiled until the Easter Vigil.
- Only one cross or crucifix per church is unveiled throughout the entire Good Friday service, for the purpose of *veneration* by the congregation.
- The faithful typically venerate the crucifix by kissing the feet of the corpus.
- Colors seen throughout the chapel or on vestments: The priest wears *red vestments*, symbolic of the Blood of Jesus.



How do we celebrate the Triduum?

Holy Saturday

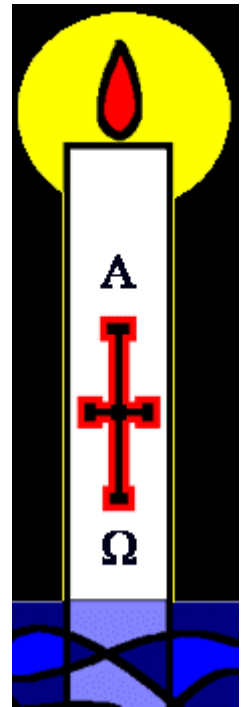
- A commemoration of the day that *Jesus lay in his tomb.*
- In the Roman Catholic Church, *daytime Masses are never offered.*
- There are no colors seen or used throughout the chapel or on vestments.



How do we celebrate the Triduum?

Easter Vigil

- Held after nightfall of Holy Saturday, or before dawn on Easter Sunday, in anticipation of the ***celebration of the resurrection of Jesus.***
- The ceremony of darkness and light is held in silence at the beginning of the Mass.
 - The ***paschal candle***, representing Jesus' resurrection as ***the "return of light onto the world,"*** is lit.
 - The solemn procession to the altar with the Paschal candle is formed.
 - Once everyone has processed in, the ***Exsultet*** (the Easter Proclamation) is intoned.
- After the Exsultet, everyone is seated and listens to the 7 readings and 7 psalms, followed by the Epistle.
- These readings account salvation history, beginning with Creation.



Easter Vigil Readings

Jewish Scriptures: Old Testament

Genesis 1:1-2:2 The Story of Creation

Genesis 22:1-18 The LORD Tells Abraham To Offer Isaac as a Sacrifice

Exodus 14:15-31;15:20 The Israelites Cross the Red Sea

Isaiah 54:5-14: God reclaims his people

Isaiah 55:1-11 The LORD'S Invitation

Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4 Wisdom Comes from God

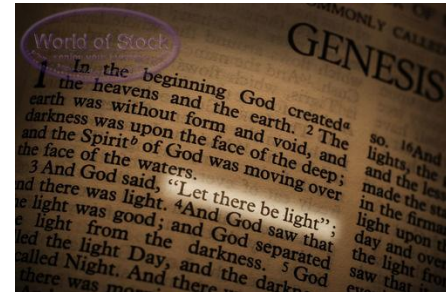
Ezekiel 36:16-28 The LORD Will Be Honoured

Epistle of St. Paul

Romans 6:3-11 : Sharing in the Death and Resurrection of Christ

Gospel of Luke Year C

Luke 24:1-12 Jesus Is Alive



How do we celebrate the Triduum?

Easter Vigil

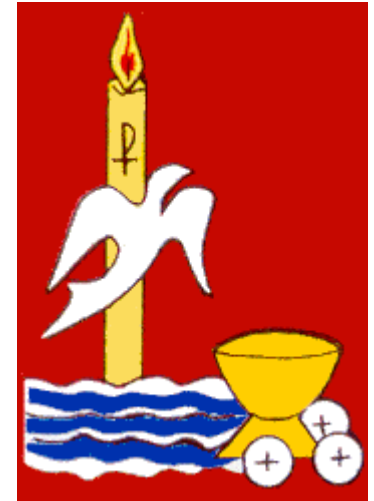
- In pre- and post-Vatican II Roman Catholic practice, during the Gloria at the Mass, the organ and church bells are used in the liturgy for the first time in two days.
 - If the lights of the Church have been previously left off, they are turned on as the Gloria begins
- The Great Alleluia is sung before the Gospel is read
- The Paschal candle is used to bless the baptismal font to be used by the Elect.
- The celebrant uses the term "Alleluia" for the first time since the beginning of Lent.



How do we celebrate the Triduum?

Easter Vigil

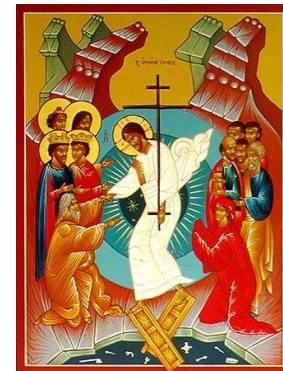
- People desiring to full initiation in the Church who have completed their training are formally initiated as members of the faith the Church through the ***Sacraments of Initiation*** (Baptism, confirmation, and the Holy Eucharist).
- In current Vatican II practice, the ***use of lighting to signify the emergence from sin and the resurrection of Jesus*** vary, from the use of candles held by parishioners as well as candelabras lit throughout the church.
- Colors seen throughout the chapel or on vestments: White, often together with gold, with yellow and white flowers often in use in many parishes.



How do we celebrate the Triduum?

Easter

- The date of Easter varies from year to year, but is always on a Sunday between the dates of **March 22 and April 25**. It occurs on the first Sunday after the first full moon of Spring.
- Easter Masses are held throughout the day and are similar in content to the Easter Vigil Mass. However, baptisms are not performed, and the ritual of the Paschal candle is not performed (the candle is placed next to the *ambo*, or podium, throughout the Easter celebration).
- The Easter season extends from the Easter Vigil through Pentecost Sunday on the Catholic calendar, normally the fiftieth day after Easter.
- The colors seen throughout the chapel or on vestments during the fifty-day Easter period are white or gold.

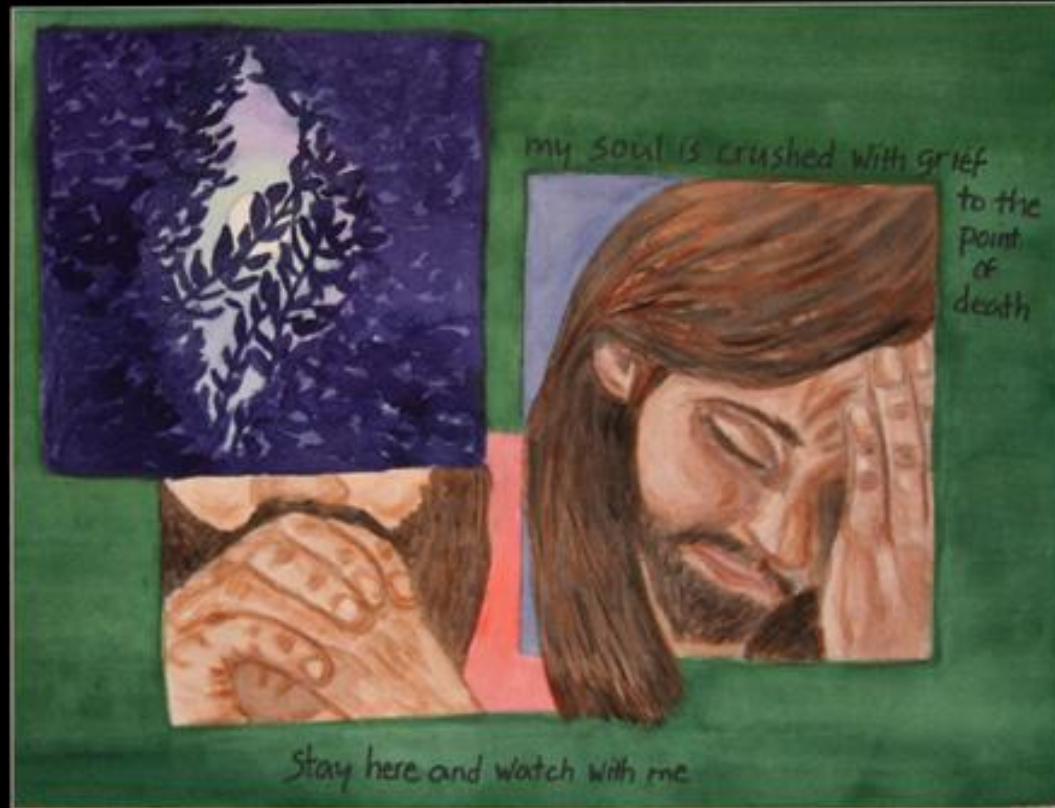


Where do we find meaning in the Triduum?

- “In the coming days, we will commemorate the supreme battle between Light and Darkness, between Life and Death. “
- Commenting on Good Friday, St. John Chrysostom said: "Before, the cross meant disdain, but today it is venerated. Before, it was a symbol of condemnation, today it is the hope of salvation. It has truly been converted into a fount of infinite goods; it has liberated us from error, it has scattered our darkness, it has reconciled us with God. From being enemies of God, it has made us his family, from foreigners it has converted us to his neighbors: This cross is the destruction of enmity, the fount of peace, the coffer of our treasure" ("De cruce et latrone," I, 1, 4).
- We could say that the Way of the Cross teaches us, using an expression from St. Leo the Great, to **"fix the eyes of our heart on Christ crucified and recognize in him our own humanity"** (Sermon 15 on the Passion of the Lord).

From Pope Benedict XVI

Station 1: Theme- Prayer
Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

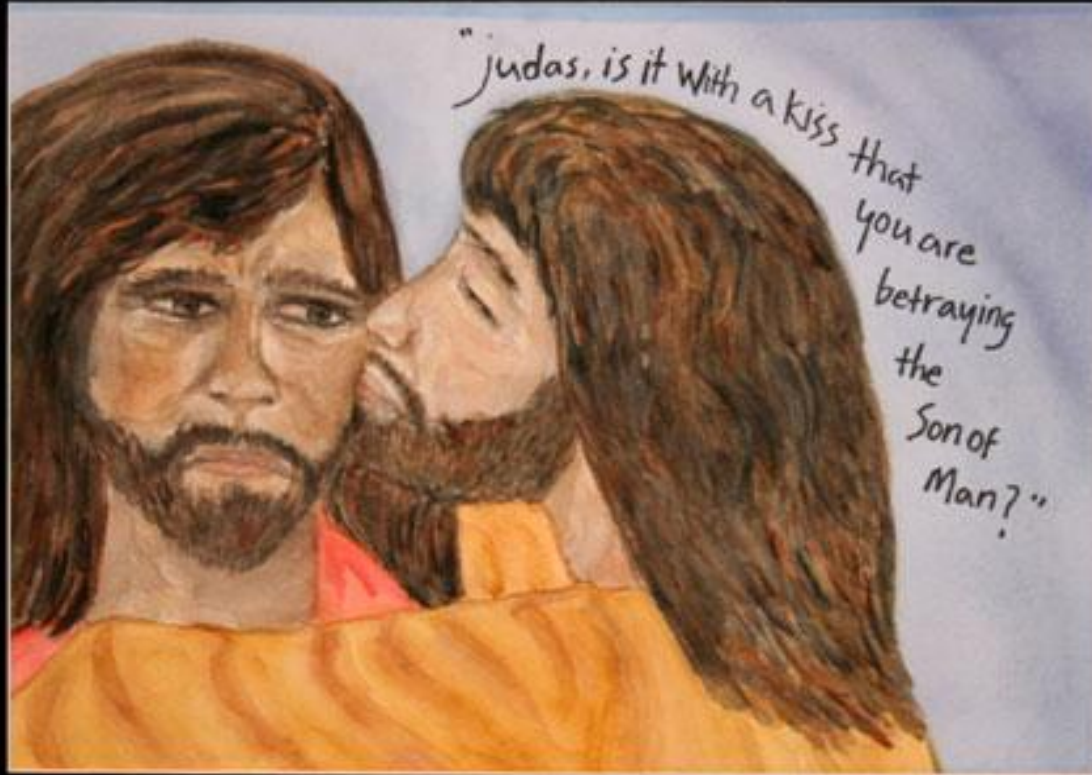


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Reflection Question: Prayer

Jesus, you prayed to your Father , Can you help me to reach out to Him in prayer in my time of need?

Station 2: Theme- Betrayal
Jesus, Betrayed by Judas, is Arrested

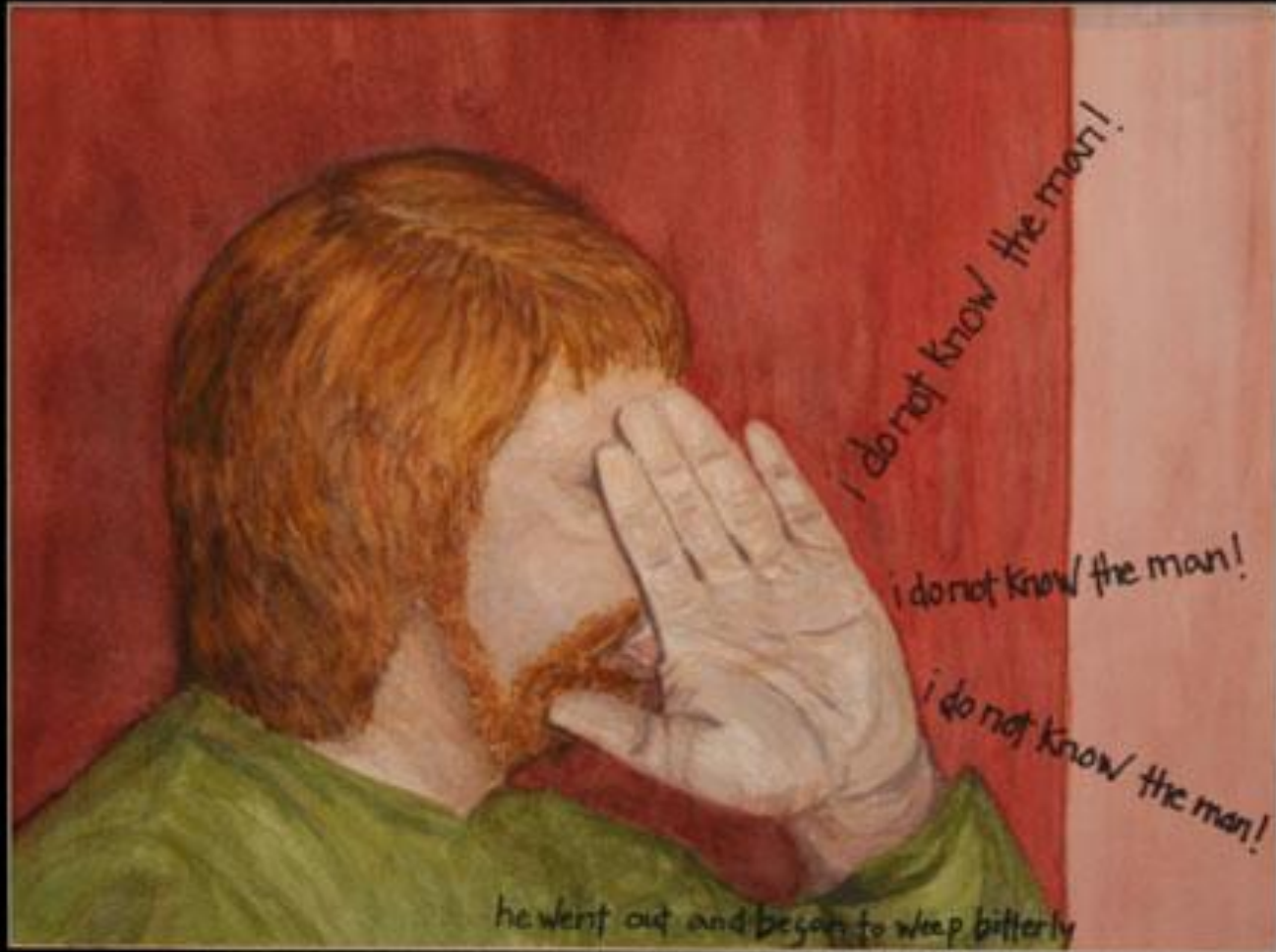


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Reflection Question: Betrayal

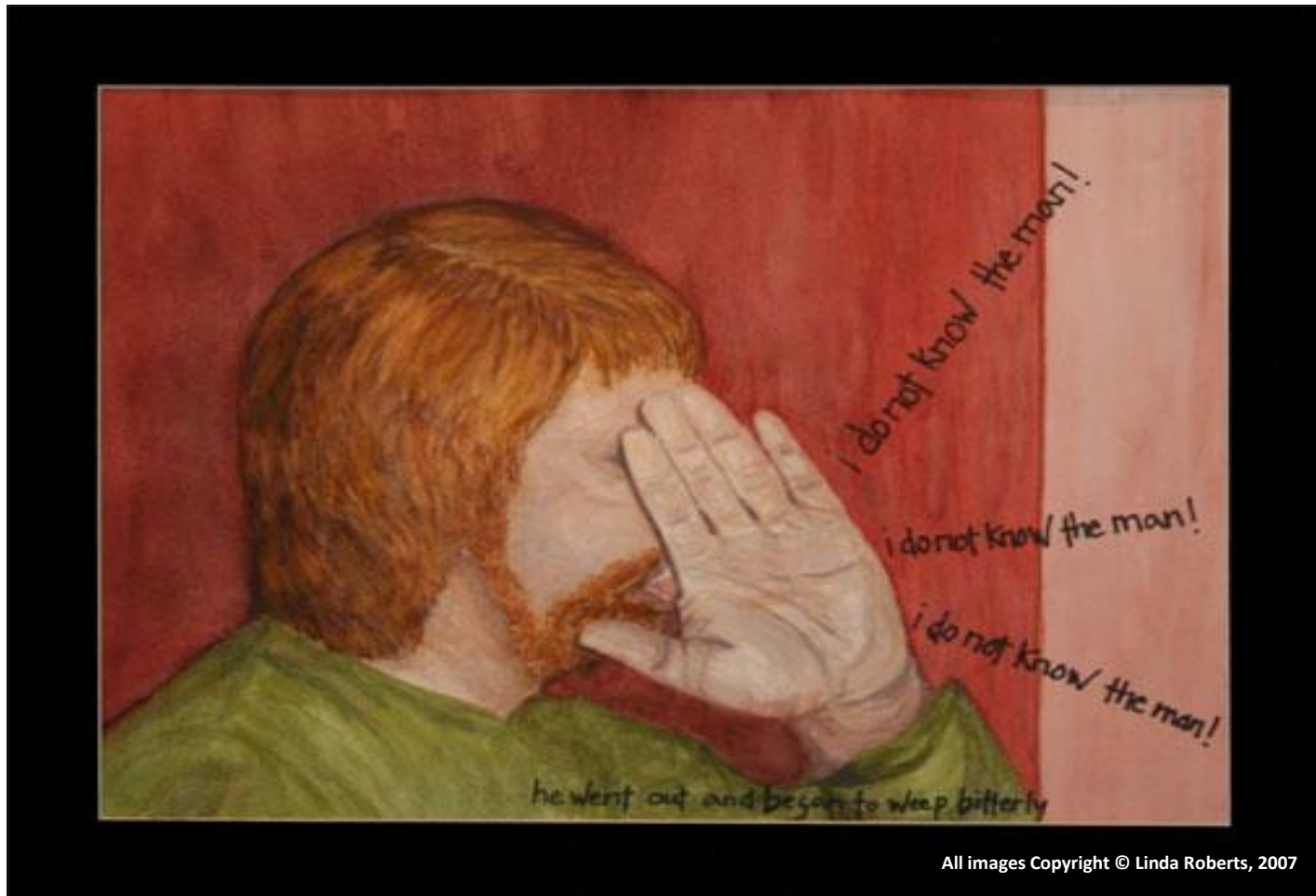
Jesus, I too know about betrayal. Is there hope for a heart twisted with anger and hatred?

Abandonment :
Jesus is Denied by Peter



Station 4: Theme- Abandonment

Jesus is Denied by Peter



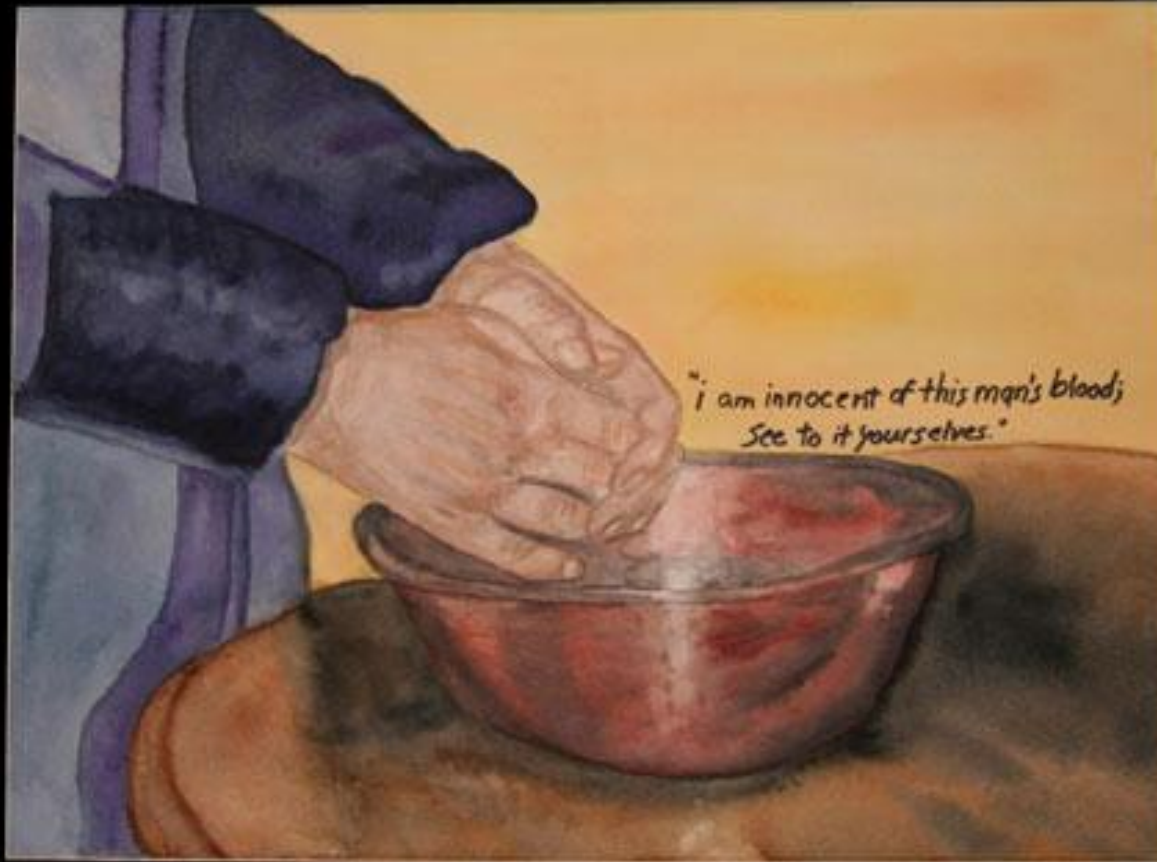
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Reflection Question: Prayer

Jesus, how can I or anyone bear the grief and loneliness abandonment brings. Can you help me to understand and forgive?

Station 5: Theme- Falsely Accused

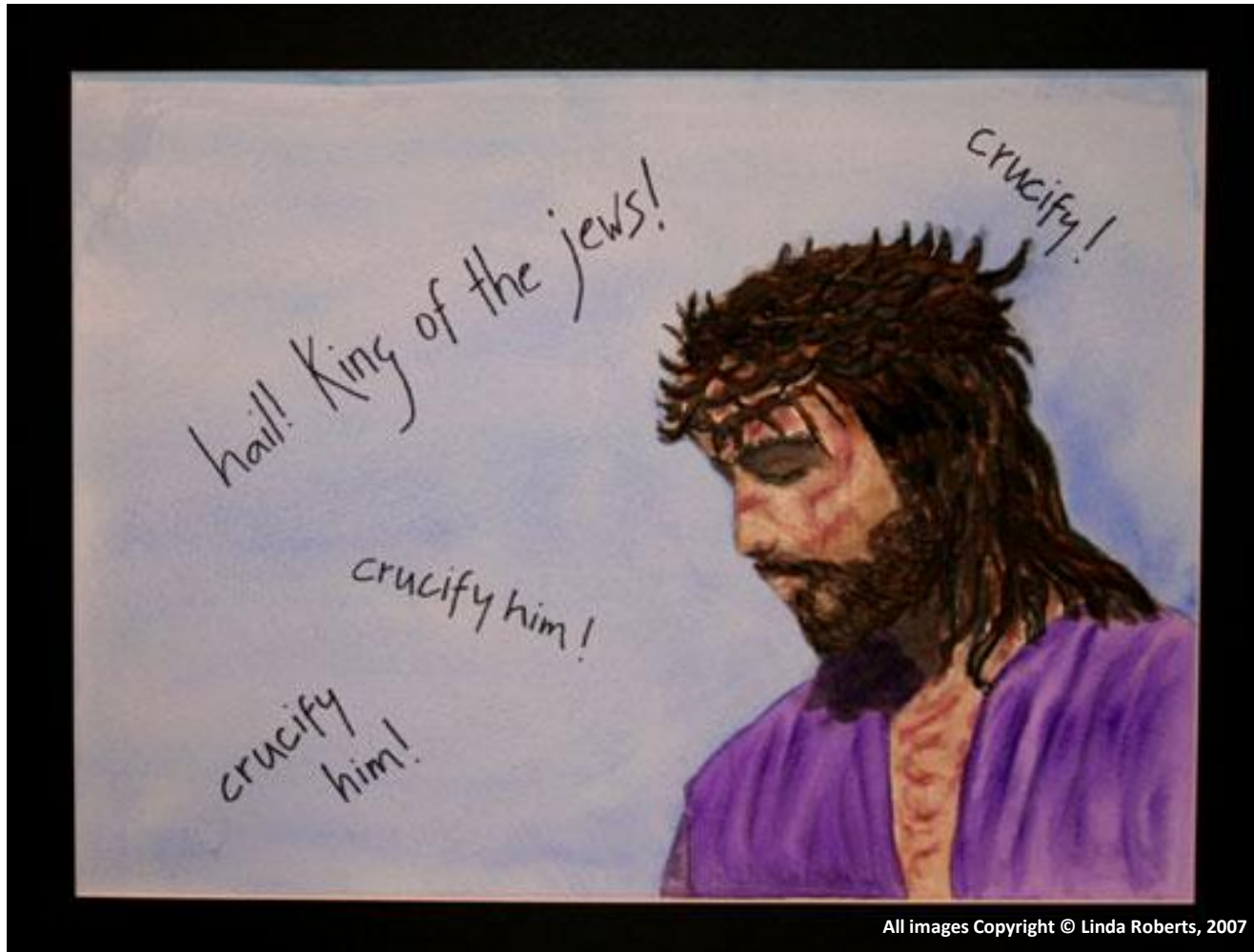
Jesus is judged by Pilate



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Jesus, can there be any forgiveness for our unjust actions and false accusations against others?

Station 6: Theme-Pain & Sorrow
Jesus is Scourged and Crowned with Thorns



Reflection Question: Prayer

**Jesus, why is it that we hurt each other, that we lie and deceive others?
Why is there so much pain and sorrow in the world?**

Station 7: Theme-Hardship
Jesus bears his cross



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Reflection Question: Prayer

Jesus, I've experienced hardship all of all my life and I have caused it as well. Tell me am I bound by it, or is there a better way?

Station 8: Theme-Accepting & offering help
Jesus is Helped by Simon to Carry the Cross



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Reflection Question: Prayer

Jesus, can you assist me to be strong enough to ask for help when I need it and to offer it to others when I am able?

Station 9: Theme-Kindness & Compassion
Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem



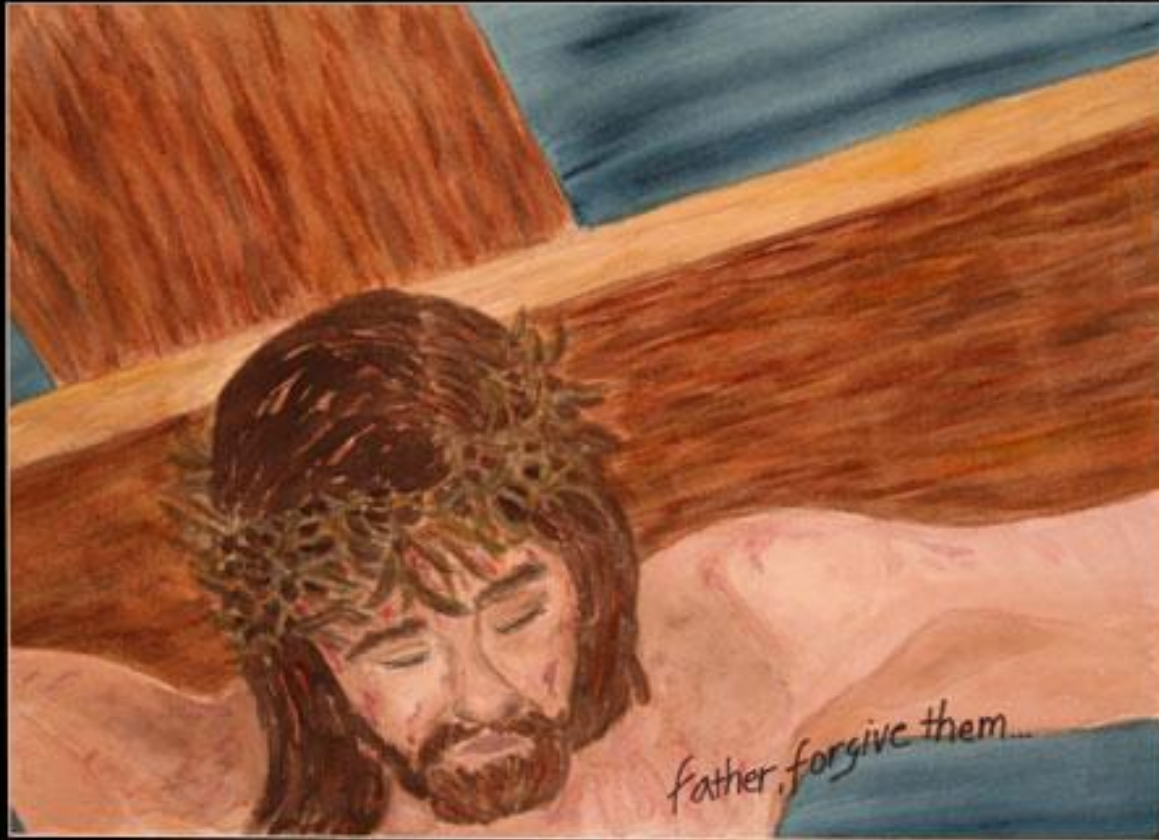
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Reflection Question: Prayer

Jesus, in my life, I've have often failed to stop and help another in need. With your love in my heart do you think I could show kindness to another the way that woman did to you?

Station 10: Theme-Forgiveness

Jesus is Crucified

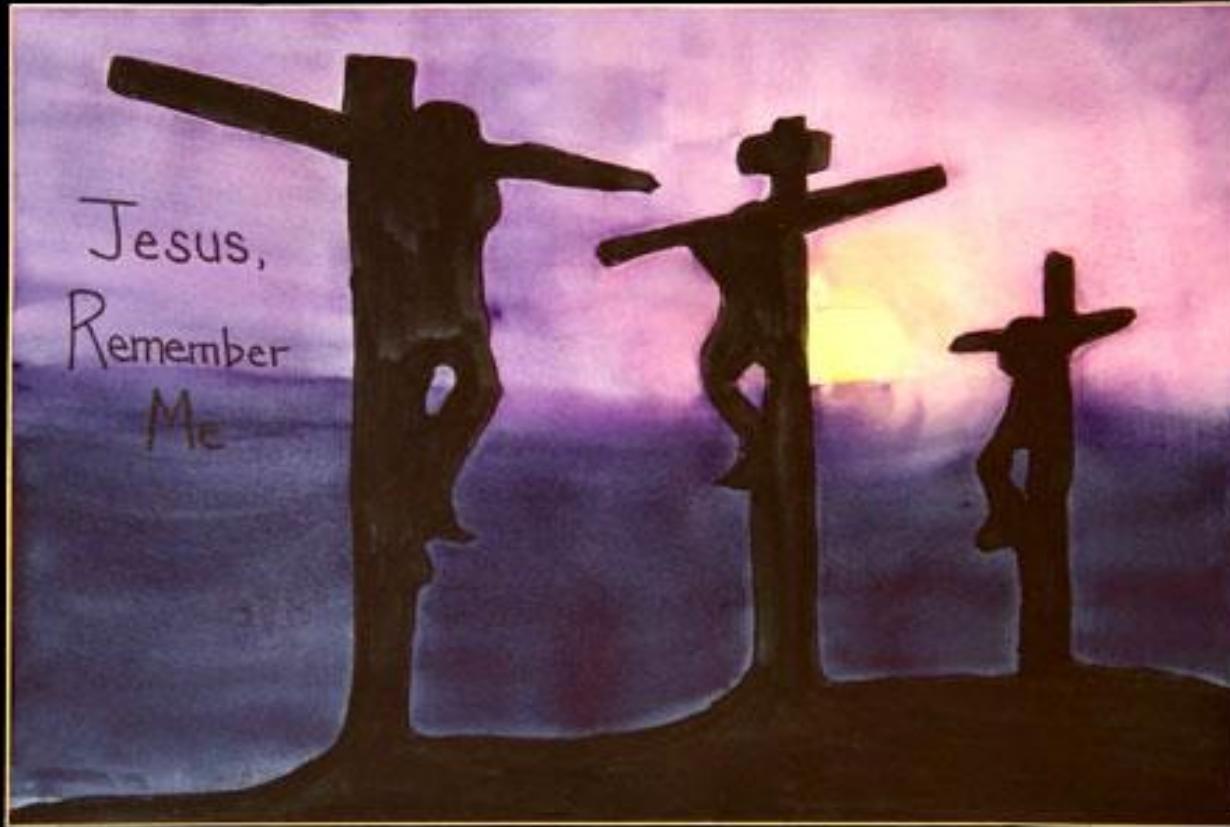


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Reflection Question: Prayer

Jesus, is forgiveness for my sins really possible? How can I forgive so much that was done to me?

Station 11: Theme-Hope
Jesus Promises His Kingdom to the Good Thief

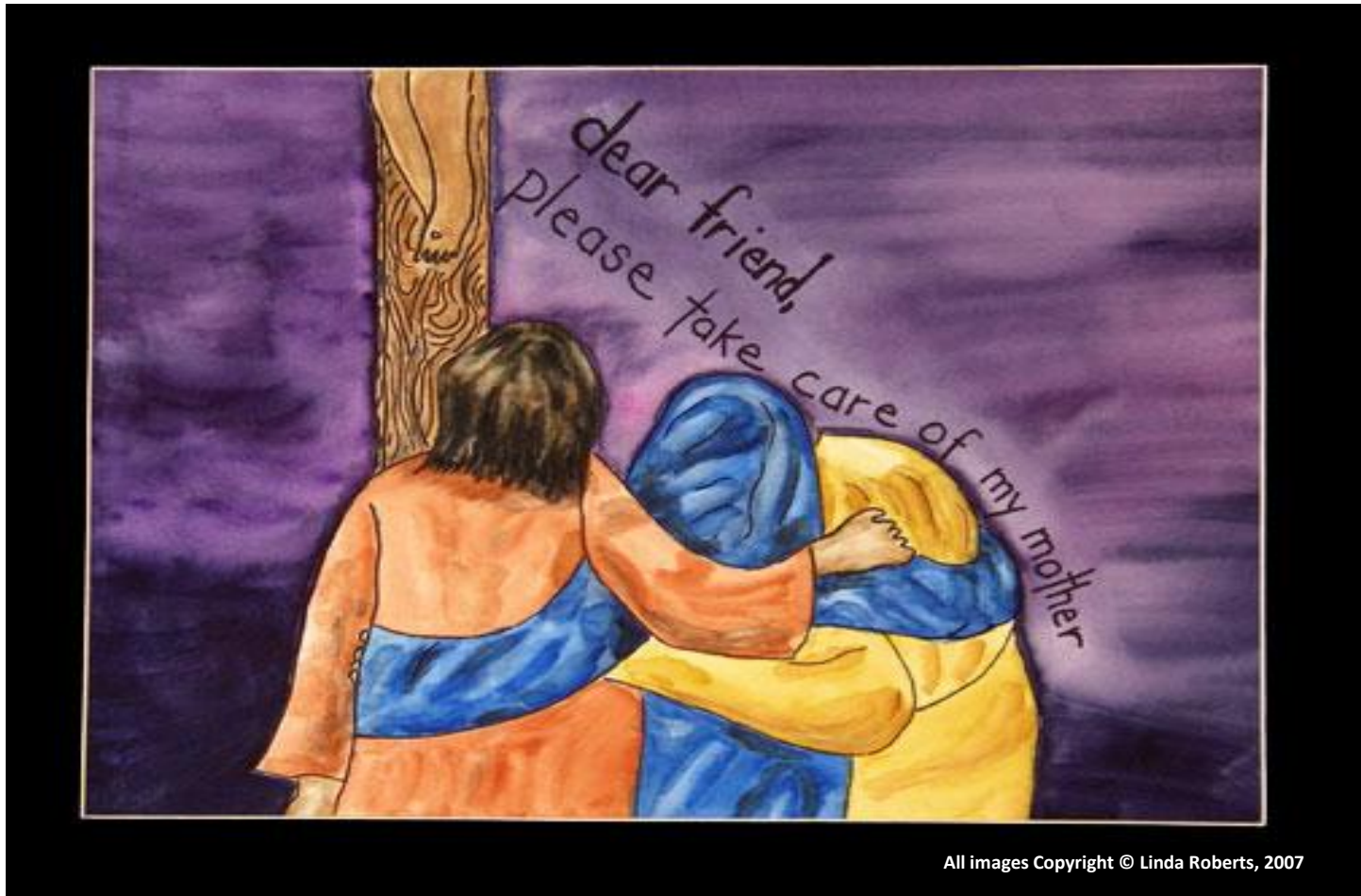


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Reflection Question: Prayer

Jesus, I've always been disappointed in deals 'to good to be true'. Is believing in you enough to be saved?

Station 12: Theme-Love
Jesus speaks to his Mother and the disciple



Reflection Question: Prayer

Jesus, who are our brothers and sisters? Are we truly all part of God's family?

Station 13: Theme-Salvation
Jesus Dies on the Cross



Reflection Question: Prayer

Jesus, I believe in You, but I'm constantly battling doubts and fear. Is there any hope for me? Will I be saved?

Station 14: Theme-Salvation
Jesus is placed in a tomb



Reflection Question: Prayer

Jesus, I am thankful for: _____

Homecoming
“My friend, today you are with me in paradise”

