

A JUBILEE RESOURCE FOR THE WEEKS OF LENT 2016



CALLED TO BE a people of

HOPE



"The season of Lent during this Jubilee Year should also be lived more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God's mercy. How many pages of Sacred Scripture are appropriate for meditation during the weeks of Lent to help us rediscover the merciful face of the Father!" MV 17



MERCIFUL

like the Father

WEEK FIVE
*The Passion of
Jesus*

 JUBILEE
of MERCY
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WEEK FIVE THE PASSION OF JESUS

'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom'

OPENING PRAYER

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
you gave us your Son,
the beloved one who was rejected,
the Saviour who appeared defeated.
Yet the mystery of his kingship illumines our lives.

Show us in his death
the victory that crowns the ages,
and in his broken body
the love that unites heaven and earth.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

WORD OF GOD

The full Passion narrative for voices or as simple narrative (Lk 22:14-23:56) is available on a separate sheet. If you are using this Lent resource in a group you might like to use the different voices version for reading.

They seized him and then led him away, and they took him to the high priest's house. Peter followed at a distance. They had lit a fire in the middle of the courtyard and peter sat down among them, and as he was sitting there by the blaze a servant-girl saw him, peered at him, and said, 'This person was with him too.' But he denied it, saying, 'Woman, I do not know him.' Shortly afterwards someone else saw him and said, 'You are another of them.' But Peter replied, 'I am not my friend.' About an hour later another man insisted, saying, 'This fellow was certainly with him. Why, he is a Galilean.' Peter said, 'My friend, I do not know what you are talking about.' At that instant, while he was still speaking, the cock crew, and the Lord turned and looked straight at Peter, and peter remembered what the Lord had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will have disowned me three times.' And he went outside and wept bitterly...

One of the criminals hanging there abused him, saying 'Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all? You got the same sentence as he did. But in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Indeed, I promise you, today you will be with me in paradise.'

It was now about the sixth hour and, with the sun eclipsed, a darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. The veil of the Temple was torn right down the middle; and when Jesus had cried out in a loud voice, he said, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.' With these words he breathed his last.

When the centurion saw what had taken place, he gave praise to God and said, 'This was a great and good man'...

REFLECTION

Fr Henry Wansbrough OSB

*The reflection from Fr Henry is available to download from cliftondiocese.com.
Play the video clip [here](#).*

QUESTIONS FOR CONVERSATION

Fr Henry suggests that Jesus' prayer is the model of all Christian prayer. What do Jesus' words in the Garden and on the cross teach us about prayer?

As Jesus weeps over Jerusalem, are there areas of resistance to God's grace and love within ourselves and within others that cause us to weep?

During Holy Week, how can we make time this week to make sure we gaze upon the crucified One?

Fr Henry says that the 'crucifixion is where the mercy of God comes to all people'. Are there ways that my life can mirror the love revealed through the mystery of the Lord's cross?

Is there something in my life that needs entrusting into the merciful hands of the Father?

Re-read the Scripture passage for this session. You may like to follow the reading with a time of prayer and intercession after which you might pray the OUR FATHER.

FINAL PRAYER

Loving Father,
you are a God of mercy and compassion.

We thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, into our world to show and teach us how to love.

When we walk through the Door of Mercy during this Holy Year, may we open our hearts to you so that we may reflect your love, mercy and compassion in our families, communities and parishes.

May we walk with Jesus through the 'streets of Galilee', comforting the sick, opening our arms to the 'little ones', sharing with the poor and searching out the marginalised in our society.

May it be a year when barriers between us fall and reconciliation becomes possible:
a year when our faith in your mercy is strengthened and we learn how to be your face of mercy in our world.

Amen.