

*Prayer for*

# *Holy Thursday*

Holy Thursday begins the Easter Triduum, the three days concerning the events of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection. On this night, we remember Jesus' Last Supper and, from the Gospel of John, the story of Jesus washing the disciples' feet. By his actions and words, Jesus demonstrates that no one is above serving others.

Let us pray:

**In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (Jn 13:1-15):

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father. He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end. The devil had already induced Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand him over. So, during supper, fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power and that he had come from God and was returning to God, he rose from supper and took off his outer garments. He took a towel and tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Master, are you going to wash my feet?"

Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand later."

Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet."

Jesus answered him, "Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me."

Simon Peter said to him, "Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well."

Jesus said to him, "Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed, for he is clean all over; so you are clean, but not all." For he knew who would betray him; for this reason, he said, "Not all of you are clean."

So when he had washed their feet and put his garments back on and reclined at table again, he said to them, "Do you realize what I have done for you? You call me 'teacher' and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am. If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Lord Jesus,

By your actions and words you called us to follow in your example of care for those in need. Let us pray that we always remember to place others before ourselves, to reach out to the poor and the lonely, and to stand for justice in the face of challenge or despair - and so we say:

**Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

**In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.**