



## Tuesday of Holy Week

### **'What you are going to do, do quickly'**

While at supper with his disciples, Jesus was troubled in spirit and declared, 'I tell you most solemnly, one of you will betray me.' The disciples looked at one another, wondering which he meant. The disciple Jesus loved was reclining next to Jesus; Simon Peter signed to him and said, 'Ask who it is he means', so leaning back on Jesus' breast he said, 'Who is it, Lord?' 'It is the one' replied Jesus 'to whom I give the piece of bread that I shall dip in the dish.' He dipped the piece of bread and gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot. At that instant, after Judas had taken the bread, Satan entered him. Jesus then said, 'What you are going to do, do quickly.' None of the others at table understood the reason he said this. Since Judas had charge of the common fund, some of them thought Jesus was telling him, 'Buy what we need for the festival', or telling him to give something to the poor. As soon as Judas had taken the piece of bread he went out. Night had fallen.

When he had gone Jesus said:

'Now has the Son of Man been glorified,  
and in him God has been glorified.

If God has been glorified in him,  
God will in turn glorify him in himself,  
and will glorify him very soon.

'My little children,  
I shall not be with you much longer.  
You will look for me,  
And, as I told the Jews,  
where I am going, you cannot come.'

Simon Peter said, 'Lord, where are you going?' Jesus replied, 'Where I am going you cannot follow me now; you will follow me later.' Peter said to him, 'Why can't I follow you now? I will lay

down my life for you.’ ‘Lay down your life for me?’ answered Jesus. ‘I tell you most solemnly, before the cock crows you will have disowned me three times.’

### **Invitation to pray with the imagination.**

Is there a place for you at this table?

This image of the Last Supper below is more inclusive than the one we usually think of which only includes the “twelve.” Sometimes it’s difficult to enter into a Gospel scene when we think of it as a recreation of an historical moment. This image invites us to think of an extended family of men, women and children gathered around the table with Jesus.



Whether or not we find a “place at the table,” what is most important is that we feel we belong in the story. We belong because of our shared humanity. What is the human experience that speaks to you in this passage? Have you ever had the experience of being betrayed by someone whom you trusted? Can you relate to Jesus’s pain? Can you relate to the comfort Jesus must have felt knowing the disciple whom he loved was leaning on him?

Who are the people whom you trust so completely that you know you can lean on them? Can you see yourself leaning on Jesus? Is Jesus inviting you into an intimacy with him that is all about mutual trust?

**Suggestions for Prayer: Speak to Jesus as one friend speaks to another. Share with him your experience of disappointment, being let down or even betrayal by someone whom you consider an important person in your life. Let him speak to you of his own feelings of loss and disappointment, but also knowing that there were some he could rely on.**