

## Holy Thursday – Jesus Washes his Disciples’ Feet



### MAIN TEACHING AND LEARNING POINTS

- Jesus gave us an example of how to serve one another.
- On Holy Thursday, the faith community the Church, celebrates the example of service given by Jesus.

### JESUS WASHES HIS DISCIPLES’ FEET

On Holy Thursday, during the Mass of the Lord’s Supper, the faith community the Church, recalls the example of love and service given by Jesus, in which he showed great humility when he washed the feet of his disciples. This was an act of humility because in the time of Jesus, washing the feet of guests was mainly done by the servants – not the master of the house.

At the celebration on Holy Thursday, the priest washes the feet of twelve members of the parish community as a reminder to everyone, to serve others as Jesus taught.

### GOD’S WORD

**John 13:1-15 | Jesus Washes his Disciples’ Feet**

**Parent:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

**Child responds:** *Glory to you, O Lord.* (While saying the words, trace a small cross with the thumb on the forehead, lips and heart.)

It was now the day before the Passover festival... So he rose from the table, took off his outer garment, and tied a towel around his waist. Then he poured some water into a washbasin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and dry them with the towel.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, ‘Are you going to wash my feet, Lord?’ Jesus answered him, ‘You do not understand now what I am doing, but you will understand later.’ Peter declared, ‘Never at any time will you wash my feet!’ ‘If I do not wash your feet,’ Jesus answered, ‘you will no longer be my disciple.’ Simon Peter answered, ‘Lord, do not wash only my feet, then! Wash my hands and feet too!’ Jesus said, ‘Anyone who has taken a bath is completely clean and does not have to wash himself, except for his feet. All of you are clean – all except one.’ (Jesus already

knew who was going to betray him; that is why he said, ‘All of you except one, are clean.’) After Jesus had washed their feet, he put his outer garment back on and returned to his place at the table.

‘Do you understand what I have just done to you?’ he asked. ‘You call me Teacher and Lord, and it is right that you do so, because that is what I am. I, your Lord and Teacher, have just washed your feet. You, then, should wash one another’s feet. I have set an example for you, so that you will do just what I have done for you.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Child responds:** *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

### FOCUS QUESTIONS

Ask your child the following questions to help them reflect on the Scripture.

- **Why were Jesus and his disciples gathered together?**
- **What did Jesus know was going to happen to himself?**
- **Why did Jesus want to spend this last Passover meal with his friends?**
- **What unexpected thing did Jesus do during the supper?**
- **Why do you think Peter objected to having his feet washed?**
- **Why was it important that Jesus wash the disciples’ feet?**
- **Why do you think that Jesus carried out this action?**

### PRAYER REFLECTION

*Begin with the Sign of the Cross.*

<b>Parent</b>	Let us pray that we will live more truly Jesus’ way of love.
<b>Child</b>	Lord, in love and service, help us care for those in need.
<b>All</b>	Jesus, this is your way, your way of love.
<b>Child</b>	Lord, in love and service, help us to reach out to those whom we do not like.
<b>All</b>	Jesus, this is your way, your way of love.
<b>Child</b>	Lord, in love and service, help us be generous to others.
<b>All</b>	Jesus, this is your way, your way of love.
<b>All</b>	Amen.



# Ways to Serve Others Community Circle

Inside each circle, list all the ways that you could serve the people inside the circles.

