

THE WAY OF THE LIGHT

- We are going to begin the Way of the Light. It is called "The Way of the Light" because we are waiting for the resurrection of Jesus like his disciples; and like them, we have His words to light our journey. Today we are called to place our hope in His promises.
- The origin of the word "wait" may help us to begin this "Way of the Light". It is taken from Old Northern French: waitier, of Germanic origin, related to Wake; so the meaning is "Observe carefully and be watchful".
- May these stations of the light lead us to hear the voice of Jesus and His call to wait, to be strong, to be awake, and to hope in His word in this particular time in our lives.
- Just as the stations of the cross yesterday, now we also go from one station to another (in a symbolic way). When "arriving" at a station, begin by looking carefully at the images or symbols and read slowly the Word of God and the reflection which has been written for each station.
- Let everything you see, hear or contemplate open your heart for your own personal prayer.





1st STATION - CALL TO BE OPEN TO WHAT IS NEW IN THE MIDST OF DARKNESS

Reader: Oh Lord, we come before you.

All: I will place my hope in you

Reading: Matthew 27:59-61

Reflection: As Jesus' friends reflecting about His death, we live in moments of darkness and doubt. In these times, we might struggle to see, to believe and to feel that God is close to us; and in the middle of this, we are all called to see what is made new.

Activity: Listen to the testimony. What are your thoughts and feelings from hearing this testimony? You may like to share your feedback.



►2nd STATION - CALL TO REMAIN IN FAITH

Reader: Oh Lord, we come before you.

All: I will place my faith in you

▶Reading: John 11:17-27





Reflection: Lord, in this day of waiting like your disciples, I would like to be open to faith, especially when around me I cannot see life, but many questions come to mind instead. I want to believe in you even when I do not understand, I do not see you and I have many questions. Jesus, help me to realise that all my questions will lead me to you. Help me to be like Martha when she replied, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

Activity:

Now you can pray in silence with Psalm 42:6-11 and stay for a moment with the phrase or words which call to you.

Why, my soul, are you downcast?
Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Saviour and my God.

My soul is downcast within me;
therefore I will remember you
from the land of the Jordan,
the heights of Hermon—from Mount
Mizar.
Deep calls to deep
in the roar of your waterfalls;
all your waves and breakers
have swept over me.

By day the LORD directs his love, at night his song is with me— a prayer to the God of my life.

I say to God my Rock,
"Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I go about mourning,
oppressed by the enemy?"
My bones suffer mortal agony
as my foes taunt me,
saying to me all day long,
"Where is your God?"

Why, my soul, are you downcast?
Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Saviour and my God. (Psalm 42:5-11



3rd STATION - CALL TO LOVE

Reader: Oh Lord, we come before you.

All: I will place my love in you

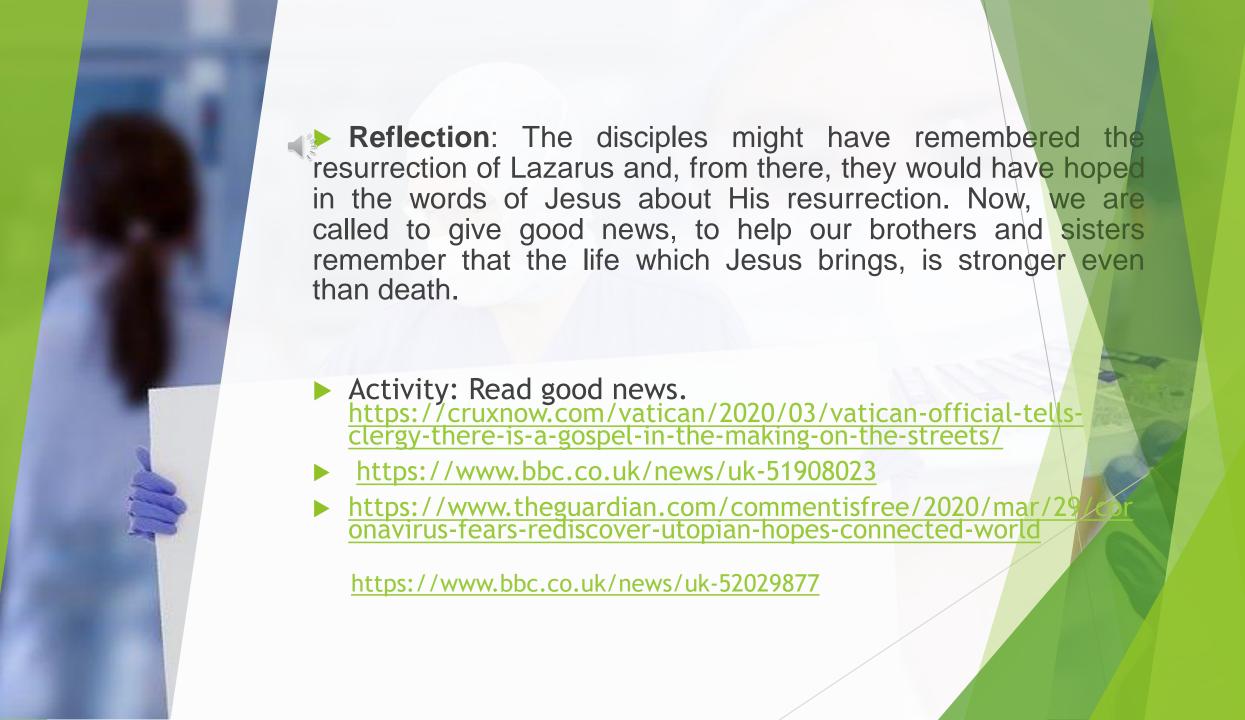
Reading: Luke 10:25-36



- Reflection: The disciples have to remember the words of Jesus and allow His words to open their hearts to receive again the love of Jesus and to give this love. Jesus is calling us to rediscover different ways to love our brothers and sisters in this new moment of our lives. We may be in this crisis longer time than we expect but that does not stop us from receiving love and giving love in return.
 - Activity: Watch the Video and think about new ways to love.

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=bbc+London%2C++loldown+by+Richard=Hendrick





Coronavirus kindness: The people offering help as the virus spreads

Stories of people emptying supermarket shelves or <u>arguing over packets</u> of pasta can paint a bleak picture of the coronavirus outbreak. But there are also acts of kindness that have inspired thousands of others.

Beauty Banks, a charity that supplies essential toiletries to people in poverty, launched an emergency virus related appeal on Sunday.

"Since just after noon yesterday we've raised £60,000 to pay for soap, hand sanitiser, washing powder and so on to help people who don't have the money to stockpile," said columnist Sali Hughes, who co-founded the campaign two years ago.

"Because we're an existing charity we work with suppliers already. We think we can get our hands on, certainly for the first drop, a lot of hand sanitiser for people who really, really need it."

Ms Hughes said because of the coronavirus outbreak people are more able to relate to the idea of not being able to get items they need.

"This is the first time lots of us have looked at shelves and thought actually I need something and I can't have it, and so they're better able to relate to people living in poverty who feel like that quite a lot of the time.

"I think it's really important in times of crisis, when people are doing something positive it does make you feel a little bit calmer and more in control. It certainly does me.

"I do think the act of giving just makes us feel better. It feels as though we're doing something, we're part of a collective effort."

In Altrincham, Greater Manchester, Rachel Pleasant is recruiting volunteers to help local residents who are elderly, vulnerable or stuck at home without any family or friends nearby. She and two others set up a Facebook group on Saturday.

"Before we know it we've had 2,000 people join the page and 3,500 messages of support saying please let us help. It's been amazing."

They have got hold of ward maps of the local area and have been divvying up streets to volunteers, who will visit residents and offer to run errands or pick up supplies.

"I think we just felt panic never solves anything, let's focus some of that energy on really helping the people in our community."

Facebook said more than 200,000 people in the UK are now members of more than 300 local support groups set up for the virus.

Brie Rogers Lowery, from the social media site, said it was "heartening" to see people rallying round,

'Darrell's memory'

The family of 88-year-old Darrell Blackley, who died at North Manchester General Hospital on Friday after testing positive for coronavirus, have asked people to carry out acts of kindness in his memory.

"We invite you to forget flowers and cards," said the message, written on behalf of his family.

"Instead we would like you to give acts of kindness. Help someone who is lonely or struggling during this time, who needs shopping, childcare or a chat.

"Post tiny acts of kindness given and received and share. Build something beautiful in Darrell's memory."

b 5th STATION - CALL TO WAIT AND BE WITNESSES

▶ Reader: Oh Lord, we come before you

► All: I will be waiting for you

Reading: Matthew 27:61





Reflection: To wait is another way to be a witness; our call is to wait with serenity and to learn to see Him and be a witness for Him in times when we cannot see the future.

