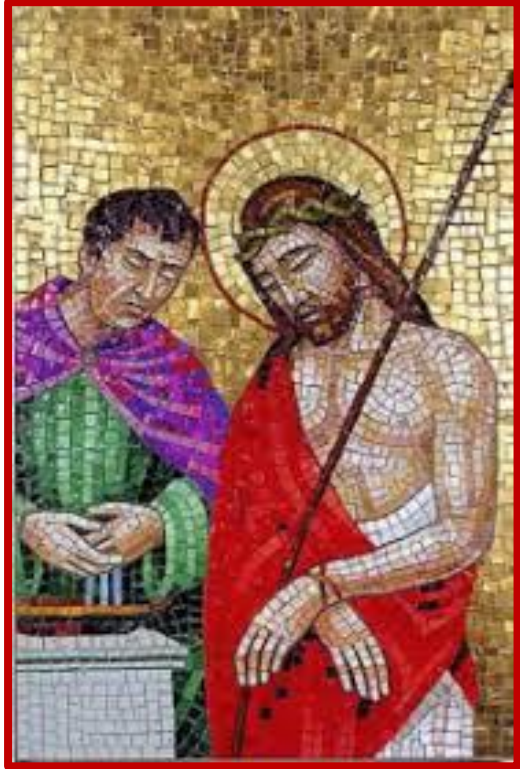


▶ **A HOLY WEEK REFLECTION**  
▶ **APRIL 2025**

▶ **Brigidine Southern Cross Community**



# JESUS WAS CONDEMNED TO DEATH



Jesus was an innocent, 33 year old man when he was condemned to death by Pontius Pilate. In our time, Planet Earth, is regularly being condemned to die because of our lack of appreciation, our carelessness and human greed.

Will we be like Pilate and simply wash our hands of the plight of the Earth and of the millions and millions of people displaced by environmental disasters each year?

Shall we remember that care of Earth and of those made poor are key priorities for justice and peace for all today?

**Response:**

Jesus, during this week, keep us mindful of what you experienced in the final days of your life.

Help us recognize how your suffering continues in the destruction of our planet and of millions of lives during these times.



# JESUS CARRIED A CROSS



Just as the innocent Jesus carried the heavy weight of the cross on his shoulders, in our time Earth carries on her shoulders millions of tons of waste generated each year in our homes and our workplaces. She also feels the weight of climate change, resulting from huge consumption in wealthy countries and which has repercussions on the poorest people and areas of the world.

*How can we resist contributing to the throwaway culture of our society?*

*Dare we live more simply so that our planet home doesn't become an immense pile of filth?*

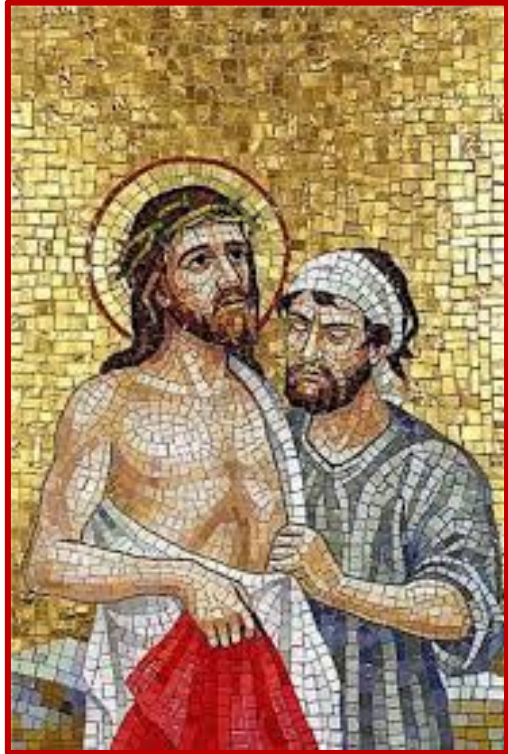
**Response:**

Jesus, during this week, keep us mindful of the innocent ones who suffer in our world and the impact our consumption has on oceans and the atmosphere.

Help us recognize how your suffering continues in the lives of others & of our planet during these times.



# JESUS WAS STRIPPED OF HIS CLOTHES & HIS DIGNITY



After mocking him, the Roman soldiers prepared to crucify Jesus. They stripped him of his garments, took his clothes and shared them between them, leaving him naked.

Today our Earth is being stripped of rich soils and carved into for mineral wealth and fossil fuels.

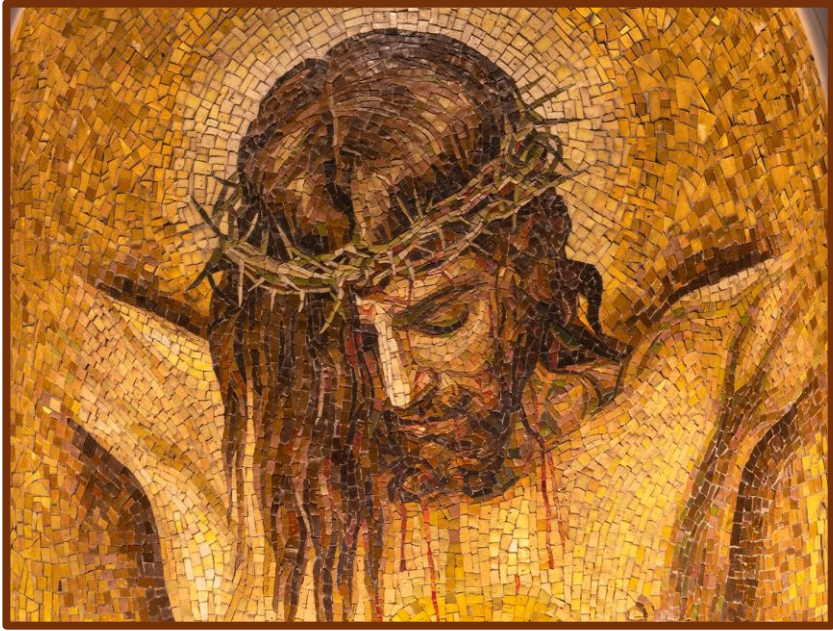
In thousands of homes in our nation family violence strips people of their self-esteem and dignity. In workplaces, violent behavior strips workers of confidence. In many families and places of residential care, elder abuse strips vulnerable elders of proper respect, care and dignity.

**Response:**

**God of all, save us from indifference to the suffering of others and of our environment. As we mark Holy Week, stir empathy within us. Help us seek sustainable lifestyles so that your creation will not be stripped of beauty and life-giving resources and no-one need be deprived of their basic rights to justice and safety.**



# JESUS DIED ON A CROSS



After hours of anguish and pain, Jesus died on the cross and surrendered his life to God. He began life as a refugee and he was put to death as a criminal. As he was dying he called out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" Then he breathed his last. (Let's pause to remember his love for each and all)

Refugees are dying daily trying to escape floods, famines and wars. Many species of animals and plants are being made extinct due to the destruction of their natural habitats. Consider what might be our contribution to the destruction of our common home.

## RESPONSE:

Jesus, you died on the cross, surrendering your life to the Creator so that all may have life in abundance.

Forgive us for what we do that contributes to the web of injustice in the world today.

In our decision-making may we move beyond any self-interest to see how all of Creation and our lives are interdependent.





## **JESUS IS RAISED FROM THE DEAD**

**After three days in the darkness of the tomb Jesus was raised from the dead.**

**Our Christian faith in the Resurrection of Jesus gives us hope that death never has the final word. Christ brings all together in the fullness of time and his resurrection is a promise that all will be made into a new creation in the great beyond.**

**May our celebration of this Easter stir hope in us to nurture and cherish all living beings in your creation.**

### **Response:**

**Jesus from any darkness we experience today, you transform us and our world towards the emergence of New Life.**

**Fill us with Your Spirit of Life that we and all creation may be renewed and raised up.**

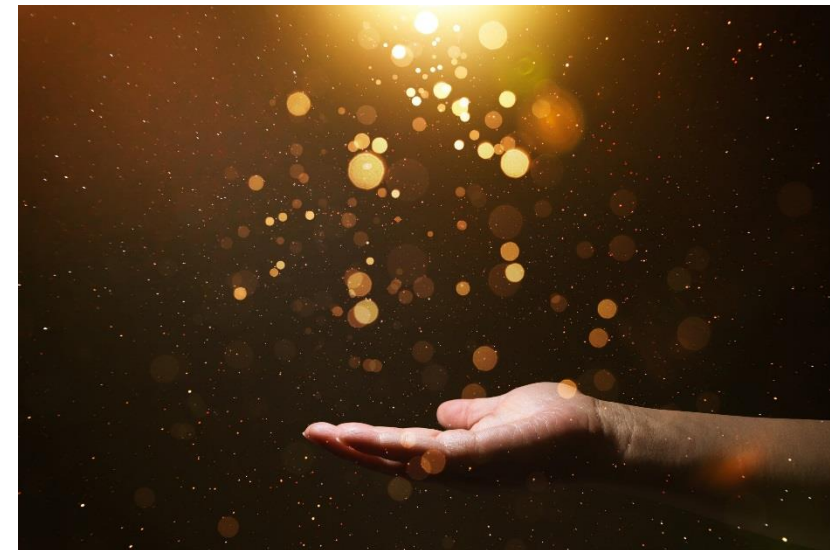
**Help us always to recognize you in the most vulnerable and marginalized among us. Protect them on their journey to Life just as you protect us and lead us all to NEW Life. Amen.**

There is always new life trying to emerge in each of us. Too often we ignore the signs of resurrection and cling to parts of life that have died for us.

Joan Chittester

## Ponder & Reflect:

- Where in your own life do you sense new life trying to emerge?
- Where do you see new life emerging in creation at this time of the year?



**HAPPY EASTER...**



**LET'S KEEP CHOOSING LIFE  
FOR OURSELVES, FOR OTHERS,  
FOR OUR PLANET**