

KEEPING FAITH FIRST- FAMILY FUN

B C W R A P P E D G
 F E E E B H T B D U
 V J L N I U T L I N
 R A E I C T Y R Q V
 E O R S E B L R A U
 E V A C U V P X O M
 D E V O L S E F S X
 D U R F K D E I A L
 F W X A E K D E A S
 K O O N I B Q Z D T
 R G E R U S A M E O
 F P Q R C R E I L N
 O W I L U T T D B E
 V A B S Z N H R U D
 L L L J U D H Z O M
 R A I B E G L O R Y
 W I N I J U T Y T R
 U D D M O D G H E A
 P E R T U R B E D M

BELIEVE
 BLIND
 BURIAL
 CAVE
 CROWD
 DEEPLY
 DIED
 GLORY

JESUS
 LAID
 LAZARUS
 LOVED
 MARTHA
 MARY
 OPENED
 PERTURBED

RAISED
 STONE
 TROUBLED
 UNTIE
 WEEPING
 WRAPPED

Catechizing Corner!

The raising of Lazarus is Jesus' last sign to the world before his impending passion. These are signs because they not only reveal Yahweh, the Almighty, Powerful Creator, but they point to the One who performed the sign, Jesus, the Christ. The signs of Jesus call people to radical faith.

This story is a prelude to the cross. It leads the way; it shows us the meaning of Jesus' coming passion. Lazarus was raised from the dead for a brief respite; Jesus was raised forever. Through Jesus' death and resurrection we all share in the Lazarus sign. The raising of Lazarus prompts every believer to answer the ultimate question: "Do you believe that I am the resurrection and the life?"

Most of John's signs are accompanied by an explanation of the event, except in this instance. This gospel reads more like an unfolding liturgy with a "certain number of declarations made as the action develops...." This illness does not end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of Man might be glorified through it'... Lazarus has died. And I am glad for you that I was not there, that you may believe'...This sort of composition has been likened to the words of a commentator explaining the unfolding of a liturgy, arousing the attention, spurring the curiosity, and provoking the reflection of the assembly." The declarations made in today's unfolding liturgy prompt assemblies ancient and contemporary to answer the question: "Do you believe in Jesus, the Christ, the One who raised Lazarus from the dead, and the One who can and will raise us from the death of our sinful lives?"

Mary Birmingham, *Word and Worship Workbook, Cycle A*
 Paulist Press, 1998



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Disciple's Reflection

for the
Question
of the Week

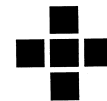
Fifth Sunday of Lent
3/26/2023

A Call to Prayer

The Word of God
John 11:1-45

Faith Sharing
Questions of the week

Closing Prayer



HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Family is a welcoming Catholic Eucharistic community of disciples of Jesus Christ connecting faith with life and reaching out to those in need!

Call to Prayer

Begin by calling upon God: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Let us pause for a moment and listen attentively to this week's passage.

The Word of God John 11:1-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The sisters of Lazarus sent word to Jesus, saying, "Master, the one you love is ill."

When Jesus heard this he said,

"This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be *glorified* through it."

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that he was ill, he remained for two days in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home.

Martha said to Jesus,

"Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you."

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise."

Martha said, "I know he will rise, on the resurrection on the last day."

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

She said to him, "Yes, Lord.

I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

He became *perturbed* and deeply troubled, and said,

"Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept.

So the Jews said, "See how he loved him."

But some of them said,

"Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone."

Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him,

"Lord, by now there will be a *stench*; he has been dead for four days."

Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?"

So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me.

I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me." And when he had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with *burial bands*, and his face was wrapped in a cloth.

So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

The Gospel of the

Gospel Glossary

To be *glorified* is to be given honor, praise, and splendor

Perturbed means deeply upset or troubled inside

Stench means an unpleasant odor

Burial bands were clothes that were used in those days to wrap up the bodies of those who had died.



Faith Sharing

Questions of the Week:

What are the things that Jesus wants you to do as his friend?

Jesus helped a blind man see—and he helps each of us see the world differently. How do you see differently because you believe?

Share how you, as a child of the light, in the power of Christ, produce goodness, justice, and truth for the world. What specific actions do you take to do this?

Closing Prayer

Lord, You have called us to be your disciples, to live in faith, walking always in your footsteps. By your suffering, death, and resurrection, you have made us children of God. As you have loved us and asked us to love one another, help us to love and embrace everyone in our lives.

Fill us with love, compassion, forgiveness, patience, understanding, and tolerance, even when we face the pain of hatred, rejection, and failure.

Guide us to be good disciples. May we seek always the praise and glory of God and the good of all people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Fifth Sunday of Lent