



# Reflection – Maundy Thursday

The Thursday before Easter Sunday is known as Maundy or Holy Thursday and is where we remember when Jesus washed the feet of His disciples.

*"He [Jesus] came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'At the moment you do not know what I am doing, but later you will understand.' 'Never!' said Peter 'You shall never wash my feet.' Jesus replied, 'If I do not wash you, you can have nothing in common with me.' 'Then, Lord,' said Simon Peter 'not only my feet, but my hands and my head as well!'" John 13:6-9*

Can you imagine the Queen walking into your house, getting a bowl out, kneeling at your feet and washing them? That would be quite weird wouldn't it? Well, can you imagine the King of all kings, the Lord of the universe doing the same thing? That would be even more weird. Well, that is what Jesus did. The King of all kings washed the dirty feet of His closest followers. Why do you think he did that? Write your answer in the box here:

There are two reasons Jesus washed the feet of His disciples and neither are just to clean their feet. Firstly, by cleaning their feet He was also cleaning their souls. Our soul is who we truly are and is what goes to heaven when we die. He cleaned their souls, so they were ready to do the jobs that He needed them to do once He had gone up to heaven. The second reason is to give them and us an example. If you want to get to heaven first, you must be the servant of all. If that means washing people's feet, then you must do it.

*"Do you understand' he [Jesus] said 'what I have done to you? You call me Master and Lord, and rightly; so I am. If I, then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet. I have given you an example so that you may copy what I have done to you.'" John 13:12-15*

Jesus was busy on Maundy Thursday and by the end of the day would be taken to Pilate, so we have much left to remember. After Jesus washed the feet of His disciples He celebrated the first ever Mass. Again, He set us an example to follow. Then after He had celebrated Mass He eventually walked over to the garden of Gethsemane to pray, however, while he was there Judas came with soldiers and arrested Him.

Try and draw a picture below of Jesus praying in the garden of Gethsemane.



Jesus knew everything that was going to happen to Him. He let the soldiers arrest Him, He willingly carried His cross. He did all of it because He wanted to save you. Jesus wanted you to be able to go to heaven and that's why He accepted all these things. How does that make you feel?

Now, try and spend a moment with Jesus, tell Him how you feel. Close your eyes and feel the love that He has for you, a love that led Him to die for you.

Now, try and write a prayer to thank Jesus as He sits in the garden of Gethsemane. Pray with Him through the words you write below:

*IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT*

**AMEN**