



Easter Triduum 2021

Good Friday

2nd April

*“But when they came to Jesus
and saw that he was already dead,
they did not break his legs,
but one soldier thrust his lance into his side,
and immediately blood and water flowed out.”*

John 19:33-34

As women and men of the pierced Heart of God, Sacred Heart, this Good Friday passion invites us to the essence of our spirituality, the Wounded Heart of God, remembering the ultimate sacrifice of LOVE God showed through Jesus.

Where do you witness the broken open, pierced, heart of God today?

in a refugee boarding an overcrowded boat in route to a new life...

in the migrant sending their child unaccompanied to cross the border of another country...

in a woman assaulted and murdered, commuting home from work...

in the homeless person on the street corner asking for change,
or a bite to eat...

in a person of color, targeted and killed because of the color of their skin...

in the loss of a loved one, family, sister or friend during a pandemic...

Crucifixion is happening all around us, each and every day if we have the courage to see and name the subtle ways God's Heart continues to be pierced (crucified) through the crushing pain and violence endured by so many.

A few years ago, after hearing the news of another school shooting, I was moved beyond words as I watched in horror the reports of the school community in their tragic unfolding. I wept for parents, loved ones and most especially the little ones, forever changed in that violent event. When my heart could no longer hold the sorrow, an image came, and I had to find a way to create what I was seeing. I began to paint, yet the paper felt too small to encapsulate the incomprehensible loss, grief and sadness I had witnessed. The colors formed a crucifix, the sign of suffering and death alongside the consoling presence of a God who suffers with and for us. The red and yellow realms holding the emptiness and unimaginable grief with LOVE, God manifest in Jesus, heart pierced, broken open.

As the image began to dry, I started to see and then place the faces of the little ones, their family and friends, in the empty space beyond the page, nestled around the pierced open Heart of God. I painted the cross at the edge of the paper, partially visible, to invite the imagination of the viewer to place their own beloved there with God in the empty abyss beyond the page. It is an image that I come back to from time to time when I touch the unimaginable suffering in our blessed and broken world.



On this Good Friday, spend some time with this image and notice who you are being invited to place in the empty space beyond the page, next to the pierced Heart of God?

Lisa Buscher rscj
United States-Canada Province



JPIC LEARNING HUB
2021