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# HOLY THURSDAY

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Leszek Forczek, Washing of the Feet: Light to Darkness

## “He Loved us to the End.”

Today we can begin our Easter Triduum by contemplating the last supper event where Jesus washed the feet of his disciples... a gesture of loving, respecting and putting power at the service of others.

Opening Song: [Lord I Come \(Wash my feet\) – David Brackenbury](#)

Imagine being among the disciples at the last supper. Unite with all that is happening at this event. As Jesus moves around washing each disciple's feet, **be aware of his invitation to wash your feet too**. Deeply examine yourself and surrender to Jesus what needs to be washed in your life.

Washing of feet is both an expression of vulnerability and Christ's compassion. It is an invitation for us to do the same, to serve and love our sisters and brothers.

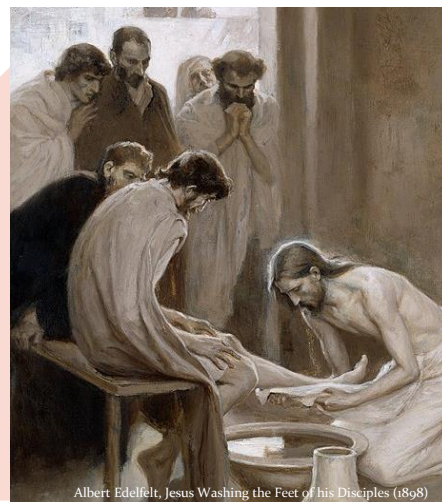
***What does it mean to make ourselves vulnerable in community living and in apostolic service? Take some time to pray with our own vulnerabilities.***

Jesus took off the outer garment before he started washing the disciples' feet. He invites us to wash each other's feet in our daily life. **Surrender the layers of your “outer garments that stand on the way of your washing of other people's feet**. Whose feet am I being invited to wash?

In my imagination, I move forward like Jesus, remove my outer garments, and wash the feet of the one I am invited to wash in my context.

## Peter is scandalized.

To be served by Jesus is to be loved by him. Jesus invites Peter to allow him to express his love for him by washing his feet. Peter was shocked to see Jesus taking the position of a servant to wash the feet of all his disciples. Jesus asks us to imitate his attitude of humility, of allowing others to love us and to love them in return. Though most of the disciples were still dreaming of a powerful, glorious messiah who will restore the Kingdom of Israel, Jesus asks them to imitate him by going so far in humility, in loving, in being compassionate and in serving all, including those who betray them. This invitation is extended to us.



## Are there people I find hard to wash their feet or to wash my feet? Pray quietly for each of them by name.

*“Power affects the way we relate in our communities, live our vow of obedience, collaborate with people and groups in our ministries and how we value or hold on to the ministries entrusted to us.” (Artisans of Hope, p.8-9)*

## The feet of Judas are also washed.

*Watch Jesus wash the feet of Judas with pure love and compassion.  
Spend time with Jesus as he washes Judas’ feet and imagine loving and praying for those who have betrayed you and others who need their feet to be washed.*

### Concluding Prayer:

Jesus, how I yearn for you to wash my feet  
I am longing to hear you call my name just as you did Peters’  
You look for more than dust when you wash my feet  
You have gazed deeply at me. You do not just wash my feet, you interact with me too.  
You wash my feet lovingly that i can no longer resist.  
Jesus, wash the whole of my being so that I can amend my ways  
Wash me so that I can be as pure as snow  
Grant me a humble heart that accepts the truth.

Thank you, Jesus, for washing my feet, my shame, my dust, and mud each time I come to you  
Grant me what I need to promote washing of others’ feet  
Grant me the courage to reach out to my neighbors and wash their feet.  
Oh, wash me, Lord.

Closing song: [Wash Me, Lord - HYMNthusiast](#)

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