

HOLY CROSS AND ALL SAINTS MONDAY MISSION

THIS WEEK'S WORD:

**A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John
13:31-33a. 34-35**

When Judas had gone out from the upper room, Jesus said, 'Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. Little children, yet a little while I am with you.

'A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'



REFLECT

No one would blame Jesus at this moment if he were angry and annoyed. Judas has just gone to betray him to the authorities and Jesus knows this means his imminent death. Yet, even now, Jesus asks his friends to put love first. He doesn't let any hurt or fear he might be feeling pull him down. He knows that love is the only way.

Jesus gives his friends a new commandment. It's not really new, but he does make it really clear: Jesus wants his friends to love others. He has just shown them that love means actually doing something when he chose to wash their feet and now he is making sure they know he wants them to follow his example. If we want to be one of Jesus' friends, we need to love people like this too.

Jesus says that if we truly love others, people will be able to see that we are his followers. This week we might reflect on what other people see when they look at our lives. Is there enough evidence to convict us as one of Jesus' loving friends?

LET US PRAY

Loving Lord,
I want to follow your example
and bring love into the world.
Give me the courage I need to love
even when it is challenging and hard work.
Help me to keep on trying.

Amen

MISSION

Love is not just a feeling. Love means putting someone else before ourselves. It's not too hard to put others before ourselves when we like them, but how do we treat people we don't like, or don't even know?

This week, your mission is to think about how you can show love to people you aren't friends with. This could be people in your class or in the wider community? How will you show love to them and show you are one of Jesus' followers?