



Questions
for Lent 2023

Lent 2023

QUESTIONS?

“Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.”

Matthew 7:7

“We do not need to be afraid of questions and doubt because they are the beginning of a path of knowledge and going deeper; one who does not ask questions cannot progress either in knowledge or in faith.”

Pope Francis

“...we tend to lose track of the questions about things that matter always, life-and-death questions about meaning, purpose, and value. To lose track of such deep questions as these is to risk losing track of who we really are in our own depths and where we are really going.” Frederick Buechner

A Project of Written Reflections

by

RCCH English I Freshmen & some RCCH Seniors

VOLUME 9

Routt Catholic High School

Jacksonville, Illinois

“Enter to Grow; Leave to Serve”

Questions?

The teaching style of Jesus focuses on two things: He tells great stories, and He asks great questions. Sometimes the questions of Jesus recorded in Scripture are warm-up questions; sometimes He answers questions with questions. While we mostly ask questions because we do not know the answer, this is never true of Jesus. He knows the answers, so why does He ask so many questions? Asking questions builds relationship, forces thinking, aides in the retention of learning, leads to deeper understanding, forms connections, grows critical thinking skills.

Because asking questions is central to the teachings of Jesus, we, too, take comfort in knowing that He encourages us to ask, to seek, to knock. Pope Francis states: "...one who does not ask questions cannot progress either in knowledge or in faith." Frederick Buechner (American theologian, 1926-2022) in *Listening to Your Life* wrote: "We are much involved, all of us, with questions about things that matter a good deal today but will be forgotten by this time tomorrow – the immediate wheres and whens and hows that face us daily at home and at work – but at the same time we tend to lose track of the questions about things that matter always, life-and-death questions about meaning, purpose, and value. To lose track of such deep questions as these is to risk losing track of who we really are in our own depths and where we are really going" (124).

The Bible is filled with questions: some asked by our Triune God, some asked by the prophets and apostles, some asked by searching and seeking people – like you and me. These questions may be easy to miss if you are not looking for them, but once you spot them, they command your attention. Please listen to the questions in Scripture – questions that truly matter. May the brief reflections by our freshmen and seniors lead you into a closer relationship with God and with one another, deepening your understanding of the teachings from the Master Teacher, Jesus - our Lord and Savior.

Janet Chipman, Instructor, Project Coordinator, NEHS Advisor

The Marilyn Merris Chapter of the National English Honor Society at RCHS:

Julia B., President; Lilly G., Vice-President; Grace G., Secretary;
Isaac A., Treasurer; Amber A. and Jaymee V., Chapter Project Chairs.

“WHO” QUESTIONS

February 22: Ash Wednesday

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “WHO do people say the Son of Man is?” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” “But what about you?” he asked. “WHO do you say I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Matthew 16: 13-16

Note that the first question Jesus asks in this passage (found in three of the four Gospels) is what others are saying about the identity of Jesus. But the second question becomes personal: “Who do you say I am?” Our answer to this question of Jesus is at the heart of our beliefs, our values, our identity – making it one of the most important questions we must answer. Today we begin the season of Lent – a reflective time for asking, seeking, knocking. How am I answering this question of Jesus, in my daily thoughts, in my daily words, and in my daily actions? “Who do you say I am?” asks Jesus to each of us.

Prayer: *Almighty and Personal God. Thank you for inviting us to ask and to seek and to knock. We are overwhelmed by your wisdom, your patience, and your love for us. May we “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” 2 Peter 3:18. Amen.*

Mrs. C.

February 23: Thursday of the First Week of Lent

WHO is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. WHO is he, this King of glory? The Lord Almighty – he is the King of glory. Psalm 24: 8-10

Yesterday’s question was one from Jesus; “Who do you say I am?” In today’s passage, the psalmist asked, “Who is this King of glory?” The King of glory is Jesus Christ, the Lord Almighty. To be the “King of glory” you have to be strong and mighty in battle. Jesus will always have your back in battle. Let Jesus bring his glory into you by opening yourself up to him. When you feel glory in your soul, know that Jesus is with you.

Prayer: *Lord Jesus, King of glory, please let me be able to open myself for you to come in. Amen.*

Adam A., Class of 2026

February 24: Friday of the First Week of Lent

WHO, then, is the man that fears the Lord? He will instruct him in the way chosen for him. Psalm 25: 12

Today's question also comes from the Book of Psalms. This verse asks, "Who are the people that fear the Lord?" I think God says that we shouldn't fear anything besides him. We shouldn't be afraid of something because we have God. Those who fear God will be granted help on which path to choose. It's difficult to not be afraid or have fears, but there's always help with our fears when we trust in our Almighty God.

Prayer: *O Holy Father, grant us peace from our fears as we place our trust in you. May sinners of this world be forgiven. Give us hope as we await the coming of our Savior. Amen.*

Hector A., Class of 2026

February 25: Saturday of the First Week of Lent

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? WHO of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?" Matthew 6: 25-27

It's a good question – "Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?" It's a good question – "Are you not much more valuable...?" In this passage, Christ shows us not to worry about our earthly possessions; rather, we should have our focus on the treasure waiting for us in heaven. Who we are is not defined by the food we have or the clothes we wear. We want to be identified by the treasures we have waiting for ourselves in heaven. We need to ask ourselves who we need to BE more than what we need.

Prayer: *Lord, help us put you as our main focus. Let us realize earthly possessions do not compare to the gifts you give us in the treasure of heaven. Amen.*

Claire B., Class of 2026

February 26: First Sunday of Lent – Senior Reflections to this question – "Did God say...?" Genesis 3:1

This question of Satan, “Did God say...” forces me to realize how much temptation is in the world. I find myself always battling to do the right thing and be the person God wants me to be. - Anna R.

This question of Satan, “Did God say...” challenges me to not question God’s Word the way Satan desires. Questioning God only leads to isolation and sin as the story of Adam and Eve proves. – Julia B.

This question of Satan, “Did God say...” challenges me to think about all of the times I have questioned what God said and really take a step back and ask for help from God to put a little extra faith in me...he is more than willing to give forgiveness if you show your remorse.” – Madison R.

This question of Satan, “Did God say...” teaches me to always have faith in God. There will always be distractions in life, but we have to stay focused on God’s path for us. – Kohen H.

This question of Satan, “Did God say...” challenges me to learn more of God’s sayings and laws so I am able to follow the rules that he sets for us. – Daxton B.

February 27: Monday of the First Week of Lent

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “I tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and asked, “WHO then can be saved?” Matthew 19: 23-26

“Who then can be saved?” In this passage from the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus is saying that putting your trust in God will allow you to accomplish anything. Using hyperbole, Jesus states: “...it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” This explains the difficulties that come with entering the kingdom of heaven; it tells that the more you have, the harder it is to enter the kingdom of heaven as your focus may be more on your wealth and possessions and you have to give up more. Altogether, those who trust and put their faith in God will be the ones who are saved as “with God all things are possible.”

Prayer: Lord, guide me and others to your kingdom and save us from being blinded by greed. Amen.

Alek B., Class of 2026

February 28: Tuesday of the First Week of Lent

Then Job replied to the Lord: “I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted. You asked, ‘WHO is this that obscures my counsel without knowledge?’ Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know. You said, ‘Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.’ My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.” Job 42: 1-5

Earlier in the book of Job (38:2), God questions Job (and us): “Who is this that obscures my counsel without knowledge?” Now Job admits that he, like us, does not have God’s wisdom or God’s power; now he sees and trusts in God. We may not understand God, but we need to trust God that he has everything set up for us. We need to listen to God instead of talking sometimes. For me, this means to go to God in prayer, but sit in silence for a little and listen to what God has to say. God always has a set plan for us, and we need to trust his process, even when we think it takes us down a different road. God’s road is always correct.

Prayer: *Dear God. I know you always have a plan set up for me; help me to carry out your will. Amen.*

Dalton B., Class of 2026

PERSONAL REFLECTION

“WHAT” QUESTIONS

March 1: Second Wednesday of Lent

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I will tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, WHAT reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your brothers, WHAT are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” Matthew 5: 43-48

Jesus asks some challenging questions in this passage from the Gospel of Matthew. He says to love your neighbors and your enemies as yourself. If we only love people who love us, we are selfish. We are told to share God’s love and spread his joy. This is the mission he gives us. As a friend, son, and student, I have not always kept this commandment to love my enemies. It is easy to turn our shoulder to our enemy, but instead we should imitate Jesus – being kind, respectful, loving.

Prayer: *Lord God, even though it is hard for us to be kind to those who are not kind to us, give us the strength to spread your love. Amen.*

Jacob B., Class of 2026

March 2: Thursday of the Second Week of Lent

Again he said, “WHAT shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest seed you plant in the ground. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds of the air can perch in its shade.” With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything. Mark 4: 30-34

In this passage, Jesus ask, “What shall we say the kingdom of God is like?” How would you answer that question? Jesus uses the parable of the mustard seed. He says that small things can be very important. We sometimes feel small inside, but like the mustard seed, we are important to God and make a difference in the living definition of the kingdom of God. We need to focus on what we do in life

as through our words and actions we show others what the kingdom of God is like.

Prayer: *Lord, help us to live a life that is pleasing in your sight. Amen.*

Eli B., Class of 2026

March 3: Friday of the Second Week of Lent

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, WHAT is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! Psalm 8: 3-9

Reading today's passage makes me feel small in comparison to God's greatness, humble to think of the responsibility God has given each of us. When I look and think of the vastness of all creation, I marvel that God loves me, is concerned for me, and even empowers me. God has certainly declared how valuable and loved we are by Him!

Prayer: *Creator God, for the extent of worth that You place on ALL people, we are humbled, we are awed. May we live in honor and praise of You. Amen.*

Mrs. C.

March 4: Saturday of the Second Week of Lent

As Jesus and his disciples were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him. Two blind men were sitting by the roadside, and when they heard that Jesus was going by, they shouted, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!" Jesus stopped and called them. "WHAT do you want me to do for you?" he asked. "Lord," they answered, "we want our sight." Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him. Matthew 20: 29-34

In this passage, Jesus asks two blind men, "What do you want me to do for you?" How would you answer – today – this question of Jesus? Jesus gives us "sight" in time of need. Jesus gives us light in times of darkness. May we see his great sacrifice, knowing Jesus is always there to save us at any time.

Prayer: *Lord, thank you for being our light in times of darkness. Amen.*

Brandt B., Class of 2026

March 5: Second Sunday of Lent - Senior Reflections to this question – “Am I my brother’s keeper?” Genesis 4:9

This question of Cain, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” *challenges me to be honest with the Lord at all times, unlike Cain who just dodged the Lord by asking a question. – Ethan W.*

This question of Cain, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” *causes me to think about my friends and how I relate to them. This question challenges me to meet new people and teaches me to treat all people right. – Ryan O.*

This question of Cain, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” *causes me to think about my relationship with my own brothers. Cain’s response was really selfish, in my opinion, and as siblings, it is our job to take care of our family no matter what. – Amber A.*

This question of Cain, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” *challenges me to think about humanity’s response to God when we are confronted with our sin. We can respond with truth and repentance or we can deny and make excuses. – Will M.*

This question of Cain, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” *teaches me that ignoring responsibility and duty doesn’t make it go away, just delays it. We have a responsibility / duty to everyone around us, and pretending like we don’t only hurts us. – Julia B.*

March 6: Monday of the Second Week of Lent

They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, “WHAT were you arguing about on the road?” But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and servant of all.” He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.” Mark 9: 33-37

On the way to Capernaum, the disciples were arguing about who was the greatest. Jesus, knowing what they were arguing about, told them that if you want to be first, you need to be last, and “servant of all”. This means that you should not put yourself above others or say you are better than someone else. Your needs are not always greater than someone else’s needs; respect the needs and value of others. Taking a child in his arms, Jesus teaches us to welcome the children, who were usually treated poorly and lowly in the society of that day. All have value in God’s kingdom. All are welcome.

Prayer: *Lord Jesus, let me do your will. Let me not put my needs before the needs of others. Let me glorify your name in all that I do. Amen.*

A.J. C., Class of 2026

March 7: Tuesday of the Second Week of Lent

WHAT good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, ‘Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,’ but does nothing about his physical needs, WHAT good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. James 2: 14-17

In this passage, Jesus challenges his hearers (that includes us) with several questions. If we claim to have faith but have no deeds, do we really have faith? Faith must be accompanied by action, by good deeds. If you say to someone who is homeless to keep warm, but kind of faith is that? Faith requires action. We are called to help others with their needs.

Prayer: *Lord, may our faith please you. Help us to have an alive faith in deeds. Amen.*

Dani C., Class of 2026

PERSONAL REFLECTION

“WHICH” and “WHEN” QUESTIONS

March 8: Third Wednesday of Lent

When the Pharisee who had invited him (Jesus) saw this, he said to himself, ‘If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is – that she is a sinner.’ Jesus answered him, ‘Simon, I have something to tell you.’ ‘Tell me, teacher,’ Simon said. ‘Two men owed money to a certain money lender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he canceled the debts of both. Now WHICH of them will love him more?’ Simon replied, ‘I suppose the one who had the bigger debt canceled.’ ‘You have judged correctly,’ Jesus said. Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, ‘Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven – for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little.’ Then Jesus said to her, ‘Your sins are forgiven.’ Luke 7: 39-48

Why do we judge others, especially by how they appear to look? In this passage, a Pharisee welcomes Jesus into his home. But he, the Pharisee, says that if Jesus were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman was touching him – that she is a sinner. The Pharisee is quick to judge the woman, but it seems to me he thinks that he has done nothing wrong. Because Jesus comes into his home, perhaps he thinks he is more superior than the woman. So, Jesus teaches a lesson, through a parable, about canceled debt and the thanksgiving that would follow. Jesus teaches that the woman who was in more “debt” would love Jesus more than the Pharisee who at least thinks he is in less “debt”. I think the moral of the parable is that you shouldn’t be quick to judge a person because of the way they appear, before taking a good look at yourself and seeing that you aren’t perfect either. Jesus came to pay our “debts”. Jesus came to forgive our sins.

Prayer: *Dear God, please help me to not be quick to judge someone. Help me to live – forgiven and grateful. Amen.*

Grace C., Class of 2026

March 9: Thursday of the Third Week of Lent

In reply Jesus said: 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' WHICH of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?' The expert in the law replied, 'The one who had mercy on him.' Jesus told him, 'Go and do likewise.' Luke 10: 30-37

The question in this familiar parable known as the Good Samaritan is this: "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" The surprising answer to this question is the Samaritan, the supposed enemy. This passage teaches us that we should always help those in need, no matter what. It doesn't matter if they are a different race or religion; we should always do what is right. We should always be a good neighbor. We should always have mercy on others. "Go and do likewise."

Prayer: *Dear Lord, help me to be like the good Samaritan. Allow me to follow in his footsteps of kindness. Amen.*

Sophie C., Class of 2025

March 10: Friday of the Third Week of Lent

The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, 'Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?' Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, 'Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? WHICH is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven', or to say 'Get up and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins...' He said to the paralyzed man, 'I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.' Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, 'We have seen remarkable things today.' Luke 5: 21-26

Notice in this passage there are many questions. There are the accusatory heart questions of the Pharisees and teachers of the law: “Who are you, Jesus, to have the power to forgive sins?” Then comes direct questions to them from Jesus, followed by the action of healing a paralyzed man. Jesus has the power to forgive, which I think is foreshadowing future events as they didn’t believe Christ so he was put to death on the cross. After his crucifixion, Jesus still forgives. All of us need to be like Christ and start forgiving and stop holding grudges. Jesus, the Son of God, can forgive and does forgive.

Prayer: *I pray, Lord, for forgiveness. I thank you for your sacrifice for me and the world. Amen.*

Cannon C., Class of 2026

March 11: Saturday of the Third Week of Lent

Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, WHEN did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? WHEN did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? WHEN did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’ **Matthew 25: 37-40**

Every time each of us does a good act with pure motivation, we are doing it for God. How incredible that God is acting through us! When we are doing good deeds, we are being a disciple, a follower, of God.

Prayer: *Lord, lead me in the right direction when I am in doubt. May we serve you by serving others. Amen.*

Jamela C., Class of 2026

March 12: Third Sunday of Lent - Senior Reflections to this question – “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” Matthew 9:28

This question of Jesus, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” challenges me to always try my hardest with my work, no matter how difficult the task at hand is. – Delaney B.

This question of Jesus, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” challenges me because this shouldn’t be a question. Jesus is all powerful, and we should have no doubts in his ability. – Lilly G.

This question of Jesus, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” forces me to analyze my faith. Often times, I doubt my ability to do something, or even God’s ability. However, God can do anything, and “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13). So if my faith is strong then I shouldn’t have any doubt of God’s or my own ability to do something. – Isaac A.

This question of Jesus, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” challenges me to trust in the plan the Lord has, to accept what I cannot change. – Jaymee V.

This question of Jesus, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” challenges me because it pushes me to do things and to always try my best. – Sadie R.

This question of Jesus, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” tells me to trust in God and he will give me a path to follow. – Raileigh C.

This question of Jesus, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” shows me that I should trust in Jesus to take care of me and of my worries. – Nolan K.

March 13: Monday of the Third Week of Lent

As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew asked him privately, ‘Tell us, WHEN will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?’ Jesus said to them: ‘Watch out that no one deceives you. Many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am he’ and will deceive many. When you hear of wars and rumors of war, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come...No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come.’ Mark 13: 3-7 and 32-33

After leaving the temple, Jesus tells his disciples that in the future the stones of the temple will be thrown down. His disciples asked, “When...” Jesus replies, “Watch out that no one deceives you.” “Be on guard!” “Be alert!” We need to be cautious to not be tricked by others, to live to our full extent every day.

Prayer: Help us, Lord, to be on alert – always looking for you. Amen.

Adam D., Class of 2026

March 14: Tuesday of the Third Week of Lent

‘And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they

get justice, and quickly. However, WHEN the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?’ Luke 18: 7-8

Yes, God will answer our cry out to him for justice. As a practicing Catholic, one of the hardest things is to have patience. Sometimes, we want God to answer our prayers instantly. That is not always the way God works. We must continue to have faith in the Lord, our God. All our injustices that we have committed will be looked at on our judgment day. Those who are just will be with God for eternity. May the Son of Man find faith on the earth when he returns.

Prayer: *Dear God, listen to all your servants who cry out to you. May we be found faithful. Amen.*

Clarissa E., Class of 2026

PERSONAL REFLECTION

“WHERE” QUESTIONS

March 15: Fourth Wednesday of Lent

I lift up my eyes to the hills – WHERE does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. Psalm 121: 1-2

The Book of Psalms lays bare the full range of human emotion as people – in joy, in agony, in fear, in remorse, in thanksgiving – pour out their questions and thoughts before God. In Psalm 121, the psalmist asks, “Where does my help come from?” Then comes the immediate answer: “My help comes from the Lord...”

Prayer: *I pray, Lord, for your help for those facing upcoming surgeries, for the sick, for the lonely, for the homeless, for the hungry, for those afraid and for those with little hope. We all need your help. Amen.*

Autumn G., Class of 2026

March 16: Thursday of the Fourth Week of Lent

One day Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Let’s go over to the other side of the lake.’ So they got into a boat and set out. As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger. The disciples went and woke him, saying, ‘Master, Master, we’re going to drown!’ He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. ‘WHERE is your faith?’ he asked his disciples. In fear and amazement they asked one another, ‘Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him.’ Luke 8: 22-25

“Where is your faith?” is such a strong question from Jesus. The disciples on the boat were in great fear from the treacherous storm. Therefore, they hollered towards Jesus that they’re going to drown. But Jesus rebukes the wind and waters. His disciples – being amazed by what happened – are confused on who this man is. We are like the disciples, often afraid and living in our own storms; yet we know who Jesus is – our Savior, the one who saves us. May we show our faith in a way the disciples did not in this passage.

Prayer: *Dear Lord, please be with me at all times. May I be open-hearted, ready for your blessings. Amen.*

Owen G., Class of 2026

March 17: Friday of the Fourth Week of Lent

Then the Lord answered Job out of the storm. He said: ‘Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge? Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me. WHERE were you when I laid the earth’s foundation? Tell me, if you understand.’ Job 38: 1-4

I believe this passage is God calling out to us to trust him because he always has been and always will be. He shapes our life and purpose to the most minute detail. God is all-knowing and all-powerful, so we should put our faith fully in him. In the passage, God asks, “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?” We weren’t there and that is why we should trust and have confidence in God’s plan for us.

| Prayer: *Heavenly Father, lead me down the right path and to your kingdom. Amen.*

Hayden H., Class of 2026

March 18: Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent

When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, ‘WHERE shall we buy bread for these people to eat?’ He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. Philip answered him, ‘Eight months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!’ Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, spoke up, ‘Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?’ John 6: 5-9

According to the notes in the Life Application Bible, “By asking for a human solution (knowing that there was none), Jesus high-lighted the powerful and miraculous act that he was about to perform...We can limit what God does in us by assuming what is and is not possible.” Perhaps another thing to consider from this passage is our willingness to share. In our world today, we need to give back to our community and quit being greedy. Jesus already knows our response to someone asking for help, and if we say no, then that’s one step back from heaven.

Prayer: *O God, please give us enough courage to help people in need. And may we never limit your powerful and miraculous acts. Amen.*

Talan H., Class of 2026

March 19: Fourth Sunday of Lent - Senior Reflections to these questions – “Where can I go from your Spirit? Can I flee from your presence?” Psalm 139:7

These questions of David, “Where can I go from your Spirit? Can I flee from your presence?” teaches me that God is everywhere and will always be there for me – no matter the situation. – Jessie W.

These questions of David, “Where can I go from your Spirit? Can I flee from your presence?” forces me to not stray away from God’s challenges in my life but embrace them. – Kyler G.

These questions of David, “Where can I go from your Spirit? Can I flee from your presence?” teaches me that I can never flee from Jesus’ presence. He will be with me no matter what I go through or face. – Jayde H.

These questions of David, “Where can I go from your Spirit? Can I flee from your presence?” teaches me that Jesus is always watching, so we should live our best life and charitable life while he is watching. – Grace G.

These questions of David, “Where can I go from your Spirit? Can I flee from your presence?” teaches that God is everywhere we go. From the sky to a bird to a tree, everything is God’s creation, so we can’t escape Him. Furthermore, He is always in each and every one of us, so it is impossible to rid His presence. – Isaac A.

March 20: Monday of the Fourth Week of Lent

As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, ‘Jesus, Master, have pity on us!’ When he saw them, he said, ‘Go, show yourselves to the priests.’ And as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him – and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, ‘Were not all ten cleansed? WHERE are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?’ Then he said to him, ‘Rise and go; your faith has made you well.’
Luke 17: 12-19

Jesus heals ten lepers who called out for pity. But only one of the ten – a Samaritan – returned to thank Jesus. We might ask ourselves: “Am I one of the nine, or am I the one who praised God?” Jesus performs this miraculous healing – cleansing the men. Jesus cleanses us, too. What is our response? “Where are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God...?”

Prayer: *I pray for all of us to be persistent in prayer, to trust You, God, and to be hopeful in You. Amen.*

Easton H., Class of 2026

March 21: Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Lent

They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him (Jesus). But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, ‘If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at

her.’ Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. Jesus straightened up and asked her, ‘Woman, WHERE are they? Has no one condemned you?’ ‘No one, sir’, she said. ‘Then neither do I condemn you,’ Jesus declared. ‘Go now and leave your life of sin.’ John 8: 6-11

In this passage, we see that Jesus is accusingly being questioned. Jesus tells the persecutors, “Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her” (verse 7). Soon after, everyone is gone without a single stone thrown. By saying this, Jesus teaches us that we should not condemn others when we, too, sin. To me, this passage teaches me to not judge others for their appearance, actions, lifestyle because I am not flawless. “Then neither do I condemn you...Go now and leave your life of sin.”

Prayer: *Jesus, let me recognize my sins for what they are. Help me not to persecute others for their mistakes. Amen.*

Kamdyn J., Class of 2026

PERSONAL REFLECTION

“WHY” QUESTIONS

March 22: Fifth Wednesday of Lent

WHY are you downcast, O my soul? **WHY** so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God. Psalm 42: 11

In the Psalms, we feel the high and low emotions of the writers. In this verse, the author asks himself why he is downcast, sad, depressed. These are questions for us, too, to contemplate. We all have times of being downcast, sad, depressed. This verse is trying to get the attention of people who are hurting, who are suffering. But following the questions, the psalmist gives himself and us a remedy, an answer to the questions: "Put your hope in God."

Prayer: *Dear God, help us to give our worries and sorrows to you. Even in the midst of pain, may we praise you and put our hope in you. Amen.*

Avanel J., Class of 2026

March 23: Thursday of the Fifth Week of Lent

'Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. WHY do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?' Matthew 7: 1-3

This question of Jesus cuts right to the issue of judging others. Matthew 7:1-3 is about us looking down on others. Note that "speck of sawdust" we see in the other person is in contrast to the larger "plank" in our own eye. The Life Application Bible states: "The traits that bother us in others are other the habits we dislike in ourselves." We can point something out as a fault or wrongdoing of someone else, maybe even making fun of others, when in reality, we are being a hypocrite.

Prayer: *Dear God, please help us not to be hypocrites and judge others. Amen.*

Kendall L., Class of 2026

March 24: Friday of the Fifth Week of Lent

'WHY do you call me, 'Lord, Lord' and do not do what I say? I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.' Luke 6: 46-49

I learned a lot from this passage as Jesus gives examples of people who hear him and listen (putting his words in practice), and people who don't listen. I realize all of us, at times, can be the man who built above the ground because we may hear God's word, but we don't always listen and live it. Like the house without a foundation, "...it collapsed and its destruction was complete." Without him, we will fall apart. We need to put into practice what God says. We need to be the man who builds his house with a strong foundation. I want to be more like Jesus and less like me. I want to build my "house" well.

Prayer: *Dear God, thank you for your words of wisdom to live by. Help me to walk in your love and listen to you, becoming more like Jesus. Amen.*

Samuel L., Class of 2026

March 25: Saturday of the Fifth Week of Lent

Then some Pharisees and teachers of the law came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked, 'WHY do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? They don't wash their hands before they eat!' Jesus replied, 'And WHY do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition?' Matthew 15: 1-3

In this brief passage, we find some Pharisees and teachers of the law questioning Jesus. They have just come from Jerusalem, the center of Jewish authority where the temple is. But Jesus answers their question with a question: "Why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition?" God wants us to follow his commandments. Our traditions may help us to understand God and his commandments, but the traditions are not the laws. When God put us on this earth, he did not put us here for failure, though we will make mistakes and not always follow his commandments. That's why we need Jesus as our savior.

Prayer: *We thank you, God, for your commandments, as well as the traditions we share. But it's your commandments that are sacred, and we need your help in following them. Amen.*

Angelique L., Class of 2026

March 26: Fifth Sunday of Lent - Senior Reflections to these questions – "Why were you searching for me?" Luke 2:49

This question of Jesus, "Why were you searching for me?" teaches me that I never have to search for Jesus because he is always by my side. – Colton D.

This question of Jesus, “Why were you searching for me?” teaches me that I should search for God in everything I do; he is around us no matter what we do.- Hannah P.

This question of Jesus, “Why were you searching for me?” teaches me that Christ is going to be wherever I need him. When I am in need, I will not have to search for him. – Ethan W.

This question of Jesus, “Why were you searching for me?” causes me to think about how we never stop searching for Jesus in our lives. We need his grace to complete the simplest tasks. Also Jesus never stops searching for us – even if sometimes we get lost; with the help of Jesus, we can find our way back. – Madi R.

This question of Jesus, “Why were you searching for me?” causes me to realize that I never really have to search for Jesus; he is always near. He waits for me to be ready to welcome him into my life. – Emily K.

March 27: Monday of the Fifth Week of Lent

Awake, O Lord! WHY do you sleep? Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever. WHY do you hide your face and forget our misery and oppression? We are brought down to the dust; our bodies cling to the ground. Rise up and help us; redeem us because of your unfailing love. Psalm 44: 23-26

It seems as if the person talking so frankly to God is getting impatient with God, feeling forgotten, crying out for help, to redeem his people. The psalmist does not think God is there, that God is not attentive, that God is “sleeping” and “hiding”. Perhaps each of us have felt this way in our own life. And yet the psalmist ends with trust in God’s “unfailing love”.

Prayer: *God, thank you for your unfailing love for us. Amen.*

Dakota L., Class of 2026

March 28: Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Lent

While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of a man known as Simon the Leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table. When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. ‘WHY this waste?’ they asked. ‘This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor.’ Aware

of this, Jesus said to them, ‘WHY are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me. When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. I tell you the truth, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.’
Matthew 26: 6-13

In the passage, a woman performs an act of kindness and love. This woman pours expensive ointment over Jesus. Jesus is thankful, but his disciples are complaining she has wasted this ointment when they could have gotten money for it. Jesus responds by saying this woman did a beautiful thing. This passage shows me that when I perform works for Jesus, he is truly grateful for these works. This also means that he will remember my work for him. Jesus gives his disciples mercy when they would rather have money. Jesus gives us mercy and the power to do good works for him.

Prayer: *Almighty Father, as this woman did an act of love for you, prepare me to come into your kingdom having performed acts of love in your name. May we live aware in the presence of love and understanding. Amen.*

Meaghan M., Class of 2026

PERSONAL REFLECTION

“HOW” QUESTIONS

March 29: Sixth Wednesday of Lent

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, ‘Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the

miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him.’ In reply Jesus declared, ‘I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.’ ‘HOW can a man be born when he is old?’ Nicodemus asked, ‘Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb to be born!’ Jesus answered, ‘I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.’ John 3: 1-6

Someone can be born when they are old through Baptism, spiritually into the Kingdom of God. Verse 5 says: “...except a man be born of water and of the Spirit.” I believe this means in Baptism, through the holy water, you are born again into the church through the Holy Spirit. I also believe being born of the Spirit can be now and through the eternal now of living forever with God in his kingdom.

Prayer: *Oh, God, guide us to live a good life and keep us away from sin. Oh, God, let us live forever with you. Amen.*

Bryson M., Class of 2026

March 30: Thursday of the Sixth Week of Lent

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, ‘Lord, HOW many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?’ Jesus answered, ‘I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.’ Matthew 18: 21-22

When Jesus responded to Peter’s question in this passage, Jesus said, “Not seven times, but seventy-seven times.” Jesus means that there is no limit to the number of times we should forgive others. When He answered Peter’s question, Jesus told us exactly how we should always forgive our neighbors. When we reflect on this passage, we should be reminded of the importance of forgiveness. Because we should show kindness to all, we should be willing to forgive anyone – no matter what. Just as we want forgiveness for our mistakes, we should show forgiveness for the mistakes of others. In our reflection, we should also remember how God forgives us. There is no limit to the forgiveness that God shows us. No matter how often we make mistakes, He will always welcome us back if we are willing to return to Him.

Prayer: *Lord, please forgive me for my mistakes and my regrets, so that I can return to You. Please give me the strength to forgive other people, no matter how difficult it can sometimes feel. Help me to share Your love with others. Amen.*

Grant N., Class of 2026

March 31: Friday of the Sixth Week of Lent

'I do not accept praise from men, but I know you. I know that you do not have the love of God in your hearts. I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; but if someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him. HOW can you believe if you accept praise from one another, yet make no effort to obtain the praise that comes from the only God?' John 5: 41-44

How can you not love or worship God, but you can easily idolize and love something or someone else as if that something or someone was your god? Think about this question. When asked to love God, you turn him down and instead go to someone or something else as your new god. Do you believe in glory from your fake god, but when you look to God, you ignore His glory and the glory He bestows upon you? Whose praise do you seek?

Prayer: *Dear God, help us to make You our only God. Amen.*

Sophia S., Class of 2026

April 1: Saturday of the Sixth Week of Lent

HOW can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people. Psalm 116: 12-14

Think of what the Lord does for you. The Lord does so much for me. In this passage, the psalmist asked this, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me." I, as a follower of God, should do my best to repay God for all He has done for me. I can do things like pray, thank God every day, and do good deeds for others.

Prayer: *Dear Lord, thank you for all Your goodness to me, to us. Amen.*

Oliver S., Class of 2026

April 2: Palm Sunday - Senior Reflections to this question, "If God is for us, who can be against us?" Romans 8:31

This question of Paul, "If God is for us, who can be against us?" teaches me that if God is on my side, I am safe. He is omnipotent and benevolent, so his being in my corner is all I need. – Emily K.

This question of Paul, “If God is for us, who can be against us?” *forces me to realize that God is the ultimate teammate, and he is always on our side.* – Joe W.

This question of Paul, “If God is for us, who can be against us?” *forces me to see that whatever “team” God is on, we will “win”. We always will win if we have God carrying us to victory, even through the hardest times.* – Cami H.

This question of Paul, “If God is for us, who can be against us?” *teaches me that God is always on your side. He is there for you when you are in pain and need to pray for help. You may not realize, but God is always listening.* – Paige C.

This question of Paul, “If God is for us, who can be against us?” *causes me to feel safe and secure, knowing that God loves and cares for me.* – Jaymee V.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

QUESTIONS DURING HOLY WEEK

April 3: Monday of Holy Week

Then one of the Twelve – the one called Judas Iscariot – went to the chief priests and asked, ‘WHAT are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?’ So they counted out for him thirty silver coins. From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over. Matthew 26: 14-16

When Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty silver coins to the chief priests and the elders. ‘I have sinned,’ he said, ‘for I have betrayed innocent blood.’ ‘WHAT is that to us?’ they replied. ‘That’s your responsibility.’

Matthew 27: 3-4

In these difficult passages, we are exposed to the question, “What are you willing to give me?” Judas received thirty silver coins for handing over Jesus, coins that he returned once he was seized with remorse.

Perhaps we can think about this question being asked by Jesus: “What are you willing to give me?” Every day we are faced with challenges that we can do for God, such as deciding to help others, saving money to give to others, or even just abstaining from a particular thing. We see a great example from Jesus when he gave his life so that we may be freed from sin. So every day, think about what you can give to others, to God, as he sent his only son for us.

Prayer: *Dear God, give me the guidance throughout every day to do as Jesus did in helping others. Amen.*

Talon T., Class of 2026

April 4: Tuesday of Holy Week

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, ‘Lord, ARE you going to wash my feet?’ Jesus replied, ‘You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand.’ ‘No,’ said Peter, ‘you shall never wash my feet.’ Jesus answered, ‘Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.’ ‘Then, Lord,’ Simon Peter replied, ‘not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!’ John 13: 6-9

Simon Peter asked him, ‘Lord, WHERE are you going?’ Jesus replied, ‘Where I am going, you cannot follow me now, but you will follow later.’ Peter asked, ‘Lord, WHY can’t I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.’ Then Jesus answered, ‘WILL you really lay down your life for me? I tell you the truth, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times!’ John 13: 36-38

In the first passage, Jesus wanted to wash Peter’s feet. When Peter resisted, Jesus insisted and said, “Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.” Peter then eagerly complied. This passage reminds me to let people do nice things for me, and in return, I do nice things to others. This will help the Church grow and further the Kingdom of Heaven.

In the second passage, though Peter says he will lay down his life for Jesus, Jesus replies, “Will you really lay down your life for me?”

Prayer: *Lord, help us to “wash other’s feet”- serving one another as you came to serve. May we do your work and further the Kingdom of God, knowing we, too, may need to make sacrifices. Amen.*

Brady T., Class of 2026

April 5: Wednesday of Holy Week

Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him. On reaching the place, he said to them, 'Pray that you will not fall into temptation.' He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed. 'Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.' An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground. When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciple, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. 'WHY are you sleeping?' he asked them. 'Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.' Luke 22: 39-46

Jesus took his disciples to Mount Olive. He told them to pray that they will not fall into temptation. The Life Application Bible shares: "...Jesus knew that he would soon be leaving them. Jesus also knew that they would need extra strength to face the temptations ahead – temptations to run away or to deny their relationship with him. They were about to see Jesus die. Would they still think he was the Messiah?" Jesus prays – in agony – but he did not give up or give in to temptation. His question to the disciples is one for us to think about: "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation."

Prayer: *I pray, Lord, that you will help us to fall away from temptation. Amen.*

Isabella V., Class of 2026

April 6: Holy Thursday

Meanwhile, the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. 'I have spoken openly to the world,' Jesus replied. 'I always taught in synagogues or at the temple, where all the Jews come together. I said nothing in secret. WHY question me? Ask those who heard me. Surely they know what I said.' When Jesus said this, one of the officials nearby struck him in the face. 'Is this the way you answer the high priest?' he demanded. 'If I said something wrong,' Jesus replied, 'testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth, WHY did you strike me?' Then Annas sent him, still bound, to Caiaphas the high priest.' John 18: 19-24

'WHAT is truth?' Pilate asked. With this he went out again to the Jews and said, 'I find no basis for a charge against him. But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. DO you want me to release 'the king of the Jews'? They shouted back, 'No, not him!' ...
John 18: 38-40a

The Holy Week narrative causes me to question why the religious leaders would arrest Jesus who only speaks Truth? Fear? Power? Jealousy? Jesus makes clear that he did not say his words or perform his acts “in secret”. He has been open and honest. Jesus asks to know the evidence of what he has done wrong. After being hit, Jesus replies, “If I have spoken wrongly, give evidence about the wrong; but if rightly, why do you hit me?” Later, Pilate asks Jesus, “What is truth?” The Life Application Bible says this: “When there is no basis for truth, there is no basis for right and wrong. Justice becomes whatever works or whatever helps those in power. In Jesus and His Word we have a standard for truth and for our moral behavior” (1921).

Prayer: *Dear Jesus, help us believe and live your truth. Amen.*

Dominick Y., Class of 2026

April 7: Good Friday

‘WHAT shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called Christ?’ asked Pilate.

From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice...which means, ‘My God, my God, WHY have you forsaken me?’ When some of those standing there heard this, they said, ‘He’s calling Elijah.’ Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink. The rest said, ‘Now leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to save him.’ And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split. The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. They came out of the tombs, and after Jesus’ resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people. When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, ‘Surely he was the Son of God!’ Matthew 27: 22, 45-54

How do you answer this question of Pilate: “What shall I do, then, with Jesus...?”

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Prayer: *In your own words...*

April 8: Holy Saturday

Then the disciples went back to their homes, but Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. They asked her, ‘Woman, why are you crying?’

‘They have taken my Lord away,’ she said, ‘and I don’t know where they have put him.’ At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

‘Woman,’ he said, ‘why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?’

John 20: 10-15

How do you answer these questions: “...why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?”

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Prayer: *In your own words...*

April 9: EASTER – CHRIST IS RISEN!

When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?’

‘Yes, Lord,’ he said, ‘you know that I love you.’

Jesus said, ‘Feed my lambs.’

Again Jesus said, ‘Simon son of John, do you truly love me?’

He answered, ‘Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.’

Jesus said, ‘Take care of my sheep.’

The third time he said to him, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, ‘Do you love me?’ He said, ‘Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.’

Jesus said, ‘Feed my sheep.’ John 21: 15-17

How do you answer this question of Jesus: “Do you love me?”

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Prayer: *In your own words...*

QUESTIONS?

“Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.”

Matthew 7:7

“We do not need to be afraid of questions and doubt because they are the beginning of a path of knowledge and going deeper; one who does not ask questions cannot progress either in knowledge or in faith.”

Pope Francis

“...we tend to lose track of the questions about things that matter always, life-and-death questions about meaning, purpose, and value. To lose track of such deep questions as these is to risk losing track of who we really are in our own depths and where we are really going.” Frederick Buechner