

HOLY WEEK REFLECTIONS

"Let us open doors, connect worlds, and there will be hope."
– Pope Leo XIV

As our journey through Lent draws to its close, and the shadow of the Cross lies before us, we invite you to reflect with us and our sisters and brothers in Ethiopia.

"SCIAF's supporters support Tigray not only with money, but through prayer. I would like to thank them on behalf of all the people they have helped."
– Sr Mana, Tigray



"Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord!"
– Psalm 31:24

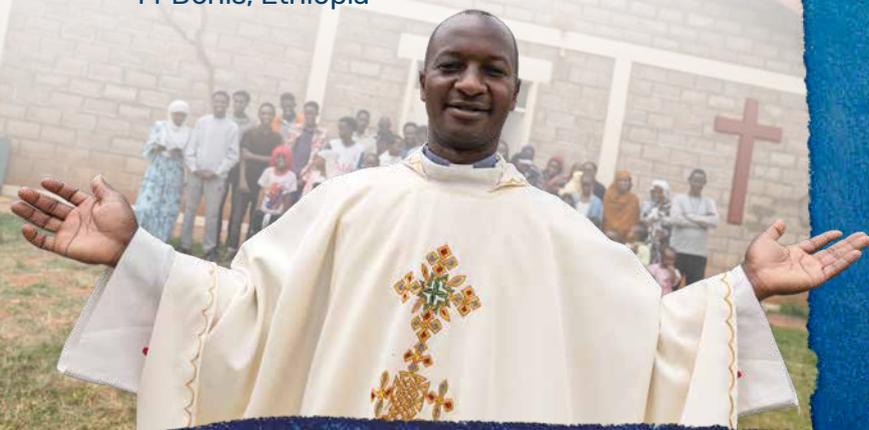
GOOD FRIDAY

John 18:1-19:42

"Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said 'I thirst'... When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, 'It is finished', and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit."
– John 19:28, 30

It can be difficult to associate the "Good" of Good Friday with anything besides the suffering of Christ on the Cross. And yet, through His final hardships, His sacrifice comes good for every one of us, in an act of love greater than any other.

"You cannot be happy if someone else is suffering. You reach out through the need of the other person."
– Fr Denis, Ethiopia



EASTER SUNDAY

Luke 24: 1-12

"He is not here, but has risen."
– Luke 24: 6

Early on Easter morning, Jesus' friends and disciples arrived at the tomb, still in mourning. Expecting to see the sealed tomb, instead they found it lying empty, with no trace of Jesus lying within.

The hope of Easter morning, alive in the resurrection of Christ, is the same hope that is alive today.

"I believe in God, God is greater than everything. Through God, the whole world is blessed."
– Fr Abraha, Ethiopia

THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

Please join with us as we pray this Rosary daily during Holy Week.

Inspired by Mary's journey as she accompanies Christ through His Passion, we unite our prayer with all who endure thirst, loss, and uncertainty – especially in Tigray, Ethiopia.

"Blessed Rosary of Mary, sweet chain linking us to God"

Pope St. John Paul II

LET US PRAY AS ONE CHAIN

✝ Sign of the Cross

Crucifix

Apostles' Creed

First large bead

Our Father

Three small beads

Hail Mary (for faith, hope, and love)

One bead Glory Be

5 decades follow in which we reflect the Sorrowful Mysteries

Each decade

Reflection on the Sorrowful Mystery

Large bead (Our Father)

10 small beads (Hail Mary)

Glory be

Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins...

End each decade praying: *Holy Mother, walk with us through Christ's Passion. Intercede for SCIAF's work to quench thirst and sustain hope for our brothers and sisters around the world.*



REFLECTION

- 1 The Agony in the Garden**
Jesus prays in fear and sorrow. Pray for all who face thirst, hunger, loss, and uncertainty.
- 2 The Scourging at the Pillar**
Jesus suffers violence and humiliation. Pray for those wounded by hunger, injustice, and lack of clean water.
- 3 The Crowning with Thorns**
Jesus is mocked and rejected. Pray for communities whose voices are ignored and whose suffering is unseen.

- 4 The Carrying of the Cross**
Jesus walks the road of suffering. Pray for parents and communities carrying heavy burdens, and for strength to walk with one another.
- 5 The Crucifixion**
Jesus gives His life in love. Pray for all who have died, and for those who mourn, trusting in the hope of the resurrection.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Hail, Holy Queen (Salve Regina)

Mary, Mother of Sorrows, you shared in the Passion of your Son. Intercede for the work of SCIAF, that those who need may receive life-giving water and other essentials, in Ethiopia and beyond. Unite us as one people in the sweet chain linking us to God.

✝ Sign of the Cross