

"HONORED BY HIS TRUST" 3-29-2024

As we gather together, in the Christian Community, in observation and humility of Good Friday, or the crucifixion of Christ, we recognize the sacrifice that God made in giving His Son for payment of our sins. Also, the supreme sacrifice the Jesus made for all of us, that through Him and our belief and trust in Him, we may have everlasting lasting life in His Kingdom.

We have been emphasizing **BE^{THE}ONE** for some time now, to take every opportunity to check with our friends, neighbors, and relatives, to see how they are doing and if there is anything they need. With in the message below, we see that even while Jesus was dying on the cross, He wanted to make sure that His mother would be cared for and not left alone. This again is showing us the way He wants us to live; to care for, help, and be there for someone else. Plus, by His further promise, He will always be there for us through His resurrection, which we celebrate not just on this coming Easter Sunday, but forever as he sits at the right hand of God FOR US.

"Standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. (John 19:25-27)

Jesus entrusted His mother to John's care. It was one of the last things He did as He was dying on the cross. He saw Mary's need for care—and perhaps John's need as well—and He gave them to each other.

What an honor that was for John, to be so trusted by Jesus! But if we think so, it's an honor we can share. Because the same Jesus who said "Behold your mother" to John has said to us, "As you did it to one of the least of these My brothers, you did it to Me" (Matthew 25:40b).

This is the honor He gives us: to take care of the poor, the sick, the lonely, the vulnerable, the ones nobody notices or cares about. It may be something great or something minor—a ride to the doctor, a phone call to check on them, a gift of tomatoes from your garden. You might help with someone's taxes or straighten out a paperwork tangle for them. Whatever you are doing, you are doing for Jesus.

And what an honor that is, to show love to the One who loved us first—so much He lay down His life for us!"

WE PRAY: Dear Savior, show me how to love You through Your people. And, Thank You for all of Your Blessings upon us that we may share those Blessing with others. Amen.