

Love One Another!

TODAY'S READING: JOHN 13:1-38

Jesus washing his disciples' feet is among the best-known scenes in the Gospels. The first verse captures the essence of the chapter: "he loved them to the end." Washing guests' feet was a task usually assigned to slaves, but Jesus modeled what it meant for him to lower himself and humbly serve his followers by washing the dusty feet of his twelve disciples. "Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet," he says. In verses 34-35 he adds, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

At this time when millions of people are confined to their homes and have to live with each other 24 hours a day, remaining loving and kind at all times becomes a challenge. When Jesus used the words, "as I have loved you," he reminded the disciples that they had received love first, and that with this love they should love others. When we remember the love we have received from God and others, we are strengthened and our hearts are renewed, so that we can extend grace and love to those around us.



Happening Now:

Churches in Argentina are collaborating with the government and health organizations by opening their buildings as special hospitals at this time of increased need. They also help to disseminate medicine for the vulnerable and offer many other practical services to their communities as an expression of love to those around them.

Have You Thought About...

- *Try to remember a moment where you felt loved by God or by others around you. How about saying a prayer of gratitude to God right now?*
- *Do you find it difficult to love those who are around you these days? If you have fallen short of loving them as Christ has loved you, it may be helpful to ask for forgiveness and reconcile. This is also an expression of love.*
- *People are created to love and be loved. At this time when anxiety and fear abound, how could you express your love to someone today in words and deeds?*