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(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 14, 2024



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Emergency Contact: 409.963.5633 CCE: 713.731.2775
Parish Hall: 713.731.2725 SVdP Food Pantry: 713.731.2716
WEB Address: <http://www.sfxhouston.com>
E-MAIL: stfrancishou@sfxhouston.com
Parish Office Hours: Tues-Wed 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Fri 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Closed on Mon & Thur
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/StFrancisXavierCatholicChurchHouston> YouTube: St. Francis Xavier Houston

MISSION STATEMENT

We, with the grace of the Holy Spirit, proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ as expressed in the beliefs and traditions of the Holy Roman Catholic Church. Through a passion for righteousness and consciousness of duty to God, we uphold the faithful worship of God in our mission to our church family and the Sunnyside Community.

PASTOR:

Vy. Rev. Michael Thompson, SSJ

DEACONS:

Michael V. Jenkins
Darryl K. Drenon

Frank J. Laugermann (Retired)

PARISH SECRETARY

Shirley M. Foreman.....x113

DIR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Unella Baber.....x103

ADULT FORMATION (RCIA)

Deacon Michael V. Jenkins

SVdP FOOD PANTRY

Curtis Jones 713.731.2716

CONTRIBUTIONS/MEMBERSHIP

Agnes Thompson

HALL MANAGER

Hilton S. Williams 713.542.0120

PLANT MANAGER/MAINTENANCE

Curtis Jones

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Sat: Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Sun: 7:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday: 7:00 a.m.

First Friday: 7:00 a.m.

Holy Days: 7:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

One (1) hour before Weekend Masses or by appointment

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

First Friday: 7:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

CHOIR REHEARSALS:

Adult Choirs

Wednesdays: 6:30p.m.

Thursdays: 7:00p.m.

Youth Choir

4th Saturdays: 12:00 Noon

CHOIR DIRECTORS:

Jerry Givens 281.772.9276

Daniel Guerrero 281.723.9948

Mikayla Peugh

BIBLE STUDY/ADULT CATHECHISM: SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

VISITATION OF THE SICK

Communion for the sick and shut-in is available. Please call the parish office to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the parish office for information. Preparation classes are required for parents and godparents. Classes are held on the 1st and 2nd Thursdays of the month from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Call the Parish Office to register for the class.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact a priest a minimum of six months prior to your proposed wedding date.

WELCOME VISITORS/NEWCOMERS

To register, call or come by the parish office or visit our website at: www.sfxhouston.com

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MASS INTENTIONS		
SAT	04/13/2024	5:00PM
<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i> Family & Friends		
SUN.	04/14/2024	7:30AM
<i>Jermaine Walker (D) – Theresa Chambers</i>		
SUN.	04/14/2024	10:00AM
<i>Provost Family (L) – Mary Provost</i>		
MON.	04/15/2024	
<i>Jasmine N. Johnson (L) - Wanda Johnson</i>		
TUE.	04/16/2024	7:00AM
<i>Irma Charles (L) – Charles Family</i>		
WED.	04/17/2024	7:00AM
<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i> Family & Friends		
THUR	04/18/2024	7:00AM
<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i> Family & Friends		
FRI	04/19/2024	7:00AM
<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i> Family & Friends		
SAT	04/20/2024	5:00PM
<i>People of the Parish</i>		



Joseph B. Holley, Jr., the only Brother of Florence McChristian, passed away on Monday, April 8th. Funeral Arrangements are pending. Eternal Rest Grant unto his soul.

HOLY LAND GIFTS OLIVE WOOD CARVINGS

Blessed Olive Wood Creations, a Christian group from Bethlehem in the Holy Land, will be visiting our parish on **April 20th & 21st**. They will speak to us about the Christian struggle in the Holy Land. They will also have some beautiful Olive Wood carvings, which are all handmade by the Christian people in Bethlehem, for sale after all the Masses. The purpose of this visit is to help maintain the existence of the catholic people in the Holy Land. Catholic Christians were once the majority in that land, but the percentage has now dropped to less than 1.3%. Please take time to look at the carvings, make a purchase, and help this church maintain a presence in the very land where our Lord was born, where He preached the Good News and where His Kingdom was first established. These carvings make great sacramental gifts that have an added special significance, given where and why they were made.



Please Pray for... Donald Abraham, Dcn Alfred Abram, Akaycia Addison, Azielee Addison, Kayne Addison, Nathan Addison IV, Alexis Alfred, Savannah Blackwell, Darryl Breedlove, Hazel S. Brown, Augustina Buckman, Tommy Burton, Amber Byas, Julius Cadoree, Margaret Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Sterling Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Lois Epps, Barbara Forte, Lawrence Frank, Paul Garrick Jr, Anthony Gobert, Betty Goodwin, Audrey DeCuir Grant, Beulah Hadrick, Mary Hamilton, Alvin J. Hebert, Donald Henderson, Anthony Hicks, Crystal Jackson, Freddy Jackson, Natalie Johnson, Brooke Joseph, Shirley Ann Joseph, Kennedy Family Members, JoAnn LaSane, Roy Lee, Hilary Ledet, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Jimmie Mack, Eugene Mallery, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Diane Miles, Dorothy Milstead, Cookie Mooring, Vy. Rev. William L. Norvel SSJ, Michele Nwokobia, Carolyn Ollison, Angela Pena, Cynethia Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Robin Pichon-Mosley, Catherine Pierre, Mildred Pierre, Marcelle Prevost, Melody Ratcliff, Elise Richmond, John & Christine Roberts, Wilson Robertson, Oliver Rose, Brian Russell, Grace Russell, Vy. Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman SSJ, Joyce Smith, Joyce Stagg, Jeffery Steptoe, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor, Craig Temple, Melvin Thomas, Gemma Walcott, Agnes Williams, Patricia Williams, Terrell Wilson, Janice Woods, Gail Young and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family. **Let us Know:** Call the Parish Office when you and/or a family member are ill, in the hospital, or having surgery.

Lord, we pray for all our current military service members who put their own lives on the line every day to protect our families and our country.
Army: Barbara Baber, Sade Beck, Wadie Troy Butler, Patrick Clay Jr, Kalah A. Guidry, Kerry Hubbard, Kory Hubbard, LaTroy King, Gary Christian Robertson, Anthony Lamar Smith II, Jordan T. McCorkle, Essence L. Casteel **Navy:** Alvin Balthazar, Debreanna Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins-Camp, Xavier Henry, Randolph J. Navy III, Anthony N. Russell **Air Force:** Samuel Houston, Roderick Jones, Joshua Creeks, Joffre Lander
Marines: Reginald Ward

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



“We are witnesses,” Peter says to the crowds, referring to the Risen Lord. We heard him preach repentance for the forgiveness of sins. We know he died for us on the cross. We have seen him

glorified by our God. We give witness by keeping his commandments. Luke narrates one of the Risen Lord’s appearances to the disciples, in which he calls them witnesses to his resurrection. Assured of his continuing presence, we too are able to sing, “Lord, let your face shine on us.”

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Sunday – April 14**
3rd Sunday of Easter
 Acts 3:13-15, 17-19
 Psalm 4:2, 4, 7-9
 1 John 2:1-5
 Luke 24:35-48
- Monday – April 15**
 Acts 6:8-15
 Psalm 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30
 John 6:22-29
- Tuesday – April 16**
 Acts 7:51—8:1
 Psalm 31:3-4, 6, 7, 8, 17, 21
 John 6:30-35
- Wednesday – April 17**
 Acts 8:1-8
 Psalm 66:1-3, 4-7
 John 6:35-40
- Thursday – April 18**
 Acts 8:26-40
 Psalm 66:8-9, 16-17, 20
 John 6:44-51
- Friday – April 19**
 Acts 9:1-20
 Psalm 117:1-2
 John 6:52-59
- Saturday – April 20**
 Acts 9:31-42
 Psalm 116:12-17
 John 6:60-69

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, April 6th and Sunday, April 7th was **463**. The 7:30am Livestream received **94** views online. Please join us via YouTube Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church.



- April 15th6:00pm
6th – 10th Grade CCE Classes
- April 20th9:30am
Pre-K – 5th Grade CCE Classes
- April 22nd6:00pm
6th – 10th Grade CCE Classes
- April 27th9:30am
Pre-K – 5th Grade CCE Classes
- April 29th6:00pm
6th – 10th Grade CCE Classes

NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival
NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE
May 17, 2024 – July 16, 2024

This will be one of the largest Eucharistic pilgrimages in history. Just as crowds followed Christ throughout his earthly ministry, our nation will process with our Eucharistic Lord over 6,500 miles—through cities, along highways, and past rural towns—on his way to the 10th National Eucharistic Congress. The southern arm of the Pilgrimage will depart from the tip of Texas in Brownsville, wind around the Gulf of Mexico—an area chosen for its deep Catholic roots—and pass through the southeastern region of the United States on its way to Indianapolis for the 10th National Eucharistic Congress. On July 16, 2024, all four branches of this historic Pilgrimage will converge in Indianapolis for the 10th National Eucharistic Congress—a milestone within the Revival and a historic moment for the Church in the U.S.

Catholic Health Care Ethics Conference

Health care professionals are invited to the ninth annual *Converging Roads* health care ethics conference on **April 20, 2024 from 9:15 am – 5:45 pm at Cathedral High School in Houston, TX.** This one-day conference will explore the theme of **Compassion and Dignity in Health Care** and offers continuing education for health care professionals rooted in the Hippocratic and Catholic ethical tradition. Visit www.convergingroads.com/Houston or email cr@forlifeandfamily.org for additional information.



Travel with Fr. Thompson on a Pilgrimage to Italy on Oct 13-21, 2024. We will visit Rome, Assisi, Milan, Tuscany, Florence and Venice. The cost is \$4,299.00

which includes:

- Flights from anywhere in the United States and flights between countries as per your itinerary
 - Daily Mass
 - Airport Taxes, Security Fees & Fuel Surcharges
 - Transfers as per itinerary
 - Transportation with luxury bus
 - 4 or 5 star hotels in downtown areas
 - All breakfasts and all dinners. Wine Included with all dinners.
 - All tips to driver, hotel, and tour guide
 - Guided Tours and Tour Fees
 - Luggage handling
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 - Passengers will never be expected to pay extra for anything
- To register, please contact **(855) 842-8001** or **(508) 340-9370**. You can also register online at: www.proximotravel.com.



The 55+ Club will meet in the Harris Center Auditorium on Thursday, **April 18th at 2:00pm.**



The SFX Prison Ministry will be collaborating with Beulah Land Community Church for a “*Good Neighbor Day Event*”, to include fun & games, food & fellowship, vendors and job interviews, and bringing awareness to “**Second Chance Month**” providing opportunities & resources for the formerly incarcerated. The event will take place on **April 20th**, from 10:00am – 2:30pm, at The Quincy L. Ollison Fellowship Hall (3335 Holman St). Call **713-440-0575** for additional information.



CHICKEN WINGS & FRIES SALE

Ministers of Hospitality will sell Wings & Fries after all Masses on April 20th & 21st. Please give them your support.

Did you know that Catholics can make an Act of Spiritual Communion?

When unable to receive Holy Communion, pray the prayer below:

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion
My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, Come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

Stewardship Reflection

That we have the courage to do the work God has sent us to do, knowing that this is the true path to peace and joy. “Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ But they were startled and frightened...” - Luke 24:36-37 Throughout the day we have many opportunities to “see the face of Jesus” in others and to “be the face of Jesus” to others. Do we take that opportunity to provide “peace” to those we encounter or are we afraid of what others will think of us and do nothing? Pray for the strength and courage to live a “God-centered” life and not a “self-centered” life.



SAVE THE DATE
May 18, 2024 – 10:00am
St. Francis of Assisi Church- 5102 Dabney St.

A Mass of Remembrance honoring Venerable Henriette DeLille, foundress of The Sisters of Holy Family of New Orleans. Principle Celebrant is Bishop Italo Dell’Oro, CRS; Homilist is **Very Rev. Michael L. Thompson, SSJ.**

Become a Pastoral Visitor

In the fall, the Catholic Chaplain Corps is offering a Pastoral Visitor Training. Through the training sessions, Pastoral Visitors will be able to provide pastoral care ministry to Catholic and non-Catholic sisters and brothers in a variety of institutional settings. You become a part of the Archdiocesan CCC Pastoral Visitation Team and attend ongoing formation and enrichment. If you are interested in attending, please contact our office at **713-747-8445** or visit the website (www.archgh.org).



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER ^(B)

April 14, 2024

Jesus said to [His disciples], "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead. You are witnesses of these things." Luke 24:46, 48

Just like a funeral, we are witnesses for the ONE who died!

All three readings mention the importance of **the death of Christ**. In Acts, the Apostle Peter tells the people, *"The Author of life you put to death, but God raised Him from the dead. Repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be wiped away"* Acts 3:15, 19. In the Second Reading, St. John states that in Jesus' death, *"He is expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world"* 1 John 2:2.

Expiation, means to **erase** away the record, to make it as if it never occurred. **We cannot expiate our sins!** In Luke's Gospel, *"He [Jesus] opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead. You are witnesses of these things"* Luke 24:46, 48.

I would like to use the analogy of a funeral; to illustrate the importance of following Jesus who died for our sins. When you go to a funeral at a church (or mortuary), everybody goes there for the **one who died**. Even when you are dressing for a funeral; you get dressed with the one who died on your mind. Sometimes the family members or the pallbearers will wear similar clothing for the one who died. When you are coming to a funeral, people in the car with you often talk about the one who died. When you arrive at the church, you will see and hear people in the parking lot talking about the one who died. When you come into the church, you may see people who you haven't seen in years. You may also see people you don't like, or folk who don't like you. You try not to let that bother you because you are both there for the one who died. You are not going to let anyone stop you from celebrating the one who died. You will sit in the pew, and tell strangers, sitting beside you, how close you were to the one who died. Why? Because you have a history with the one who died. The one who died put clothes on your back. The one who died raised you. The one who died got

you your first job. The choir may sing a song that was enjoyed by the one who died. When the minister gets up to preach, he says words about the one who died. At the end of the funeral, the casket is rolled out and the [active] pallbearers lift the one who died into the hearse. Jesus said, *"If I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men unto me"* John 12:32. If the one who died didn't mean that much to you, after the funeral, you will go home. However, if the one who died meant something to you; then you will go all the way to the cemetery. You and your family will line up behind the hearse that is carrying the one who died. Once you are in line, the funeral director walks to the cars and tells the drivers, *"Cut your lights on"*. Why? So other folk not in the funeral procession would **know that you are following the one who died**. Jesus said, *"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven"* Matthew 5:16. When you follow the one who died, you have an escort of officers. They will make a way for you. When you are following Jesus, the One who died, you will also have an escort service. *"Surely Goodness and Mercy shall follow me all the days of my life"* Psalms 23:6. Through this Easter Season, and far beyond, our purpose in life, is to **follow the One who died, Jesus, the Christ.**

◇◇ Dcn. Jenkins



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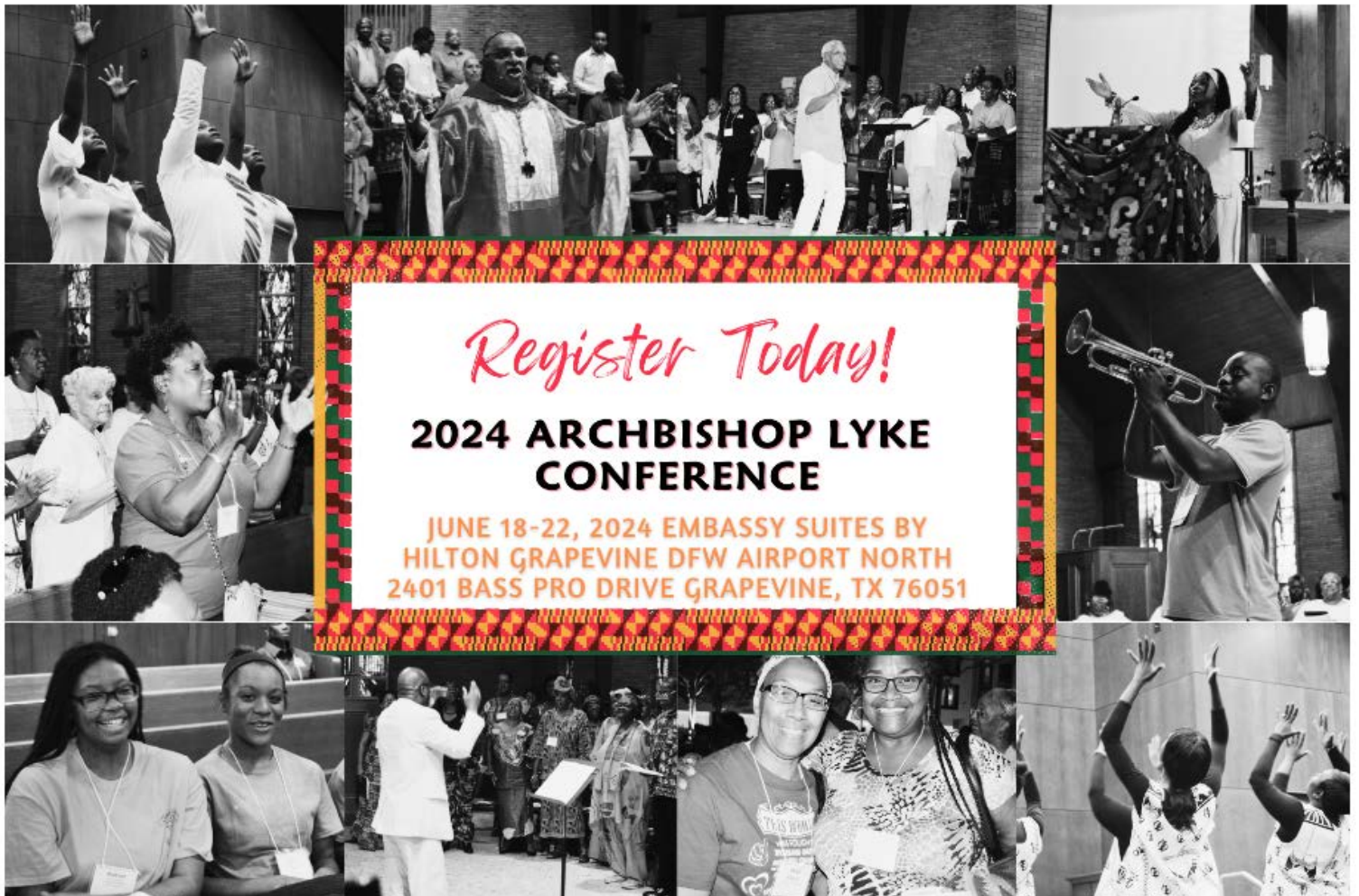
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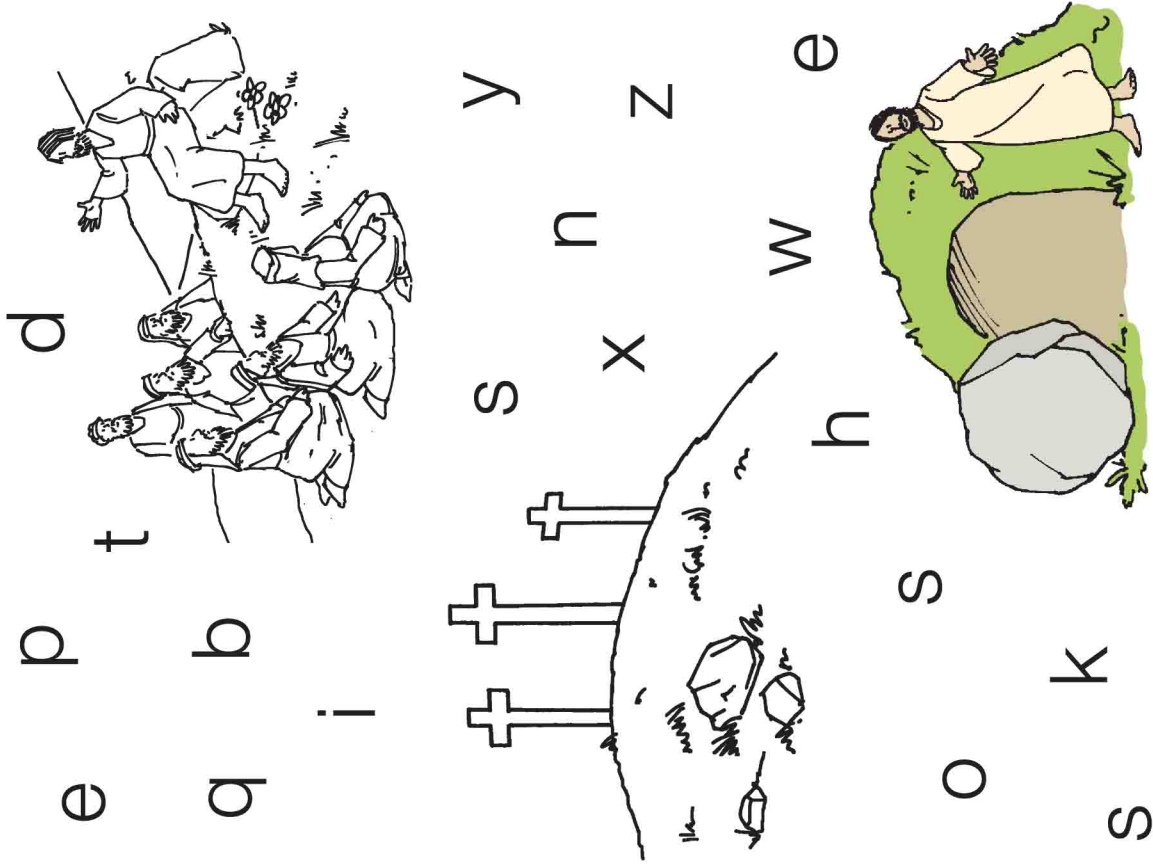
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The disciples would see all these things.
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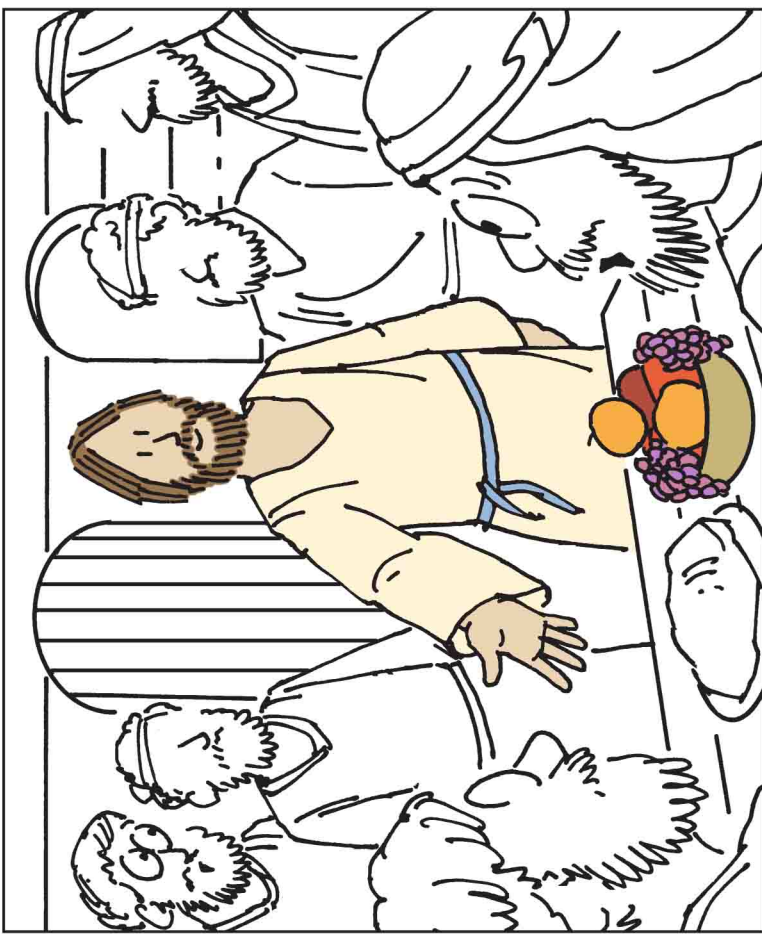
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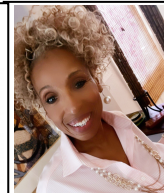
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