



'Worship at home' Holy Week Tuesday

As we move through this Easter week, you are invited to spend some time each day in worship, reflecting more deeply on the last week of Jesus' life and on your own discipleship.

As you sit down and make yourself comfortable, bring with you a piece of **writing paper and pen/pencil.**

Light a candle to remind you of the light of Christ with you, and place it in a safe place.



Consider your writing paper.

Letter writing has become a lost art, in these days of email, Facebook and Twitter.

Recall a time when you have unexpectedly received in the post a letter or card from a friend.

What was your response?

Matthew 26:1-5, 14-16

When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, "As you know, the Passover is two days away—and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified."

Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, and they schemed to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him.

"But not during the festival," they said, "or there may be a riot among the people."

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 deliver him over to you?"

So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver. From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over.

New International Version

Reflection:

The temple leaders had enough, and were plotting to arrest Jesus. Despite the best theological expertise of commentators and scholars all over the world, we can only guess at Judas' motivation for betraying Jesus. Was it greed for money or power? Did he disagree with Jesus' actions? Who or what made him turn against goodness and love so completely? Was he a scapegoat in order to fulfil the scripture?

It is so easy to get caught up in something bigger than yourself, and not realise its significance until it is too late. Thirty pieces of silver, and the deed is done: a friend betrayed.

**Reflect on a time when you have felt let down,
or betrayed, by a friend.**

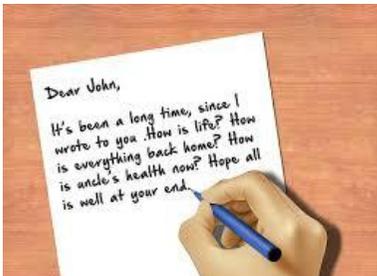
**Reflect on a time when you have let a friend down
yourself.**

Prayer:

Name out loud as you pray for:

- Your friends, those who you love.
- Each person you have been in contact with this week.
- Friends you have not seen for a long time.
- Someone you feel the need to forgive.
- Someone you have wronged or let down.

Ask God for forgiveness and peace.



Closing:

Today, you might like to write a letter or send a card to someone you have not been in touch with for a long time. Let them know that you have been thinking of them and praying for them. Continue to pray for them throughout the week.