

## **Seven Last Words of Jesus**

### **Reflection 5**

#### **'It is Accomplished'**

'After Jesus had taken the vinegar he said, 'It is accomplished'; and bowing his head he gave up His spirit.' (John 19:30)

Our suffering Lord, hanging on the cross, is described by the prophet Isaiah as 'A man without beauty, without majesty, no looks to attract our eyes; a thing despised and rejected by man.'

In human terms, Jesus' death on the cross can be seen as a sign of defeat, of failure even. And yet, Jesus' said, 'it is accomplished.' Jesus has conquered sin and death. He is our triumphant Lord! God's work has been done.

Through His suffering and death, Jesus has restored our relationship with God. He has saved us from sin and death and bought about a new beginning. 'The Lord has touched our human experience, and leads it now through the darkness to light, from death to life...to life of which there is no end and where the desires of humans are finally and completely fulfilled.'

And yet, mankind still suffers, we now endure our passion. But 'hidden in our suffering and pain is the seed of divine life, hope is now hidden in human despair, joy concealed in human sadness.'

As disciples of Jesus, and in obedience to the Father, we too have our mission, our work to complete. We are all called to make Jesus known to all people. To be channels of His love and peace, His justice, of forgiveness, hope and of faith.

#### **Prayer**

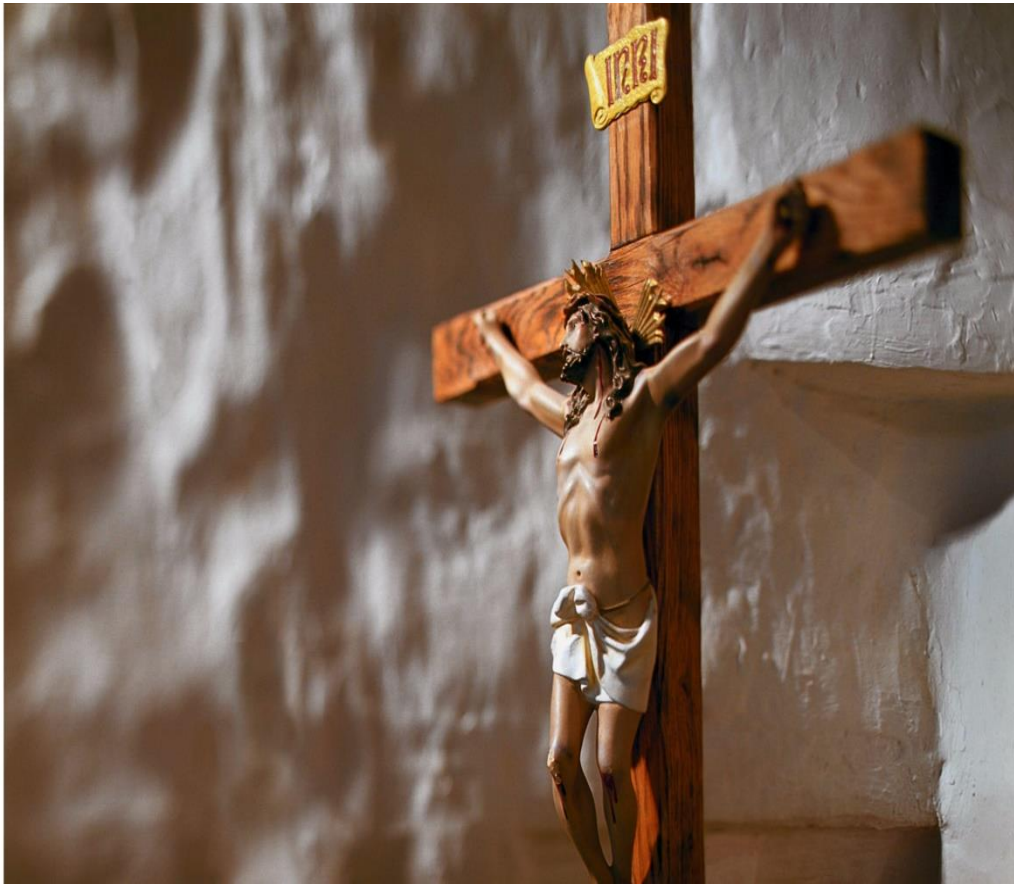
**Dear God, as disciples of Jesus we pray,**

**That like Him, we may seek only and above all, to do your will.**

**May we complete the work you have given us,**

**and may your will be accomplished in us.**

**Amen**



**‘Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free.’**

(Acclamation 3)

This reflection and final prayer are with reference to, and with quotations from: ‘Seven Last Words’ by Cardinal Basil Hume.

(Chapter 6)