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Based on the gospel for Sunday 26 March, Fifth Sunday of Lent: John 11: 1-45

### **“Jesus wept.”**

In this Sunday's gospel, we are moved by the grief of Jesus at the death of his friend, Lazarus.

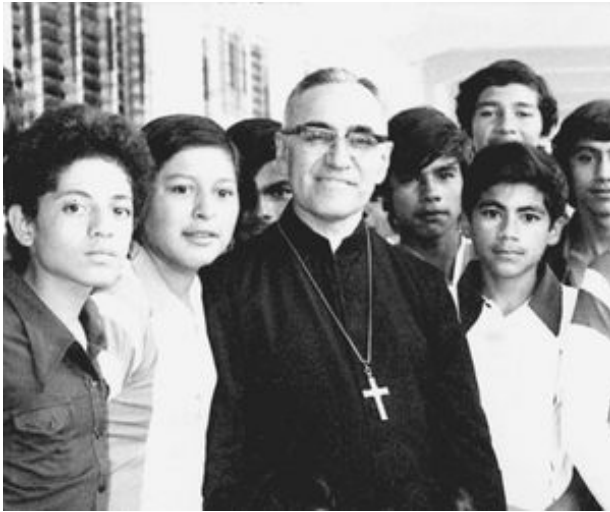
Pope Francis has written powerfully on what this moment when Jesus weeps means for us, in what some have named his ‘theology of tears’. He believes that Jesus' tears encourage us to open ourselves to compassion for others.

“Certain realities in life we only see through eyes that are cleansed through our tears,” Pope Francis asserts. “The tears of Jesus serve as an antidote to my indifference before the suffering of my brothers and sisters. His tears teach me to make my own the pain of others, to share in the discouragement and sufferings of those experiencing painful situations.”

There is sadly much to weep over in our broken world: environmental destruction, injustice, exploitation, oppression, violence and suffering.

In these last weeks of Lent, let's pray for the grace to be truly moved by the suffering of our world. As we join Jesus who weeps with us in love, may we grieve with those suffering in our world. And may this deep compassion move us to action, to seek to build a better world for all God's children.

Compassionate God,  
when our hearts are heavy with sorrow,  
as we see all that is wrong in our world,  
sustain our hope and strength.  
Make us agents of your healing and new life.  
Amen.



## St Oscar Romero

Today is the Feast of St Oscar Romero, who was murdered on this day in 1980. Read our Lent Calendar reflection on how, rooted in love, his life continues to bear a harvest of goodness today.

[Read the reflection](#)



## Feast of the Annunciation

This Saturday is the feast of the Annunciation. Our blog for the feast celebrates Mary's resounding yes and includes a reflection from David Wells.

[Read the blog](#)



## Love the Stranger

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has published a new document on the Catholic response to refugees and migrants.

[Find out more](#)

This reflection and prayer were taken from our [Lent Calendar](#).



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