

## **BABY LOSS**

*Luke 19:41-44*

*Jesus weeps over the city: Jerusalem*



November month is a month to remember our loved ones. In our parish today we have set apart this day to remember short lives: babies we have never held in our arms, those we have held in our arms for only a little while but nevertheless those that we shall hold in our hearts for ever. We would have wanted to encourage parents to come to this Mass but under lockdown conditions we encourage everyone to follow the Mass online at 7pm. This is meant to be a memorial Mass reaching out to those affected by pregnancy loss in all its forms including stillbirth, miscarriage, illness, and abortion which is the intentional ending of pregnancy resulting in the loss of a baby. Whatever we are going through matters and needs to be brought into today's Mass. The Gospel today is appropriate as we see Jesus weeping over Jerusalem. He felt deep sorrow at its resistance to God's word, as he foresaw the disaster it would soon face. The city will now have to live with the consequences of rejecting him. He sheds the tears of a rejected lover. We too can look at ourselves, our families, our country, at the world we live in and feel sorrow at so much hurt for which we are not responsible. But we can also feel sorrow at so much disregard for truth and for what is right, at so much corruption and all the suffering it brings in its wake. We recall Our Lord's message in the beatitudes: *'Blessed are those who mourn, they shall be comforted'*. Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith; it is the price of love.