

## Reflection for Saturday 3 April

Today is Holy Saturday. All is now quiet. The events of yesterday have left us all thinking: What is going to happen next? Last night after our blessed Lord's body had been taken down from the cross and laid in the new tomb of Joseph of Arimathaea everything went quiet.

It was an uneasy peace. Somehow it was not all over. Something was stirring but we did not know what. We were left to think and pray over what we had seen as Jesus in his dying moments suffered extreme agony on that cross.

Now we've come to the Saturday. Everybody who had witnessed Friday's events had now gone home, very sad that they might not see Jesus again. We had to wait in silence and pray for the future. But Jesus was not dead. He descended to hell to preach to the departed there and to tell them that salvation was now possible. They were the first to know that Jesus was alive.

In the words of the author of an ancient homily for today spoken to those in hell by Jesus: "I slept on the cross and a sword pierced my side, for you ..... my sleep will release you from your sleep in Hades....."

"But arise, let us go hence.... I will reinstate you, no longer in paradise, but on the throne of heaven..."

So we wait. In the hours of darkness of the night of Holy Saturday and the early hours of that Sunday morning the greatest event in all human history was about to happen. That was why we were uneasy about the silence of Good Friday night and Saturday. Nothing would ever be the same again. Our salvation has been made possible with what God did to Jesus his Son.

Tomorrow will be a great day of celebration. May we all be richly blessed by God. A happy and blessed Easter to all.