

## Good Friday, 2018

1. When an accident occurs, people tend to stand and watch; some take pictures and send them to groups. Some people take *selfies* too. Good Samaritans are rare on such occasions. There are *apathetic people* – those who are indifferent to what has happened (soldiers who just carried out orders in the passage would be such people). *Sympathetic people* – people with feeling: they weep, feel pity (women of Jerusalem are such). *Empathetic people* – they go beyond feeling level, they share the suffering (Mother Mary and John would be such people). What's happening today is more than an accident, it's more than any drama our eye has ever seen or imagined – It's a drama of LOVE and PAIN, it's a reality of pain and love – are you *apathetic, sympathetic* or *empathetic* about today's drama of pain and love?

2. The Fathers of the Church tell us; You are either a sheep or a goat! It's either you are for him or against him – *uthanda bani, mina lotshwala, uthanda bani....?*(Soul Brothers) *umi loPetro kumbe loJudas?* Looking at the cross makes you either love it or hate it. Where are you? *Khetha/Choose!*

Are you the enemy of the cross or the lover of the cross – where do you stand?

It is encouraging to note: *The lips that curse are the same lips that can bless* - proverb. Nelson Mandela once said; 'If we can teach our children to hate we can teach them to love!' The lips of the centurion used to be anti-Jesus, but today they are blessing Jesus; "Truly this man was the son of God"

Song 1; Remember me, Remember me! *Ungikhumbule, Ungikhumbule*

Song 2; *Ungikhumbule Nkosi yami*

3. It is finished – *tetelestai*; it is done, it is completed. All has been done right. It is wonderful. *Ini basa ndapedza* – for all; Greeks, Hebrews, and Latin speakers - done for all, universal king saviour.

St Joan of Arc died with the words; 'Jesus' on her lips. St John Paul II died saying; 'Let me go to my Father's house' – they had finished! *Kambe* how will I die? What words will be on these lips?

4. If Jesus were to live in our times and probably be a seminarian, how would we treat him – dismiss? If he would be living in South Africa today, most likely he

would be killed – rejected. What if he was to live in Zimbabwe? Probably he would be out of the country – a refugee/*mukwerekwere* – rejection!

End with Song; *O Bantu bami ngenzeni kini na ngalicunula ngani na ngiphenduleni.*