



Read: Luke 23:50-56

A friend of Jesus lays his lifeless body in the garden tomb and the world waits.

In the aftermath of Christ's death the disillusioned disciples have scattered. Their world has become empty of meaning. The promises of their Lord appear to have come to nothing but death. His friends do the only thing they can, they observe the customs of burial and on the Sabbath they rest.

Between Good Friday and Easter Sunday the biblical text is virtually silent. In the silence of that Jewish Sabbath nothing seems to happen. In the empty space there is nothing to do but wait. Some disciples waited in fear and despair, others in grief. Were some, like Joseph of Arimathea, still 'expectantly' waiting for the Kingdom of God? Holy Saturday is a symbol of an empty time and place and an invitation to prayerful anticipation.

Suggestions: Reflect on places that seem empty, situations and people that have had meaning taken away from them, places of hurt and despair. It could be waste ground, a 'peace' wall, a derelict house, a community that has lost hope, a person made numb through grief. With prayerful expectation, go and be physically present and wait to see signs of the Kingdom of God there.

Pray: What is your prayer in this empty space?

Reflect: What previously occupied this place and what might occupy it in the future?

Act: Does your life require more empty space?