

Where's Your Chair?

Monday in
Holy Week



How precious is your loving mercy, O God!
All mortal flesh shall take refuge under the shadow of your wings.
Psalm 36:7

Praising:

Drop, drop, slow tears,
and bathe those beautiful feet,
which brought from heaven
the news and Prince of Peace.

Reading:

John 12:1-11
Mary anoints Jesus

On the one hand, Mary's act of veneration, tenderness and generosity. On the other hand, Judas' attitude of criticism, self-righteousness and meanness. The contrast between these two reactions could not be sharper, though presumably Judas waited before making his complaint to Jesus, rather than create a scene there and then at the table. The truth is, we all fall somewhere on that range between the expressive adoration of Mary and the begrudging resentment of

Judas. But it's clearly Mary's example that we're being encouraged to follow, and this has ramifications on a personal level, not least of all with regard to how we worship and how we pray. Christ is inviting us to approach him in a spirit of freedom, honesty and intimacy. If we say that we love him, he wants us to show it.

Listening:

Praying:

Lord as we come before your Son who died for the world

- release us to worship you with heart and soul, mind and strength
- free us from a spiritual self-consciousness which holds us back and reins us in
- move us by the love and sacrifice which shed its blood all the way to death

Father: forgive me for feeling nervous, awkward, and self-regarding in your presence, especially since all you have ever shown me is gentleness, acceptance and self-giving.
Amen

Doing:

Monday, 21 March 2016