

## Some reflections and activities for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020

This day has come to be known as Passion Sunday. When Jesuit missionaries went to the Americas they used *Passiflora*, the Passion Flower, as a teaching aid and symbol of Christ's suffering on the Cross.

The exact details of this interpretation differ from one account to another, but next time you look at the blooms of this woody vine, see if you can spot:

- Its topmost stigma, representing the nails
- Stamens, representing the wounds of Jesus
- Radial filaments, representing the crown of thorns
- Lance-like leaves, representing the spear that pierced Christ's side

Today's Gospel reading tells the story of Lazarus (John 11:1-45) who is raised from the dead, prefiguring the risen Christ of our coming Eastertide. Elsewhere on this website you will find Bible study materials relating to all three readings for this Sunday.

In addition to this, we have posted some links to poems and paintings on the Lazarus theme, as an aid to reflection on this story, followed by some activities for smaller people.

### Poems

<https://www.commonwealmagazine.org/two-poems-resurrection-i-lazarus>

<https://www.poetrynook.com/poem/stephen-lazarus>

### Lazarus in art

<https://collections.lacma.org/node/238402>

<https://www.artfund.org/supporting-museums/art-weve-helped-buy/artwork/2225/the-raising-of-lazarus>

<https://www.kimbellart.org/collection/apx-197501>

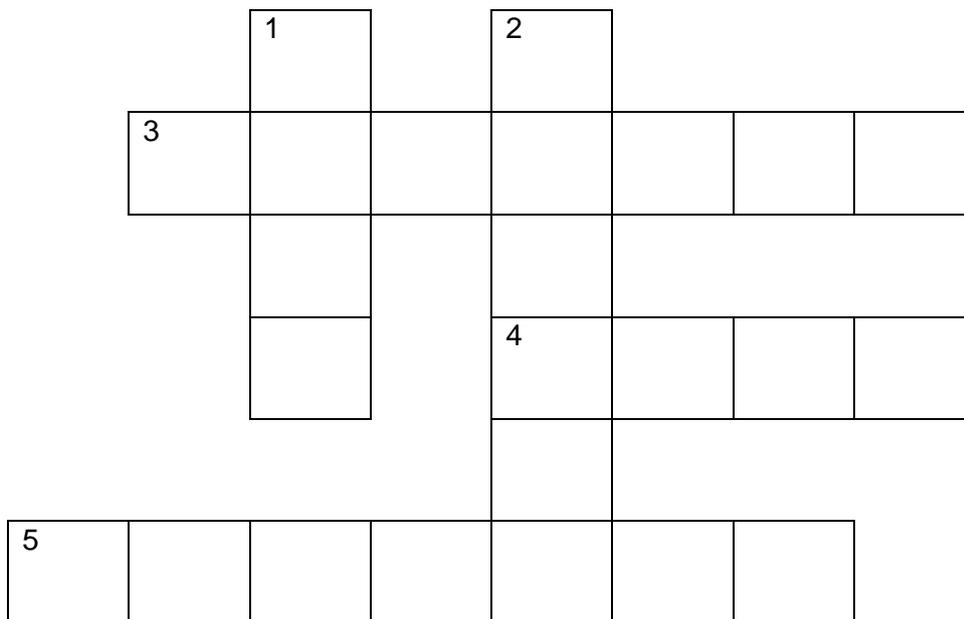
<https://thesketchline.com/en/pictures/the-resurrection-of-lazarus/>

## The story of Lazarus

Jesus had three special friends in Bethany: Mary & Martha and their brother Lazarus. He used to stay at their house when he was visiting Jerusalem. One day, a message came to Jesus that Lazarus was very ill, but instead of setting off straight away, Jesus and his disciples waited for two days.

When they got to Mary & Martha's village, Lazarus had already died and had been buried. Martha met Jesus in the street, and said, "If you had been here, my brother would not have died!" Jesus replied, "I am the resurrection and the life. Do you believe this?" "Yes, Lord," Martha said. At that moment, Mary arrived, and said to him, "If you had been here, my brother would not have died!" Jesus, seeing how sad she was, wept with her, and they walked together to the grave.

Lazarus had been buried in a tomb hollowed out from the rock, and there was a large stone across the opening. Jesus ordered the bystanders to roll the stone away, and with a loud voice, he called out, "Lazarus, come out!" And Lazarus walked out of the tomb alive.



**ACROSS** 3. Who was very ill? 4. Where was his body laid? 5. Where did Jesus's friends live?

**DOWN** 1. Sister of Lazarus 2. Another sister of Lazarus

## Caterpillar to butterfly

When a caterpillar makes a cocoon around itself it looks as if it is dead. Some time later it emerges as a beautiful butterfly.

Try making your own:

### Caterpillar

You will need:

- Some craft paper in different colours (old magazine pages also work, but ask first!)
- Scissors you can use safely
- Pencils or felt pens
- An A4 sheet of white paper
- Glue stick
- A bottle top to use as a template

1. Draw round your template to make 10-12 circles.
2. Cut each circle out.
3. Arrange the paper circles in a wiggly shape like a caterpillar across the A4 sheet, slightly overlapping.
4. Glue them down.
5. Draw a smile face on the head of the caterpillar and add two antennae.

There are two ways of making a butterfly - one messier than the other! The paint method will be easier for smaller people.

### Butterfly hand-prints

You will need:

- Paint
- An A4 sheet of paper
- A chunky paintbrush
- Protective clothing
- Lots of newspaper!

1. Cover a surface with sheets of old newspaper

2. Fold your A4 sheet of paper (landscape) in half with a vertical fold down the middle.
3. Flatten it out again.
4. Cover the palm and fingers of one hand with paint and press your hand down on the paper with thumbs just touching the fold and fingers spread out, to make the first 'wing'.
5. Remove your hand and quickly fold the other half of the paper down on your palm print before it dries.
6. Dip one thumb in a darker paint and make a head and body for the butterfly down the central fold with thumbprints.
7. Once the paint is dry you can draw in antennae for your butterfly and a smiley face and decorate the wings as you please.

### Another method

You will need:

- A large sheet of plain paper
  - An A4 sheet of coloured paper (make sure it is the same colour when reversed)
  - A scissors you can use safely
  - Pencil
  - A glue stick
  - Things to decorate your butterfly: e.g. sequins; mini pom-poms; confetti; scraps of coloured paper
1. Fold the coloured paper in half.
  2. Place your non-writing hand flat down on it with fingers spread out and carefully draw round your hand,
  3. Carefully keeping both halves of paper together, cut round the outline, through both layers of paper. You should end up with two hand-shapes for 'wings'.
  4. Lay your plain paper flat and position your cut-outs down on it, symmetrically like a butterfly's wings.
  5. When you're happy with how they look, gum them down on the paper sheet.
  6. Use contrasting paper to cut out a butterfly 'body' and head. Stick these down between the wings. Draw in antennae & a smiley face.
  7. Decorate your handprint butterfly to make it beautiful.