3rd April 2023 – Monday of Holy Week

Gift

"While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table."

From Matthew 26

In my book of contemporary parables, *A Blessing to Follow,* I wrote a story about "Granny Cameron". When I was a parish minister, she was a lady I found it hard to like at first, but whom I came to love deeply because of all the support she gave me.

Here's the poem I wrote to accompany that story. It came to mind when I reflected on the gift a woman gave when she anointed Jesus, in a story which is inextricably linked to the Holy Week drama. If she – and Granny Cameron – had something to give, don't we?

You may not know me,
but I have something to share…
You may not like me,
but I have something so rare…
You may not want me,
but I have something that's new…
You may not need me,
but I have something for you.

For when you know me,
you'll find the something I share…
And when you like me,
you'll find the something so rare…
And when you want me,
you'll find the something that's new…
And when you need me,
you'll find the something's for you.

So, now you know me,
you'll feel the living I share…
And when you like me,
you'll find compassion so rare…
And if you want me,
you'll know commitment that's new…
I know you need me,
so I give my loving to you.

A prayer for today

The gift of love, accepted, used well and passed on – so that we all benefit. Amen

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