

Enrichment: Prayer

The Sufferings of Christ

This is an image of the Shroud of Turin. Rediscovered in the fourteenth century, the Shroud is thought to be the cloth that Jesus was wrapped in after He was crucified. If you look closely, you will see the imprint of the front of a body. The Shroud also shows wounds that match the Passion of Christ as told in the Gospels.

Reflection on the Crown of Thorns

Begin the reflection with the Sign of the Cross.

Look closely and you can see a face on the Shroud. This face is thought to be the face of Jesus. The same face that looked upon sinners with mercy was crowned with thorns.

- Look at the top of His head. We can see close to seventy individual wounds from a crown of thorns.
- The wounds extend from just above the brow to the *top* of the head. Thus, we learn that the crown was more than a band. It resembled a cap that covered the *entirety* of the head.
- The thorns were very long and sharp.

The mocking soldiers were trying to make fun of Jesus' kingship by putting a crown of thorns on His head.

- Jesus Christ is the King of Kings. He is King of the entire universe! Yet He was a King who was willing to sacrifice Himself for His people. He gave His life to save us from our sins and lead us to Heaven.
- While He has complete power, He doesn't force His rule upon us. He came to serve, and He *invites* us to follow Him and love Him.
- ***How is Jesus, the King of Kings, inviting you to follow Him?***

Sometimes we can forget that Jesus is our King.

- While we don't put a crown of thorns on Jesus' head, we, too, can mock His kingship when we choose to sin and reject His laws and love.
- Through His Death and Resurrection, Jesus has won God's grace for us to overcome and defeat sin in our lives.



Journal Reflection

How does this reflection on the wounds of Jesus in the Shroud of Turin help you appreciate His love for you? Write your answer on the journal page. [Journal pages are available on the parent and student portals.](#)