

Holy Week: Silent Saturday

(For a full account of the events of this day as found in the Gospels, see [Matthew 27:57–66](#), [Mark 15:46](#), [Luke 23:50-56](#), [John 19:38-42](#).)

Less is written about the Saturday following Jesus's crucifixion than any other in the scope of this week. Yet what makes it unique is that this is the only full day in history where the body of Christ lies buried in a cave.

Yesterday, he was crucified. Tomorrow, he rises from the grave. But what about today? What about the silent day? In the silence, the disciple's faith was tested. In the silence, anticipation fell into remorse. In the silence their sorrow deepened.

Can you imagine the feeling that day? Can you picture the scene?

We will go through seasons of silence.

We will have times in our lives in which we can't hear or see our God work.

In seasons of silence, grace speaks louder. Grace to notice things you may not have previously noticed; grace to become aware of God's presence and promises in new ways; grace to remember and believe that God is sovereign in and over the silence.

If you are in a season of silence, keep the faith. These are often a time of waiting. Be patient. Know that God works in times of silence and waiting, shaping and conforming us to his image and likeness.

Reflect on these words from the Apostle Paul regarding the death of Jesus and you:

Romans 6:3–11

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

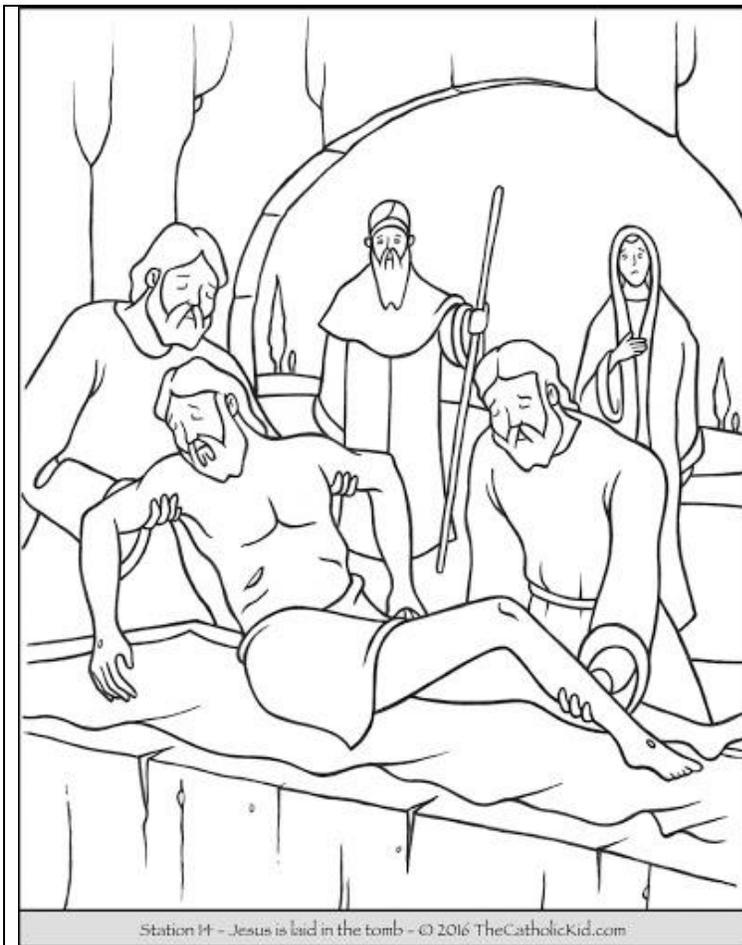
Until tomorrow, you are invited to find moments of silence. Spend time in prayer and reflection on what all happened this passion week.

John 19:38-42 - Jesus' Burial

After all this, Joseph of Arimathea (he was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, because he was intimidated by the Jews) petitioned Pilate to take the body of Jesus. Pilate gave permission. So Joseph came and took the body.

39-42

Nicodemus, who had first come to Jesus at night, came now in broad daylight carrying a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. They took Jesus' body and, following the Jewish burial custom, wrapped it in linen with the spices. There was a garden near the place he was crucified, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been placed. So, because it was Sabbath preparation for the Jews and the tomb was convenient, they placed Jesus in it.



Station 14 - Jesus is laid in the tomb - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com

When Jesus was alive, Joseph of Arimathea was afraid to tell others he was a follower of Jesus. But after Jesus died, Joseph asked Pilate if he could bury Jesus' body.

Wonder why Joseph wanted to do this for Jesus.

What emotions do you think Joseph and Nicodemus are feeling as they buried Jesus?

Where do you think the other disciples were on this day?

How do you think they were feeling?

How does this part of the story make you feel?