Holy Thursday

Foot washing, bread and wine blessed broken and shared at table, lavishly perfumed oil ready in anticipation – these are the images of Holy Thursday evening – the beginning of the church's greatest feast that we call the Triduum. The entire ceremony is about service, service of the one who washed feet, service of the one who shared a final meal with his friends before giving himself in death for the life of those he loved. As we approach this Mass of the Lord's Supper we remember those we lovingly serve. We remember the homeless, refugees, prisoners, those who are ill in mind and body, Aboriginal sisters and brothers, anyone at all who needs our compassionate care. We also remember those beyond our reach, those caught up in war and famine, disease and suffering. For these we can only cry out to others who serve them in the name of our God to wash their wounds, bathe them with soothing oil and to feed and nurture them with the food and drink of sustenance and hope.