

A PROBLEM FOR PETER (based on Mark 14:26-31)

After they finished supper Jesus and his disciples set out for the Mount of Olives. Jesus said, “You will all run away and leave me.”

Peter said, “Even if everyone else runs away I will never leave you.”

Jesus said, “I’m telling you, three times tonight, before the cock crows twice, you will say you do not know me.”

Peter protested, saying, “I will die before I deny you.”

And the other disciples said the same.

GETHSEMANE (based on Mark 14:32-46)

When they reached the place called Gethsemane, Jesus said to his apostles, “Sit here while I go over there to pray.”

He took Peter, James and John with him. He was very frightened and he said to them, “My heart is ready to break. I’m so terrified of what is going to happen to me. You wait here and stay awake.”

He went a little further on, threw himself on the ground and prayed. “Father,” he said, “You can do anything. Take this suffering from me. But I will do what you want, not what I want.”

He came back and found his friends asleep and he said to Peter, “Simon are you asleep? Could you not stay awake even for one hour? Stay awake and pray.”

He went away once more and prayed saying the same words. Then he came back and found them asleep again. They could not keep their eyes open, and they did not know what to say to him.

When he came back a third time he said to them, “You can sleep on now and have your rest. The hour has come. I am going to be betrayed and handed over to violent people. Get up! Let us go! My betrayer is not very far away.”

He was still speaking when Judas, one of the twelve apostles came with some soldiers. They were armed with swords and sticks. They had been sent by the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders. Judas had said to them, ‘The one I kiss is the one you want. Arrest him and make sure he is well guarded as you lead him away’.

As soon as Judas arrived, he went up to Jesus and said, “Rabbi,” and kissed him.

Then they took hold of Jesus and arrested him.