

Fifth Conversation

'Dear Lord, there were a few brave people who tried to comfort you in your Passion—your Mother and other women, Simon from Cyrene... Would I have risked being with them? Nothing they did could save you from torture and death, yet their solidarity must have helped you to continue on your *via dolorosa*, your path of sorrow. But today how shall I help those who are being cruelly treated?

Pope Francis says: **"Injustices abound and growing numbers of people are deprived of basic human rights and considered expendable... This is a summons to solidarity and a preferential option for the poorest of our brothers and sisters." (158).**

Lord, we have 67 million refugees today, wending their way along their own paths of sorrow. I can walk in step with them, even if only in my heart. Let me imagine even one refugee family, with you walking on one side of them, I on the other. Joined with you as you intercede for them, I can pray for them and send them the strength they need to continue. Amen.'

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