

A Footwashing Account People 'come alive' to tell of the Lord's life



Staging: At Gospel Ending--The Women come forth from pews to line up and speak at ambo in their turns. Mary of Jerusalem will lead off, once the Footwashing is ready to begin. The Men Apostles also come up and go to their places on the church steps and take off socks and shoe (or better yet, sandals, if worn). Jude Thaddeus is in first spot. The Priest presider will take off the chasuble and stole to just have on his alb and cincture (and optional apron and sandals) shown. A bowl of water and a footwash basin will accompany Father (Jesus) in his actions. Footwashing will happen from ambo side going forth to piano side. There is a lectern and a stand in the sanctuary center, with a microphone, for the apostles to stand at when they do their speaking parts. The first man to speak is Jude, who will follow Mary of Jerusalem. (Jesus will not start washing feet until the part of Jude has finished his speaking.) Mary speaks at ambo.

Advice for the play: When your particular reading part is coming up, head up early to the ambo/lectern to keep the play moving with pause.

Parts/female(in order of appearance) Mary of Jerusalem (Lizanne), Mary of Bethany (Chidimma), Mary Mother of Jesus (Diane), Mary Magdalene (Leilani), Joanna (Susan), and Mary of Cleophas (Gladys) **Apostle Parts/male (in order)** Jesus (Fr. Barry), Jude Thaddeus (Jude K.), James the Greater (Oscar), Philip (Anthony Ateh), Matthias (Divine), John (Mundi), Simeon (Raymond), Thomas (Anthony Akaili), Nathaniel (Jude A) Ambe), Matthew (Mark), James Son of Alphaeus/Little Jimmy (Leonard), Simon Peter (Vincent), Andrew (Belidus))

women parts>> **Ambo** men's speaking parts **Lectern**

+ men's seated place is at **Sanctuary steps** for Footwashing #1-12

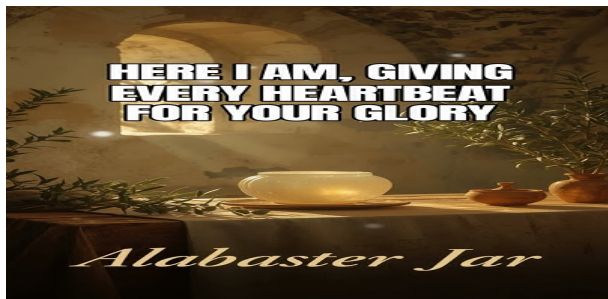
Jude /James/Philip/Matthias/John/Simeon/Thomas/Nathan/Matthew/Jimmy/Peter/Andrew

Mary of Jerusalem (to ambo) Hello, I am Mary of Jerusalem. Welcome to the Footwashing Dramatization. Our play is underfoot! (pause) Yes, I am Mary, a resident of Jerusalem, and did you know it was *my* house that held the “Upper Room?” I lived in it with my son John Mark, known for writing the Gospel of Mark. It was our place that was used as a hidden location for The Last Supper. John Mark carried a water jar as a secret signal for the apostles to find it, for Jesus had pre-arranged that. The water jar then was used by Jesus in the footwashing.

Jude Thaddeus The Apostle I am Jude the Apostle. Jesus had kept the Passover location a secret to the last hour. I learned the reason for it later on; Jesus did it to prevent Judas Iscariot from knowing its place, for the traitor was plotting to have a huge band of soldiers come sieze Jesus that night. You’ll recall the arrest happened later on at night in the garden. Yet Jesus had worked it out to use Mary of Jerusalem’s house, for an undisturbed Last Supper, with only His apostles. I was there, and I am Jude Thaddeus, not to be mistaken for the bad apostle named Judas. Yet Judas, the bad one, was also there for Passover meal, pretending still to be loyal to Jesus, but he was not. *Pronunciation: Thaddeus= THAD-ee-us.

James the Greater Apostle. (he goes up to lectern, takes mike from Jude— he has not had foot washed yet either) I am James the Greater. I don’t like the “greater” title, but it’s used to indicate that I am the apostle named James who was in the inner circle with John and Simon Peter, close to Jesus. At the Last Supper, Jesus started out by saying: “I have so much desired to celebrate this particular Passover with you.” From that point on, I knew it would be a special and unique Passover evening with Him. It would be a New Passover for all time... done in Covenant Love, in Jesus’ own Body and Blood offering to seal it. A loaf of bread to be broken and a common chalice of wine was on the table. Tonight my priesthood would be inaugurated, and the First Mass done here by Jesus in this Upper Room.

Mary of Bethany I am Mary of Bethany, sister to Martha and Lazarus. Because of the danger of Jesus' possible arrest or violence upon us disciples, The Lord sent all of us non-apostles out of the city. He only wanted His Twelve in the Passover meal. I understood that danger, for I knew Jesus was going to die by Friday. I'll explain how I knew it.... If you read Matthew 26, verses 1 and 2, note how Jesus clearly said to us all there on that *Tuesday* before Good Friday these very words: "The Passover is two days away—and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified." I took that literally, and I heard it, and I responded to it by showing forth as much love and thanksgiving as I could do in the moment. We were in a Bethany house of a cured man. I ran home and then back to the place, bringing back my very expensive aromatic nard and I poured it out onto Jesus' feet and even over His head. It was my dear farewell act of love.



Philip the Apostle I am Philip the Apostle. At that event, I was one to protest her extravagant gesture, but I had not been closely listening to Jesus, but Mary of Bethany surely was. I could not comprehend His words about His approaching death. Mary, instead, did believe it. She had sat listening at The Good Teacher Jesus' feet for many lessons, and she was the best listener of us all. I now marvel back at her "ears of faith" and her outpouring gesture of love to Jesus. Last Tuesday, Our Lord had indeed allowed Mary of Bethany to pour out her heart over Him, and make her farewell. Jesus let her do and finish her actions that night in Bethany, and then He told us: "She has anointed Me for my burial." That description befuddled me, until I reached this Upper Room, with Jesus' saying it was our Last Supper. Jesus was going; Mary of

Bethany had been correct. Now I was getting it! So in the Footwashing time, with Jesus washing our feet, I could smell the aromatic nard still on His feet and His body and hair from Mary's act on Tuesday. Mary of Bethany had always chosen the better part. I and the other apostles now chose to let Jesus do this humble footwashing service upon us. Later, He told us, "You will be washing one another's feet ahead, and living in servant-love to one another."

Mary, Mother of Jesus

I am Mary, the Mother of Our Lord Jesus. A Bible verse suits Jesus' feet—it is taken from Isaiah 52. "How lovely are the feet of Him who brings Good News, who comes walking in to deliver Good News, announcing peace, proclaiming glad tidings, of the reign of God that is come." As the Mother of Jesus, the apostles and disciples do all address me simple as "Mother." I am *now* "Mother of The Church," and as Romans 10:14-15 states—and I say in agreement: How beautiful *you* are, in your *walk of faith*, modern believer, who will be true to my Son, and do His will to live and spread His Gospel of Salvation. Your moving forward on your toes for witness to Him make your feet and heart so beautiful. Just let me say this--On this Footwashing night, and in the days beforehand, I knew my Son had now come to the time He had always referred to "His Hour" coming, His time of Sacrifice. Jesus would wash "clean" His apostles feet, of these Twelve who had followed Him from the early days. In the footwashing, Jesus would also tell them of the "dirty" betrayer sitting falsely among them, whose actions would lead to my Son getting crucified. I could sense the devil working on Judas. While I was not physically there in the Upper Room for its Holy Thursday, I was there mystically, because, the moment Judas took the bread morsel from Jesus, I could feel in my heart a pain that would continue right to Calvary and Jesus' piercing. Yes, it was so.

Matthias the Apostle I am Matthias the Apostle. Since Judas Iscariot has left the table already, I will fill in for him here. I was a close disciple

in the company of Jesus; later the apostles elected me as the successor to Judas, to make it as the new number twelve. Acts 1 describes it.

John the Apostle I am John the Apostle. One special thing done for me, Simon Peter and my brother James, was that we three witnessed Jesus' Transfiguration. It would be to strengthen us ahead of time for *these dark hours*, when even we would get so shaken from the Holy Week events. Because of that Transfiguration memory, I leaned on The Lord's breast at the Last Supper table for a word from Him. He whispered to my soul: 'I Am the Holy One of Israel, and I Am the Great High Priest, Who is also Servant of God, Who will confer a new priesthood on you apostles tonight, not as like of Aaron or of Levi's line, but in being as holy ambassadors for Me, The Priest of God...' (Simeon, Thomas and Nathaniel come up while John is sharing his story, they go next)



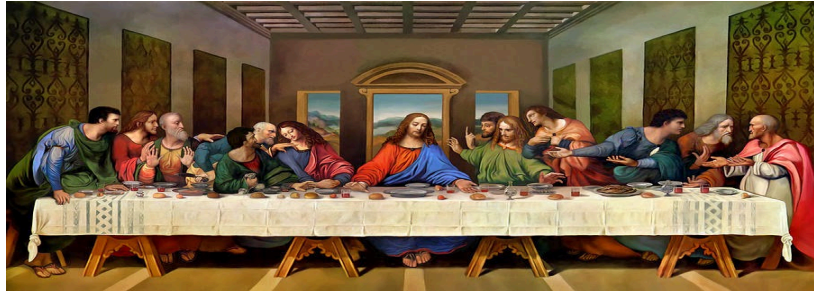
Simeon* the Apostle I am the Apostle Simeon. To continue the description...Jesus then did the Rite of a New

Passover with us in this Upper Room. He said, 'I will show you how to honor My Victim/Sacrifice and My Atonement Offering for humankind, in My New Covenant Rite.'" (pause) Jesus' New Covenant was to give His own Body and Blood up for the worthy part of our salvation, and this Gift was begun at the Last Supper in The Eucharist and via then the ministerial Priesthood being established there in Jesus' Name for The Life of the Church. And that's my Simeon Sum-up! * Simeon= SIM-ee-un.

Thomas the Apostle I am the Apostle Thomas, and what I can add to that--- is what were the most important lines we heard from Jesus at the Last Supper. They were: "Do this in memory of Me, until I come in glory." And—"This IS My Body, This IS My Blood of the New Covenant, to be shed for the forgiveness of sins."

Nathaniel the Apostle I am the Apostle Nathaniel, and some others call me Bartholomew. My observances worth noting to you of Holy Thursday original was of the great non-verbal communication at the Last Supper; as there were signs and connections to earlier Bible revelation, which were now becoming *fulfilled* in Jesus Christ. Like that of Melchizedek's* rite, once done by a priest king to Father Abraham as a peace covenant, there was the bread and wine sign used for God's work back then in Genesis. Yet *now see* how Jesus' own Body and Blood would be transubstantiated to be *signed* in the elements of bread and wine—as a repeat but fuller sign of God's Covenant work. Now you in the Church call it Christ The Sacrament (Melchizekek=mel-KEY-zuh-deck)

Mary Magdalene I am Mary Magdalene, close friend of Jesus and The Chosen. I *got* what Jesus was *doing* at that Last Supper, of moving from Nation Israel's 12 tribes to the 12 apostles going out to all of the earth. Jesus had been already calling them special “messengers,” as His choices for a unique ministry with Him. James' Epistle starts off with that *New 12* image. You just met James, also known as Santiago,* and he is that apostle who went out as far as the Iberian Peninsula with the gospel, which is modern Spain. These priest-apostles were commissioned and so very committed to their Lord Jesus! Except that traitor Judas Iscariot! John Mark later told me of how he saw Judas suddenly exit a side door in haste from the Upper Room, with a haunting look on his face, like that of being possessed of the devil himself. I, Mary of Magdala, once had some demons in me, but they were removed out by Jesus. I, surely, am one of Jesus' followers to know of the fight going on between the darkness and the Light of God. I have won the victory in Jesus! Santiago is Sahn-tee-AH-go Magdalene= MAG-duh-leen.



Simon Peter I am Simon Peter, given the keys to the kingdom by Christ, when He named me The Rock. He said to us that He would build up a universal church, or the word actually is ekklesia*, in Greek, meaning the assembly of believers. Jesus was *assembling* together believers in Him. In Hebrew, the word for church was kahal*, meaning the grouping of believers by Christ, to Christ, in Christ, for Christ to the Father. In this Upper Room, tonite, Jesus began it all liturgically. Liturgy and Worship are highly important things for Christ' Church. Indeed, Jesus' last official farewell included the Church's First Holy Mass. Our Salvation is all tied into what is celebrated in Mass and its true worship to God. Jesus has 'grouped us' together in liturgy to become His body. Catch on to that truth, Church! Ekklesia==Ekk-CLAY-see-uh. Kahal = Kuh-HALL

Joanna I am Joanna, and a member of the First Church Jesus founded! I was in the public ministry of Jesus, too, as a supporter to the Jesus and the Twelve. Being the wife of Chuza, I had some influence, connections, and later was one to financially help The Twelve and the early Church. Why so? It was in my own *thanksgiving* to Jesus, which is the same word as Eucharist, by the way. I was cured by Jesus, and I'd never be the old me anymore. I travelled with Jesus and His closest followers in those final days, right to beneath His Cross. I also am of the many who saw the Risen Jesus. All whom you meet in this play, know that *we met* the Redeemer and King of Kings ourselves. Chuza= KOO-zuh)



Andrew the Apostle: I am Andrew the Apostle, Brother to the Rock. In The Upper Room, for our Holy Pasch, * the footwashing part was a surprise part in it. If I had known that Jesus was going to do it, then I'd have washed my feet outside beforehand! I know people at these church footwashing's always do ☺ and when women are added in the ritual I note that some of their feet are directly from a nail salon that week! Yeah. Yet, take *my* situation: I had no prep time to *ready my feet*. When Jesus asked to wash them, mine were really dirty and it was a bit humiliating to have Jesus do it, with their smell, and with the cuts and blood blisters on my soles. I was caught unguarded, but even humbled much more by the words Jesus spoke about a servanthood spirit needed for our coming priesthood, even in imitation of His servant heart. Wow. Pasch== Pahsk.

Matthew

I am Matthew, and you may know me as the writer of a Gospel. I was there at the footwashing, too, although my gospel doesn't mention that event. Yet I *did* include some other interesting angles about Jesus' last days. For example, if you read chapter 21 of my gospel, I show the Lamb connection in Jesus' triumphal entrance into Jerusalem on the 10th of Nisan, in that it corresponded to this *same day of the year* when the Jewish authorities were inspecting lambs for the Passover sacrifice to be without fault or blemish. Lambs from places like the nearby hills of Bethlehem. Where Jesus came from at His birth—by the way! Jesus' New Pasch had a special lamb at it, and it was Him!(pause) I have lots of spiritual nuggets like that in my Gospel.

James, Son of Alphaeus I am the apostle named Little James or Little Jimmy. I've been called Jesus' brother by some, but I am actually His cousin. My father Alphaeus, and Jesus' step father Joseph are brothers. Mary the Mother of Jesus and Mary of Cleophas, or Alphaeus, are related as well. My parents were ardent disciples of Jesus—they believed He was the Messiah. I believed it, too. It's nice when one's family are on the same page with the area of faith. I had that. My father was the same man who met Jesus Risen on the Road to Emmaeus* and recognized Him in the Breaking of the Bread. My mom was at the Cross with those brave few there; she also came to the tomb with Mary of Magdala on that First Easter day, seeing it empty. Then I saw Jesus in the Upper Room—Easter day. 'Pretty awesome! Cleophas ==CLOW-paz Alphaeus==Al-FAY-us Apostles are all now getting socks and shoes back on for finish.

Mary of Cleophas/Alphaeus I am Little Jimmy's mom. Hi son! He is now Father Jimmy and "Saint James" in one of the twelve chairs about Jesus' throne. "St. James Place" may also be a spot on the Monopoly board, but this property of heaven that my apostle son has is a St. James place of honor, which the Bible describes as near to Christ' Throne and as a very blessed honor to Jesus' original band. These apostles were set apart for ministerial work for Jesus, the High Priest. On *this* night. Jesus ordained Jimmy. He laid hands on him and breathed upon him. John 20:22 describes it. This ministry of priest will last to the end of the world, to wherever and whenever Jesus needs special servants to His Church. So celebrate it tonite. Also, come to be with the Lord regularly in Holy Mass and Adoration of the Holy Eucharist, honoring what has been established for all of you, on that original Holy Thursday for us. It is Jesus' special treasure given for you to be with Him presently in a special way, as well as a means to prepare you for the Heavenly Liturgy to come! Thank you.

This ends our dramatization ## \