

## Closing Prayer for 3/26/2017

after Linda Merrill's "Faces at the Cross"

God, you have shown us that "The Faces at the Cross" are indeed OUR faces. But...

Our faces are not just the Bystander, Mary, Simon, Peter or Pilate.

Our faces fail to show up at the hospital.

Our faces are angry when other drivers cut us off.

Our faces don't show compassion when someone is insulted.

Our faces only show our favorite red or blue, leaving out many who don't share our political persuasion.

Our faces deny you 3 times before we come to church.

God, our help in ages past,  
God of the sparrow, God of the whale,  
God of glory, Lord of love,  
God, from whom all blessings flow,

Help us remember that you have forgiven our sins  
by sacrificing your Son.

Help us honor all of your creations, not just those we love.

Help us show the joy that all Christians experience at Easter.

Help us remember, in the words of St. Francis, that  
"it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

Amen.