

# FATHER STEVE'S GOOD FRIDAY REFLECTION

**Laid Down in Weakness,  
Raised Up in Christ's Strength**



One of the most profound moments of my priesthood comes on Good Friday, when I lay prostrate before the altar, and every time I do, I am taken back to the day of my ordination. I remember a friend once telling me, “I laid down broken and rose fulfilled,” and I have never forgotten it. As I get older, it gets harder to lay on that floor, and even harder to get back up, and in that moment I cannot help but think of the suffering Jesus endured, how he willingly stepped forward, knowing what was to come, and gave everything without holding back. There is a deep awareness of my own weakness, my own limits, and yet at the same time a quiet fulfillment in knowing I have been called to give my life in service. Like Christ, who handed himself over in love, the priest is asked to lay it all down, not in defeat, but in trust, believing that what is offered to God will be taken up and made whole.