

I am giving up for Lent.

I hear the news, there is trouble in the world such as intolerance look at Syria, the Middle East and Pakistan. Christian, Jews and Muslims unable to be the people that they want to be and unable to follow their beliefs.

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There is Ebola in Africa, 1000s have died, innocent people ravaged by pain and fever, uncontrollable bleeding and eventually death. It sounds like a disease of Biblical proportions.

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Car crashes, people dying, people injured and many both physically and mentally hurt. The guilt of the driver, the anguish of the passengers, families destroyed by the action of one person.

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Babies dying from malnutrition, cancer taking over people's lives, old people suffering from loneliness, addictions of alcohol and drugs.

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Why am I giving up for Lent?

What am I giving up on?

Am I giving up on the people suffering?

Am I giving up on my neighbour?

Am I giving up on my friend?

Jesus didn't give up. Jesus prayed, Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

Jesus didn't give up Jesus wept at the death of Lazarus his friend.

Jesus didn't give up Jesus healed the sick, the leper, the one that no one would talk to or go near.

Jesus didn't give up, Jesus fed the hungry, 5000 people gathered together, hungry for food and hungry for his word.

Jesus didn't give up, Jesus loved those whom nobody else would love.

Jesus didn't give up, Jesus didn't give up on humanity, Jesus has not given up on us.

*Written by Rev'd Margaret Young*

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