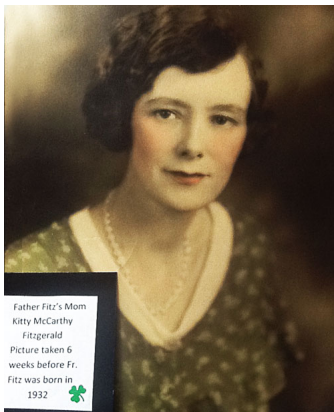


**The last words of Jesus from the cross were:**

**"Woman, behold your son."**



**From my own mother:**

**"To the many women over a lifetime who have befriended, given solace and support, wonderful meals, and the hospitality of your table and home to my Kitty's son:**

**Mother's Day Blessings!"**

**Do not let your hearts be troubled,...In my Father's *house* there are many dwellings."**

**Thus speaks Jesus in today's Gospel.**

**It is interesting that Jesus speaking of our ultimate destiny, uses the image of a house which will be a home.**

**A home where our hearts will find solace and "not be troubled."**

**And we know in that house we will also find a mother:**

**Mary, the Mother of Mercy.**

**On this earth she knew what it meant to be a "home maker."**

**I have twice had the privilege of visiting "Mary's House" located in the hills above Ephesus in Asia Minor where Mary made a home with the apostle John.**

**Today, we honor her and all good mothers living and deceased.**

**And so we pray:**

**Hail Holy Queen,**

**Mother of Mercy!**

**Our life, our sweetness, and our Hope:**

**Hold all our mothers,**

**living and deceased,**

**with a mother's love,**

**close to your heart.**

**on this their special day.**

**Amen**