



THE PERFUME OF MARY

Slide 1

Today is our 61st broadcast “1, 2, 3 RACONTE”, for you children but also for our relatives and friends.

We are going to find Jesus with his friends, people **Slide 2** he has healed, people he has blessed. They are going to thank him each in their own way. A woman has chosen to give Him **Slide 3** the most precious thing she owns, her treasure. So, without delay, let's listen to Françoise who will tell us this story that you will find **Slide 4** in the Gospel of Mark at the beginning of chapter 14.

Slide 5 A GIFT FOR JESUS

In six days, it will be the great feast of the Passover. **Slide 6** Jesus is in Bethany, a small village near Jerusalem. **Slide 7** Simon lives in this village. He says to Jesus:

Slide 8 - Come to my house with your disciples, I invite you. I have prepared a great meal. It's a joy and an honor for me to welcome you. I've been so happy **Slide 9** since you cured me of leprosy. Before, I was forced to live far from my family, my friends. I was in terrible pain. I was finished and you saved me **Slide 10** I thank you infinitely!

Among the guests, **Slide 11** there is Lazarus. In Bethany, he has always been well known and **Slide 12** his two sisters, Martha and Mary as well. But now they are talking about him in Jerusalem and all over the country.

Slide 13 - Do you know what happened in Bethany? People say.

Slide 14 - Yes! This is where Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. This man had been dead for four days!

Slide 15 - What a miracle! I believe that Jesus is a messenger from God. **Slide 16** But the leaders of the synagogue are trying to arrest him. It's terrible! **Slide 17** And yet he only does good.

Slide 18 Indeed, the priests have decided to arrest Jesus and put him to death but they don't know how to do it:

Slide 19 - It must be done in secret they say to themselves, because since the resurrection of Lazarus, more and more people are following Him. There could be a riot, a violent demonstration."

Slide 20 At Simon's, the meal continues. Lazarus is happy to share these moments with Jesus. He is so grateful to Him that He resurrected him. **Slide 21** His sister Martha is there too, of course! She is very busy preparing food and serving guests:

- I owe Him everything, she often repeats. **Slide 22** He brought back to life to my brother who was dead.

Slide 23 And Mary, where is she? Didn't she come to meet Jesus?

Oh! **Slide 24** She's not far. She is getting ready. In her own way, she will tell Jesus how much she loves him, how grateful she is to Him. **Slide 25** Look here she comes She doesn't make any noise. She delicately holds in her hands the most precious thing she has, all her treasure, a magnificent alabaster flask. **Slide 26** She draws near to Jesus, places herself behind him. She breaks the cap of the bottle. Immediately, in the house, a delicious odour spreads. Her bottle contains a perfume of great quality. She pours some on Jesus' head, **Slide 27** then she kneels down and pours some more on His feet. **Slide 28** And wipes them with her long hair.

Jesus says nothing. **Slide 29** The astonished guests look. The disciples whisper among themselves:

Slide 30 - But, what is Mary doing! Breaking a vase of this price and emptying all the perfume, but **Slide 31** this is insane! She could have poured only a few drops. It was enough!

Slide 32 This is such waste!

Among them **Slide 33** is Judas. He doesn't really love Jesus. He had always hoped that Jesus would become king and he would be a very powerful and above all very rich minister:

Slide 34 - What a waste! He says. This perfume was worth over three hundred denarii, the salary of a whole year's work! This woman would have done better giving it to us. **Slide 35** We could have sold it and given the money to the poor.

Is Judas really concerned about the poor? No! Not at all, he's a thief. He thinks about this money he could have put in his pocket. He is very angry.

Slide 36 Mary has heard. Her joy is gone. She lowers her head. She is on the verge of tears.

Slide 37 Jesus begins to speak:

Slide 38 - Why are you upsetting this woman? **Slide 39** She did a good deed. There will always be poor people in your midst. You will give money to them but, I will not always be with you. **Slide 40** Mary did what she could. Do you know why she did this?

Slide 41 She has perfumed my body because I will soon die. Listen carefully to what I'm going to tell you. What Mary has just done today will never be forgotten. All over the world, it will be told.

The disciples bow their heads. They are ashamed.

Slide 42 Suddenly a man gets up. **Slide 43** His face is hard, closed. He comes out of the house and leaves in the night. It's Judas. **Slide 44** He goes to meet the enemies of the Lord, the heads of the synagogue and says:

Slide 45 - How much will you give me if I help you to arrest Jesus without people knowing?

Slide 46 - Thirty pieces of silver!

Slide 47 - It's a deal! When the time comes, I will let you know.

Slide 48 He leaves them and **Slide 49** returns to Jesus as if nothing had happened Nobody knows what he has just done except Jesus who knows everything. He does not say anything.

Slide 50 Mary is happy. She wanted to show Jesus how much she loves him. She did what she could and Jesus told her how much **Slide 51** He appreciates her gift.

And you see, even today, the story of Mary's **Slide 52** perfume is told just as Jesus had announced!

Slide 53 **1, 2 3, 4 AND YOU AND ME!**

Mary listened to her heart. She did all she could to show Jesus how much she loved him.

Slide 54 *She gave him the most precious thing she had and Jesus understood her message. He received her gift with joy. He stood up for her in front of everyone else. You remember what he said? "What Mary has done is good. **Slide 55** It was a good deed! "*

*And you, what can you offer Jesus to show him that you love him? What is the most precious thing you have? **Slide 56** Your life! Your heart!*

*So you can say to him: **Slide 57** "Jesus, I give you my life, I give you my heart."*

Slide 58 4, 3, 2, 1 AND WE PARENTS!

*I really like these words of Jesus: "Why are you upsetting this woman, she did all she could». We too can also hurt our children **Slide 59** if we don't pay enough attention to what they are doing to express their attachment to Jesus. It's up to us **Slide 60** to understand that behind their actions, their words, there is an expression of love even if in our eyes they may seem worthless, **Slide 61** maybe even ridiculous Let us be careful not to hurt them and let us encourage them to express to Jesus their gratitude and love.*

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