

006 DAMASCUS
(softly, from behind)
Amen...

007 TARCISIUS
Damascus, I didn't hear you come
in.

008 DAMASCUS
I didn't want to interrupt your
prayer.

009 TARCISIUS
You could interrupt. God would
understand.

010 DAMASCUS
I want to tell you how proud I am
of you for agreeing to take the
Eucharist to the Centurion.

011 TARCISIUS
Receiving Jesus in Holy Communion
is the best thing that has ever
happened to me. And it's all
because of you.

012 DAMASCUS
I did nothing...

013 TARCISIUS
But you did! You shared your joy of
Jesus with me. As I did with Cato.
I wish we could shout it from the
highest points of Rome.

SFX: A WOODEN DOOR OPENS.

014 LIVIA
There are my two sons -- back where
they belong.

015 DAMASCUS
I am out of jail now. But it
doesn't mean that I won't return.
Emperor Valerian is determined to
punish all Christians.

016 LIVIA
We must continually ask for God's
protection over us. You'll lead us
in this prayer as a priest,
Damascus.

(MORE)

LIVIA (CONT'D)

I can only imagine what your father would say about all of this.

017 DAMASCUS

Mamma, I learned something when I was in prison. It's about Pappa.

018 TARCISIUS

What about Pappa?

019 DAMASCUS

I met a prisoner who thought he knew him. They were arrested and jailed together eight years ago.

020 **LIVIA**

And?

021 DAMASCUS

And he said this man -- who might have been Pappa -- fell ill and died in prison shortly after being arrested.

022 TARCISIUS

Poor, Pappa. Are you okay, Mamma?

023 **LIVIA**

I've prepared for this moment for so long...

024 DAMASCUS

I struggled whether or not to tell you this news.

025 **LIVIA**

No! No more secrets. Maybe now we can all have some peace and not spend our days hoping and wondering.

026 DAMASCUS

Pappa lived and died proclaiming Jesus.

027 TARCISIUS

And he's been watching over us for all these years. I feel it.

028 **LIVIA**

And he'll watch over you as you perform your holy task today.

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