

An Encounter with Homeless Jesus

by Erika Fuhr, a Lady of Charity in Knoxville

Recently on a Saturday afternoon, I cracked a can of Fresca as I left Ladies of Charity after working what was a very busy day in the warehouse. As the overhead door came down behind me, I glanced around the parking lot as I always do and saw no one as I started to walk to my car. As I was about to take the first long draw from the cold can a man was suddenly three feet from me and said “Are you closed?” I told him we were closed and asked him what he needed. He was a tall, thin man, carrying a bag, had a full matted beard and appeared very dirty. He said, “I need something to drink, I am so thirsty.” I instinctively gave him my can of Fresca. He took me in his arms, gave me a long hug, and kept saying “thank you, thank you.” I watched him drink deeply from the can as he walked away and then I went to my car. As I drove down the alley, I was overcome with tears as I suddenly had the realization that I had just seen Jesus.

