Granville Catholic Church Record

Vol. 7. No. 15

April 10, 2021

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish

PALM SUNDAY of the PASSION OF THE LORD

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

The Beginning of Holy Week

Today, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, inaugurates Holy Week because today we celebrate the entrance of the Lord into Jerusalem, where He will face His passion and death. The reenactment of His entry is marked by the sacramental of these blessed palms or olive branches, carried by us, the 'children of the Hebrews.'

The Processions

This procession of Christ the King is the first of a series of processions of Holy Week and the Triduum by which we are carried to Today the procession of Easter. palms, on Holy Wednesday the procession of the sacred oils used for the year to come in the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, ordination, and the anointing of the sick, on Holy Thursday, the procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose at which we watch and wait with the Lord in the Garden of Gethsemane during his agony, on Good Friday the procession and veneration of the Holy Cross on which hung the world's salvation,

as well as the procession of the Blessed Sacrament for the reception of Holy Communion as no Mass is ever celebrated on that day, and at the vigil of Easter the procession of the paschal candle imaging the breaking into our darkness of the light of Christ.

Our birth into this world inaugurates the great procession of our life by which we move through this world, seeking out our salvation, until we reach the gates of heaven.

The Tree

Throughout our life we are lifted by joy and marred by tragedy, and often the two seem to come as one. The palms and olive branches of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem gives way to the palms and olive trees of the Garden of Gethsemane in which He endures His agony. The tribulation of the crowds hailing Christ as the King becomes the tirade of the crowds demanding His death. He who gave sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, life to the dead, and freed so many possessed by demons now suffers His own death.

The Sacred Triduum

Holy Week closes Lent and opens up to the Triduum, the three days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. But these are not three separate occasions but instead they form a unity, a single celebration of our salvation. There is no choice to be made as to which of the three days we attend. We attend them all because to miss even one of those days would be like walking out in the middle of a movie: we will never really know what's going on or what's happened.

This singular mystery of these three days must be confronted so that it may overwhelm us, so that we might be carried along in prayer and lowered to the grinding pains of hell and raised high to the glories of paradise. We must stand present, attentive, conscious to the working out by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit of our redemption and fall on our knees in wonder and awe, so that we might stand forever with all the angels and saints, with God our Father, with Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, in the kingdom of heaven forever.

THE PARISH OFFICE

Address

200 The Trongate, South Granville, N.S.W. 2142

T 0497 190 444E granville@parracatholic.org

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Andrew Bass PP

Business and Projects Manager John Portelli

Director of Music John Portelli

Catechist Co-ordinator Lana Leatherby

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator Rosette Chidiac

Online and Social Media Co-ordinators Rosette Chidiac John Portelli

Piety Shop Claudette Takchi Annette Wirz

Missionary Sisters of Mary, Queen of the World — Australia Sr. Justina Pham | T (02) 9637-1827

Principal of Holy Family School Cheryl Fortini

Acting Principal of Holy Trinity School Shauna Nash

Acting Principal of Delany College Shauna Nash

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton, John Augustus, Frank Azzopardi, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, Vincenzo Colosimo, Marcus El-Khoury, Lucy Farrugia, Carmel Galea, Evangeline Grabato, John Graham, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins, Therese Khalil, Kay King, Ruth La Rosa, Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro, Ester Matos, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Tony Moussa, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Flory Pinto, Don Provest, Therese Smeal, Ricardo Tognini, Lorraine Vella, Sam Wardan.

Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,

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by the grace of your Holy Spirit cure the weaknesses of your servants, and mercifully restore them to full health. St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m. Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Thursday, 9:15 a.m. Friday, 9:15 a.m. Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m Sunday, 7:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Confessions Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Holy Rosary Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass Second and fourth Sunday of the month, 11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Readers 8:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m.

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950 Account: 00007247 Name: Granville Catholic Parish

SOCIAL MEDIA

holycrossgranville.org.au



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- 😥 🛛 Holy Cross Parish App

@holycrossgranville

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, 8:15 a.m. Thursday, 8:15 a.m. Friday, 8:15 a.m. Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Sunday, 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Confessions Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin First Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass Second and last Sunday of the month, 11:30 a.m.

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 3: Mary Dao and the Vietnamese community

Readers As rostered for the Sacred Triduum

IN MEMORIAM

Attard Family, Axiak Family, Danny Azan, Miklina Azzopardi, Victor Azzopardi, Bonello Family, Betty Borg, Kathleen Bradbery, Paul Bradbery, Dick Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vince Cahill, Phyllis May Denmeade, Maria Gambin, Bruce Gardiner, Maureen Gardiner, Antonia Gatt, Joe Grech, Mary Grech, Sam Grech, Kathleen Gunderson, Simon Haddad, Kelvin Huitt, Joe Joseph, May Joseph, Nouhad Khoury, Mary Lam, Anthony Magro, Roy McDonald, Betty McGrath, Aileen McIntyre, Jean Newell, Tony Newell, Haydee Nursoo, Neville O'Sullivan, Doris Pickering, Robert Pidgeon, Peter Robertson, Grace Saliba, Anna Saunig, Gilda Stillen, Emmanuel Tabone, Joseph Vella, Graham Wales, Dib Zaiter.

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Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.



Join us again this year for our annual Good Friday "Cross Walk" from Holy Trinity Church to Holy Family Church as we pray the Stations of the Cross in commemoration of the Passion and Crucifixion of Our Lord.

The walk will begin at Holy Trinity Church at 5:00 p.m. and will move through the streets of Granville, stopping at people's houses as we pray the Stations of the Cross, and then conclude at Holy Family Church.

This is a beautiful and powerful way to make known the faith of Our Lord to the world and to draw us into the sufferings of Christ.

So join us as we walk as Holy Cross Parish seeking to honour Our Lord and to witness to the salvation won for us and make it known to the world.

Daily Mass and Confession Schedule for This Week

Holy Mass will not be said on Tuesday evening at Holy Trinity Church as we will pray the solemn office of Tenebrae at 7:00 p.m.

On Wednesday evening at Holy Family Church, there will be no Mass or confessions as the Chrism Mass will be celebrated at St. Patrick's Cathedral. There will, be a morning Mass at Holy Trinity Church at 8:15 a.m.

On Thursday morning, Holy Mass will not be said at either Holy Trinity Church or Holy Family Church as the Mass of that day is the Mass of the Lord's Supper which will be said at Holy Family Church at 6:00 p.m. and at Holy Trinity Church at 7:30 p.m.

Confirmation Enrolments Close Today

Enrolment applications for the Sacrament of Confirmation will close today.

Those who wish to have their child enrolled in this Sacrament and have not done so as yet should speak with Fr. Andrew.

First Confession and First Holy Communion Enrolments

Enrolments are now open for the Sacrament of Penance (first Confession) and the Sacrament of the Eucharist (first Holy Communion).

The Masses for the first Holy Communions will be said on Saturday, 15 October and Saturday, 22 October.

Enrolments are open to those in year 3 and above who have been Baptised in the Catholic Church.

Enrolment forms are available from Fr. Andrew after Mass and must be completed and returned by Sunday, 26 June.

New Parish Bank Account Details

If you would like to make a contribution, either regularly or as a one-off, the new bank account details for the parish are:

BSB: 067-950

account number: 00007247 **account name**: Granville Catholic Parish of the Holy Cross

So that we can acknowledge your donation, please include your surname and a note, or your planned giving envelope number in the reference.

Thank you to all those who contribute regularly to the second collection in support of the parish, either by planned giving envelopes or by direct debit. Your regular giving is of great support to the parish and helps is to continue our work.

TENEBRAE

TUESDAY, 12 APRIL at 7:00 p.m.

This Tuesday evening at Holy Trinity Church, we will pray the ancient Office of Tenebrae, a service of psalms and hymns lit by candlelight.

With a dimly-lit church, a rarely-seen candle holder, sombre tones, and a candle hidden away, Tenebrae is a unique and special liturgy in the calendar of the Roman Catholic Church.



The name Tenebrae comes from the Latin word for "darkness" or "shadows".

A major feature of the service is the progressive extinguishing of candles as the psalms and readings progress, until only a single candle —a symbol of Christ—remains. For a brief time towards the end of the service we remain in darkness, meditating upon the mystery of Christ's death and the apparent victory of darkness and evil in our lives, only to be startled by a loud noise—the "strepitus"—symbolising the earthquake at the time of the Resurrection.

It is a beautiful and moving service that draws us into the depths of Holy Week as the candles are slowly extinguished reminding us of the darkness of the Passion and Cross as we await the light of the Resurrection.

So join the parish on Tuesday evening to pray and to enter more fully into Holy Week.

HOLY CROSS PARISH, GRANVILLE



10 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH 4:30PM - VIGIL MASS 8:30AM - HOLY MASS 5PM - HOLY MASS

Sat 9th April

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH 6PM - VIGIL MASS Sat 9th April 10AM - HOLY MASS



14 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH 6PM - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH 7:30PM - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



17 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH 5:30PM - VIGIL MASS 8:30AM - HOLY MASS 5PM - HOLY MASS

Sat 16th April

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH 8PM - VIGIL MASS 10AM - HOLY MASS

Sat 16th April





15 APRIL

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12 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH 9:15AM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

7PM - TENEBRAE

A solemn service of

psalms, prayers & candles

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH 10:30AM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

HOLY FAMILY & HOLY TRINITY CHURCH 3PM - COMMEMORATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD 5PM - CROSS WALK

HOLY TRINITY, GRANVILLE *CNR. RANDLE ST & BENNALONG ST* HOLY FAMILY, EAST GRANVILLE *200 THE TRONGATE* F





GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL



Will you love your neighbours as God loves you so no-one is alone or left behind?



\$25

can provide friendship through a **weekly support group**.





can provide a **fresh vegetable** box for a struggling family or several seniors.



\$100

can provide **weekly companionship calls** for vulnerable seniors with no family or friends.



\$250

can help provide a refugee welcome program to connect with locals.



\$500

can provide group support for children with anxiety.



\$650

can provide a water tank for a community garden.



\$1,000 can train volunteers in mental health first aid.



\$2,000

can provide **disaster recovery support** for those affected by fires or floods.

Your gift today will provide comfort and support for those who are isolated and alone.

Your gifts to Parramatta Catholic Foundation support the charitable works of the Diocese of Parramatta and Catholic Care across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, and are not limited to those described in this appeal.

A service of Psalms, Prayers & Candles Perfection of Psalms, Prayers & Candles

Tuesday 12th April **7 p.m.** Holy Trinity Church, Granville





Friday 15th April 5 p.m.

Join us for a solemn procession of the Stations of the Cross through the streets of Granville in honour of Good Friday

Starting

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH Cnr. Bennalong & Randle St

Ending

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH 200 The Trongate



The Readings

First Reading The Prophet Isaiah (50:4-7)

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24. R. v. 2)

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss their heads. 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend.' R.

Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones. R.

They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe. O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me! R.

I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled. 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons.' R.

Second Reading The Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians (2:6-11)

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings

in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

The Passion The Gospel of Luke (22:14-23:56)

All join in the reading of part of the Crowd (C).

N When the hour came Jesus took His place at table, and the apostles with Him. And He said to them,

 \mathfrak{P} I have longed to eat this passover with you before I suffer; because, I tell you, I shall not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.

N Then, taking a cup, He gave thanks and said,

 \blacksquare Take this and share it among you, because from now on, I tell you, I shall not drink wine until the kingdom of God comes.

N Then He took some bread, and when He had given thanks, broke it and gave it to them, saying,

 ${\boldsymbol{\Phi}}$ This is my body which will be given for you; do this as a memorial of me.

N He did the same with the cup after supper, and said,

This cup is the new covenant in my blood which will be poured out for you. And yet, here with me on the table is the hand of the man who betrays me. The Son of Man does indeed go to His fate even as it has been decreed, but alas for that man by whom He is betrayed!

N And they began to ask one another which of them it could be who was to do this thing. A dispute arose also between them about which should be reckoned the greatest, but He said to them,

 \mathfrak{A} Among pagans it is the kings who lord it over them, and those who have authority over them are given the

title Benefactor. This must not happen with you. No; the greatest among you must behave as if he were the youngest, the leader as if he were the one who serves. For who is the greater: the one at table or the one who serves? The one at the table, surely? Yet here I am among you as one who serves! You are the men who have stood by me faithfully in my trials; and now I confer a kingdom on you, just as my Father conferred one on me: you will eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones to judge the twelve tribes of Israel. Simon, Simon! Satan, you must know, has got his wish to sift you all like wheat; but I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail, and once you have recovered, you in your turn must strengthen your brothers.

N He answered,

O Lord, I would be ready to go to prison with you, and to death.

N Jesus replied,

 \mathfrak{P} I tell you, Peter, by the time the cock crows today you will have denied three times that you know me.

N He said to them,

 \mathfrak{P} When I sent you out without purse or haversack or sandals, were you short of anything?

N They answered,

C No.

N He said to them,

N They said,

C Lord, there are two swords here now.

N He said to them,

 \blacksquare That is enough!

N He then left the upper room to make His way as usual to the Mount of Olives, with the disciples following. When they reached the place He said to them,

 \blacksquare Pray not to be put to the test.

N Then He withdrew from them, about a stone's throw away, and knelt down and prayed, saying,

 \mathfrak{P} Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, let your will be done, not mine.

N Then an angel appeared to Him coming from heaven to give Him strength. In His anguish He prayed even more earnestly, and His sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood. When He rose from prayer He went to the disciples and found them sleeping for sheer grief. He said to them,

 ${\bf \Phi}$ Why are you asleep? Get up and pray not to be put to the test.

N He was still speaking when a number of men appeared, and at the head of them the man called Judas, one of the Twelve, who went up to Jesus to kiss Him. Jesus said,

♥ Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?

N His followers, seeing what was happening, said,

C Lord, shall we use our swords?

N And one of them struck out at the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. But at this Jesus spoke,

✤ Leave off! That will do!

N And touching the man's ear He healed him. Then Jesus spoke to the chief priests and captains of the Temple guard and elders who had come for Him. He said.

✤ Am I a brigand that you had to set out with swords and clubs? When I was among you in the Temple day after day you never moved to lay hands on me. But this is your hour; this is the reign of darkness.

N They seized Him then and led Him away, and they took Him to the high priest's house. Peter followed at a distance. They had lit a fire in the middle of the courtyard and Peter sat down among them, and as he was sitting there by the blaze a servant-girl saw him, peered at him and said,

- O This person was with him too.
- N But he denied it, saying,
- O Woman, I do not know Him.
- N Shortly afterwards, someone else saw him and said,
- O You are another of them.
- N But Peter replied,
- O I am not, my friend.
- N About an hour later another man insisted, saying,

O This fellow was certainly with Him. Why, he is a Galilean.

N Peter said,

O My friend, I do not know what you are talking about.

N At that instant, while he was still speaking, the cock crew, and the Lord turned and looked straight at Peter, and Peter remembered what the Lord had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will have disowned me three times.' And he went outside and wept bitterly. Meanwhile the men who guarded Jesus were mocking and beating Him. They blindfolded Him and questioned Him, saying,

C Play the prophet. Who hit you then?

N And they continued heaping insults on Him. When day broke there was a meeting of the elders of the people, attended by the chief priests and scribes. He was brought before their council, and they said to Him,

C If you are the Christ, tell us,

N He replied,

 \mathfrak{P} If I tell you, you will not believe me, and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the Power of God.

N Then they all said,

C So you are the Son of God then?

N He answered,

- ♥ It is you who say I am.
- N They said,

C What need of witnesses have we now? We have heard it for ourselves from His own lips.

N The whole assembly then rose, and they brought Him before Pilate. They began their accusation by saying,

C We found this man inciting our people to revolt, opposing payment of tribute to Caesar, and claiming to be Christ, a king.

N Pilate put to Him this question,

O Are you the king of the Jews?

N He replied,

✤ It is you who say it.

N Pilate then said to the chief priests and the crowd,

O I find no case against this man.

N But they persisted,

C He is inflaming the people with His teaching all over Judaea; it has come all the way from Galilee, where He started, down to here.

N When Pilate heard this, he asked if the man were a Galilean; and finding that he came under Herod's jurisdiction he passed Him over to Herod who was also in Jerusalem at that time. Herod was delighted to see Jesus; he had heard about Him and had been wanting for a long time to set eyes on Him; moreover, he was hoping to see some miracle worked by Him. So he questioned Him at some length; but without getting any reply. Meanwhile the chief priests and the scribes were there, violently pressing their accusations. Then Herod, together with his guards, treated Him with contempt and made fun of Him; he put a rich cloak on Him and sent Him back to Pilate. And though Herod and Pilate had been enemies before, they were reconciled that same Pilate then summoned the chief priests and the day. leading men and the people. He said,

O You brought this man before me as a political agitator. Now I have gone into the matter myself in your presence and found no case against Him. Nor has Herod either, since he has sent Him back to us. As you can see, the man has done nothing that deserves death, so I shall have Him flogged and then let him go.

N But as one man they howled,

C Away with Him! Give us Barabbas!

N This man had been thrown into prison for causing a riot in the city and for murder. Pilate was anxious to set Jesus free and addressed them again, but they shouted back.

C Crucify Him! Crucify Him!

 $N\;$ And for the third time he spoke to them,

O Why? What harm has this man done? I have found no case against Him that deserves death, so I shall have Him punished and let Him go.

N But they kept on shouting at the top of their voices, demanding that He should be crucified, and their shouts were growing louder. Pilate then gave his verdict: their demand was to be granted. He released the man they asked for, who had been imprisoned for rioting and murder, and handed Jesus over to them to deal with as they pleased. As they were leading Him away they seized on a man, Simon from Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and made him shoulder the cross and carry it behind Jesus. Large numbers of people followed Him,

and of women too who mourned and lamented for Him. But Jesus turned to them and said,

✤ Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep rather for yourselves and for your children. For the days will surely come when people will say, 'Happy are

those who are barren, the wombs that have never borne, the breasts that have never suckled!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!'; to the hills, 'Cover us!' For if men use the green wood like this, what will happen when it is dry?

N Now with Him they were also leading out two other criminals to be executed. When they reached the place called The Skull, they crucified Him there and the criminals also, one on the right, the other on the left. Jesus said,

 $\boldsymbol{\Xi}$ Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing.

N Then they cast lots to share out His clothing. The people stayed there watching Him. As for the leaders, they jeered at Him, saying,

C He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.

N The soldiers mocked Him too, and when they approached to offer Him vinegar they said,

C If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.

N Above Him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals hanging there abused Him, saying,

O Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us as well.

N But the other spoke up and rebuked him,

O Have you no fear of God at all? You got the same sentence as He did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

N He replied

 \mathfrak{P} Indeed, I promise you, today you will be with me in paradise.

N It was now about the sixth hour and, with the sun eclipsed, a darkness came over the whole land until the

ninth hour. The veil of the Temple was torn right down the middle; and when Jesus had cried out in a loud voice, he said,

₱ Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.

N With these words He breathed His last.

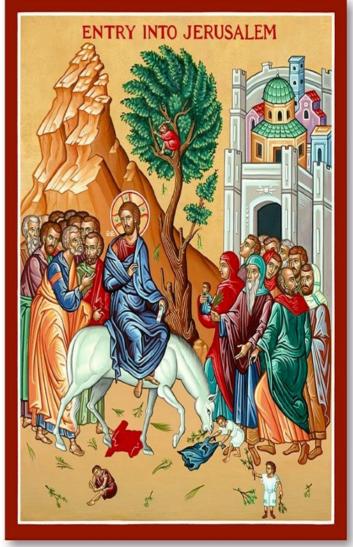
All kneel and pause a moment.

N When the centurion saw what had taken place, he gave praise to God and said,

O This was a great and good man.

N And when all the people who had gathered for the spectacle saw what had happened, they went home beating their breasts. All His friends stood at a distance; so also did the women who had accompanied him from Galilee, and they saw all this happen. Then a member of council arrived, an upright and virtuous man the named Joseph. He had not consented to what the others had planned and carried out. He came from Arimathaea, a Jewish town, and he lived in the hope of seeing the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. He then took it down, wrapped it in a shroud and put Him in a tomb which was hewn in stone in which no one had yet been laid. It was Preparation Day and the sabbath was imminent. Meanwhile the women who had come from Galilee with lesus were following behind. They took note of the tomb and of the position of the body. Then they returned and prepared

position of the body.Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. And on the sabbath day they rested, as the law required.



The Passion (Shorter Form)

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke (23:1-49)

The elders of the people and the chief priests and scribes rose, and they brought Jesus before Pilate.

They began their accusation by saying, 'We found this man inciting our people to revolt, opposing payment of tribute to Caesar, and claiming to be Christ, a king.' Pilate put to him this question, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' 'It is you who say it' he replied. Pilate then said to the chief priests and the crowd, 'I find no case against this man.' But they persisted, 'He is inflaming the people with his teaching all over Judaea; it has come all the way from Galilee, where he started, down to here.' When Pilate heard this, he asked if the man were a Galilean; and finding that he came under Herod's jurisdiction he passed him over to Herod who was also in Jerusalem at that time.

Herod was delighted to see Jesus; he had heard about him and had been wanting for a long time to set eyes on him; moreover, he was hoping to see some miracle worked by him. So he questioned him at some length; but without getting any reply. Meanwhile the chief priests and the scribes were there, violently pressing their accusations. Then Herod, together with his guards, treated him with contempt and made fun of him; he put a rich cloak on him and sent him back to Pilate. And though Herod and Pilate had been enemies before, they were reconciled that same day.

Pilate then summoned the chief priests and the leading men and the people. 'You brought this man before me' he said 'as a political agitator. Now I have gone into the matter myself in your presence and found no case against the man in respect of all the charges you bring against him. Nor has Herod either, since he has sent him back to us. As you can see, the man has done nothing that deserves death, so I shall have him flogged and then let him go.' But as one man they howled, 'Away with him! Give us Barabbas!' (This man had been thrown into prison for causing a riot in the city and for murder.)

Pilate was anxious to set Jesus free and addressed them again, but they shouted back, 'Crucify him! Crucify him!' And for the third time he spoke to them, 'Why? What harm has this man done? I have found no case against him that deserves death, so I shall have him punished and then let him go.' But they kept on shouting at the top of their voices, demanding that he should be crucified. And their shouts were growing louder.

Pilate then gave his verdict: their demand was to be granted. He released the man they asked for, who had been imprisoned for rioting and murder, and handed Jesus over to them to deal with as they pleased. As they were leading him away they seized on a man, Simon from Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and made him shoulder the cross and carry it behind Jesus. Large numbers of people followed him, and of women too, who mourned and lamented for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep rather for yourselves and for your children. For the days will surely come when people will say, "Happy are those who are barren, the wombs that have never borne, the breasts that have never suckled!" Then they will begin to say to the mountains, "Fall on us!"; to the hills, "Cover us!" For if men use the green wood like this, what will happen when it is dry?' Now with him they were also leading out two other criminals to be executed.

When they reached the place called The Skull, they crucified him there and the two criminals also, one on the right, the other on the left. Jesus said, 'Father forgive them; they do not know what they are doing.' Then they cast lots to share out his clothing.

The people stayed there watching him. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it; we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

It was now about the sixth hour and, with the sun eclipsed, a darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. The veil of the Temple was torn right down the middle; and when Jesus had cried out in a loud voice, he said, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.' With these words he breathed his last.

All kneel and pause a moment.

When the centurion saw what had taken place, he gave praise to God and said, 'This was a great and good man.' And when all the people who had gathered for the spectacle saw what had happened, they went home beating their breasts.

All his friends stood at a distance; so also did the women who had accompanied him from Galilee, and they saw all this happen.