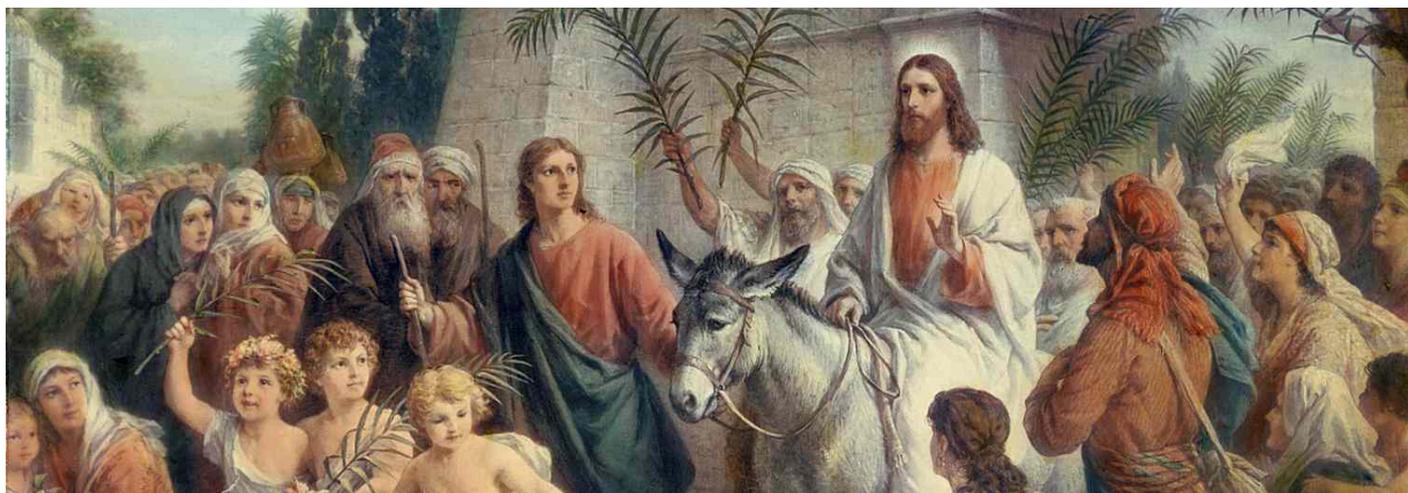

Granville Catholic Church Record

Vol. II. No. 13.

March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



FROM HOSANNA *to the* CROSS: A THRESHOLD *of* HOLY WEEK

The arrival of Palm Sunday marks our entry into the most solemn and profound week of the liturgical year. As we gather with branches in hand, we join the ancient crowds of Jerusalem in welcoming Jesus as the “Son of David.” The liturgy today is uniquely bittersweet; it begins with the triumphant shouts of “Hosanna!” and moves toward the sobering reading of the Passion. This stark contrast serves as a vital reminder that the path to the Resurrection must first pass through the suffering of the Cross. This is the threshold of the Great Week, where the focus of our Lenten journey narrows entirely upon the person of Jesus Christ and His total self-offering for our salvation.

The palms we carry are symbols of victory, but the victory of Christ is not one of worldly power or political triumph. He enters the city not on a warhorse, but on a humble donkey, an animal of burden. This humility is the key to our own spiritual life as we begin these holy days. If we are to truly enter into Holy Week, we must lay down our own ‘palms’ of pride and our ‘cloaks’ of self-interest. We

are invited to walk with our Lord, not just in the excitement of the procession, but in the loneliness of Gethsemane and the quiet pain of Golgotha. Just as the crowds once laid their garments on the road, we are called to lay our lives at His feet.

As the violet veils remain over our statues, the tension of the coming days grows. This is the week to set aside our usual distractions and to enter into the mystery of our redemption with our whole hearts. We are called to be physically and spiritually present for the great liturgies of the Triduum: the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday, the sombre Veneration of the Cross on Good Friday, and the glorious Resurrection at the Easter Vigil. Our Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving have all been a preparation for this moment. Let us not allow these days to pass by as ordinary time, but rather as a sacred opportunity to renew our baptismal promises.

With the Lenten season reaching its climax, we now turn our gaze toward the foot of the Cross,

where the Blessed Virgin Mary remained constant when others fled. We ask for the grace to be as courageous and faithful as she was during those dark hours. May the branches we take home today serve as a lasting sign of our commitment to welcome Christ into our hearts every day of the year. Let us enter this Holy Week with a spirit of deep and prayerful devotion, ready to witness the triumph of love over death. May we follow the Lord with humble hearts into the glory of His Paschal victory.

This journey through the darkness of the Passion is not made in vain, for it is the necessary prelude to the light that no darkness can overcome. As the shadows lengthen during these final days of penance, let us hold fast to the promise that the silence of the tomb is but a brief pause before the eternal joy of Easter.

*Blessed is He, who comes in
the Name of the Lord!*

THE PARISH OFFICE

Address

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

T 0497 190 444

E granville@parracatholic.org

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

Parish Administrator

Rev. Fr. Galbert Albino

Assistant Priest

Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguyen

Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

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, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

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

Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

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

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

Volunteers Needed

Flower Arranging

No flowers during Lent

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



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.

Confessions

Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.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 1:

D. Portelli, A. Quinlan, L.Toman,
N.Begley, W.Krasinski, J. Galea

Readers

Vigil Easter Roster

10:00 a.m. Easter Roster

Children's Liturgy

School Holidays - No Children's Liturgy

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton,
John Augustus, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, John Borg,
Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia, Carmello Gioenco,
Evangeline Grabato, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter
Higgins, Terese Jones, Therese Khalil, Kay King, Jacob Lee,
Josephine Magro, Zoe Mrzljak, Sid Morgan, Scott
Moulton, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Don Provest,
Ricardo Tognini, Sam Wardan, Anthony Vella, Gerard
Watts.



Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
by the grace of your Holy Spirit
cure the weaknesses of your servants,
and mercifully restore them to full health.

IN MEMORIAM

Perfecto Arribas Jr., Victor Azzopardi, Joseph Baine, Dick Cahill,
Gwen Cahill, Vincent Cahill, Albert Camilleri, Les Camilleri,
Tessie Camilleri, Christine Derwin, Joe Paul Fehir, Alan Frost,
Carmen Galea, Maria Gambin, John Graham, Joe Grech, Mary
Grech, Sam Grech, Kelvin Huitt, Melissa Irons, Salim Karaki,
Paul Karam, Chini Maya Kc, Nouhad Khoury, Kaye King,
Thomas Lam, Rustica La Rosa, Laurie Lowe, Mouna Malkoun,
Roy McDonald, Aileen McIntyre, Jack McIntyre, Giovanna
Mondello, Santo Mondello, Kudzai Gerald Mutongerwa,
Anthony Newell, Jessica Nguyen, Vincent Nguyen, Michael
O'Brien, Zackary Orenshaw, Doris Pickering, Edward Pidgeon,
Robert Pidgeon, Sheila Pidgeon, Anna Pham, Flory Pinto, Peter
Robertson, Geoff Senior, Garry Smith, Carlito So, Noel So,
Emanuel Tabone, Alex Taktak, John Toye, John Vella, Peter Van
Duc Vu, Graham Wales, Carmel Watts, Phyllis Webb, Mershed
Wehbe, Yesmine Wehbe, Dib Zaiter, Laila Zaiter





Join us again this year for our 10th 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 5:30 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. At a time when the Church is being silenced and the Faith is publicly ridiculed, we must stand strong and publicly witness to the Truth of Our Lord, Jesus Christ and of His Church.

Important Notice Regarding the Daily Mass 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.

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 5:30 p.m. and at Holy Trinity Church at 7:30 p.m.

Altar Servers wishing to serve at 3:00 p.m. on Good Friday at Holy Trinity Church

A meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, 1 April for all altar servers wishing to serve at the 3:00p.m. Commemoration of the Passion of the Lord on Good Friday at Holy Trinity Church.

Serving during the Paschal Triduum is a profound way to participate in the most solemn days of the Church’s year.

To ensure all roles are coordinated and the liturgy is conducted with due reverence, there will be a mandatory briefing and rehearsal for all volunteers:

All experienced servers and those wishing to assist for the first time are encouraged to attend. Your commitment to this ministry helps us all enter more deeply into the prayer of the Lord’s Passion.

Temporary Change to Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office will be unattended during Holy Week to allow for preparations for Holy Week to be undertaken. For all enquiries, please call the parish office as phone calls will still be accepted and for all non-urgent enquiries please send an email to granville@parracatholic.org.

The parish office will then be closed from Tuesday, 7 April until Monday, 13 April and will reopen for regular business on Tuesday, 14 April.

Become a Parish Volunteer

Inspired to serve? Our parish seeks volunteers for various ministries, including serving at the altar, readers, cleaning and music. Please share your gifts, build our parish, and honour God through your generous, vital service.

Contact the parish office if you would like to assist in the parish.

TENEBRAE

THIS TUESDAY EVENING

at 7:00 p.m.

This Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. 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, somber 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.

A service of Psalms, Prayers & Candles

Tenebrae



Holy Tuesday

Tuesday 31st March - 7 p.m.

Holy Trinity Church, Granville



CROSS WALK

Friday 3rd April
5:30 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



Palm Sunday



29 MARCH

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

4:30PM - VIGIL MASS *Sat 28th March*
8:30AM - HOLY MASS *Sun 29th March*
5PM - HOLY MASS *Sun 29th March*

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

6PM - VIGIL MASS *Sat 28th March*
10AM - HOLY MASS *Sun 29th March*

Holy Week

Holy Tuesday



31 MARCH

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

7PM - TENEBRAE

A solemn service of psalms, prayers & candles

Holy Thursday



2 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

5:30PM - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

7:30PM - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Followed by Adoration before the Altar of Repose

Good Friday



3 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

9:30AM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

10:30AM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

HOLY FAMILY & HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

3PM - COMMEMORATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

5:30PM - CROSS WALK

Easter Sunday



Easter Vigil

4 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

5:30PM - VIGIL MASS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

8PM - VIGIL MASS

Easter Sunday

5 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

8:30AM - HOLY MASS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

10AM - HOLY MASS

HOLY TRINITY, GRANVILLE
CNR. RANDLE ST & BENNALONG ST

HOLY FAMILY, EAST GRANVILLE
200 THE TRONGATE





DIOCESE of
PARRAMATTA

MOST REVEREND VINCENT LONG VAN NGUYEN OFM CONV,
BISHOP OF PARRAMATTA
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU

TO THE ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE OF

Mr. Thien Quoc Huynh (Luke)

SATURDAY 11 APRIL AT 6:00 PM
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
CNR RANDLE ST AND, 47 BENNALONG ST
GRANVILLE NSW 2142

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

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 Matthew (26:14 – 27:66)

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

N One of the Twelve, the man called Judas Iscariot, went
to the chief priests and said:

O What are you prepared to give me if I hand him over
to you?

N They paid him thirty silver pieces, and from that
moment he looked for an opportunity to betray him.
Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples
came to Jesus to say,

**C Where do you want us to make the preparations for
you to eat the passover?**

N He replied:

✠ Go to so-and-so in the city and say to him, 'The
Master says: My time is near. It is at your house that I am
keeping Passover with my disciples.'

N The disciples did what Jesus told them and prepared
the Passover.

When the evening came he was at table with the twelve
disciples. And while they were eating he said:

✠ I tell you solemnly, one of you is about to betray me.

N They were greatly distressed and started asking him in
turn,

C Not I, Lord, surely?

N He answered:

✠ Someone who has dipped his hand into the dish with me, will betray me. The Son of Man is going to his fate, as the scriptures say he will, but alas for that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! Better for that man if he had never been born!

N Judas, who was to betray him, asked in his turn,

O Not I, Rabbi, surely?

N Jesus answered:

✠ They are your own words.

N Now as they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said:

✠ Take it and eat; this is my body.

N Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them saying:

✠ Drink all of you from this, for this is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. From now on, I tell you, I shall not drink wine until the day I drink the new wine with you in the kingdom of my Father.

N After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them,

✠ You will all lose faith in me this night, for the scripture says: I shall strike the shepherd and the flock will be scattered. But after my resurrection I shall go before you to Galilee.

N At this, Peter said:

O Though all lose faith in you, I will never lose faith.

N Jesus answered him,

✠ I tell you solemnly, this very night, before the cock crows, you will have disowned me three times.

N Peter said to him,

O Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.

N And all the disciples said the same. Then Jesus came with them to a small estate called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,

✠ Stay here while I go over there to pray.

N He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee with him. And sadness came over him, and great distress. Then he said to them:

✠ My soul is sorrowful to the point of death. Wait here and keep awake with me.

N And going on a little further he fell on his face and prayed:

✠ My Father, if it is possible let this cup pass me by. Nevertheless, let it be as you, not I, would have it.

N He came back to the disciples and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter:

✠ So you had not the strength to keep awake with me one hour? You should be awake, and praying not to be put to the test. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.

N Again, a second time, he went away and prayed:

✠ My father, if this cup cannot pass by without my drinking it, your will be done!

N And he came back again and found them sleeping, their eyes were so heavy. Leaving them there, he went away again and prayed for the third time, repeating the same words. Then he came back to the disciples and said to them,

✠ You can sleep on now and take your rest. Now the hour has come when the Son of Man is to be betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up! Let us go! My betrayer is already close at hand.

N He was still speaking when Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared, and with him a large number of men armed with swords and clubs, sent by the chief priests and elders of the people. Now the traitor had arranged a sign with them. He had said:

O 'The one I kiss, he is the man. Take him in charge.'

N So he went straight up to Jesus and said:

O Greetings, Rabbi,

N and kissed him. Jesus said to him,

✠ My friend, do what you are here for.

N Then they came forward, seized Jesus and took him in charge. At that, one of the followers of Jesus grasped his sword and drew it; he struck out at the high priest's servant, and cut off his ear. Jesus then said:

✠ Put your sword back, for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father who would promptly send more than twelve legions of angels to my defence? But then, how would the scriptures be fulfilled that say this is the way it must be?

N It was at this time that Jesus said to the crowds:

✠ Am I a brigand, that you had to set out to capture me with swords and clubs? I sat teaching in the Temple day after day and you never laid hands on me.

N Now all this happened to fulfil the prophecies in scripture. Then all the disciples deserted him and ran away. The men who had arrested Jesus led him off to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and elders were assembled. Peter followed him at a distance, and when he reached the high priest's palace, he went in and sat down with the attendants to see what the end would be. The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus, however false, on which they might pass the death-sentence. But they could not find any, though several lying witnesses came forward. Eventually two stepped forward and made a statement,

O This man said, 'I have power to destroy the Temple of God and in three days build it up.'

N The high priest then stood up and said to him:

O Have you no answer to that? What is the evidence these men are bringing against you?

N But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to him:

O I put you on oath by the living God to tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.

N Jesus answered:

✠ The words are your own. Moreover, I tell you that from this time onward you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.

N At this, the high priest tore his clothes and said:

O He has blasphemed. What need of witnesses have we now? There! You have just heard the blasphemy. What is your opinion?

N They answered:

C He deserves to die.

N Then they spat in his face and hit him with their fists; others said as they struck him:

C Play the prophet, Christ! Who hit you then?

N Meanwhile Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard, and a servant-girl came up to him and said:

O You too were with Jesus the Galilean.

N But he denied it in front of them all, saying:

O I do not know what you are talking about.

N When he went out to the gateway another servant-girl saw him and said to the people there:

O This man was with Jesus the Nazarene.

N And again, with an oath, he denied it,

O I do not know the man.

N A little later the bystanders came up and said to Peter:

C You are one of them for sure! Why, your accent gives you away.

N Then he started calling down curses on himself and swearing:

O I do not know the man.

N At that moment the cock crew, and Peter remembered what Jesus had said, 'Before the cock crows you will have disowned me three times.' And he went outside and wept bitterly. When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people met in council to bring about the death of Jesus. They had him bound, and led him away to hand him over to Pilate, the governor. When he found that Jesus had been condemned, Judas his betrayer was filled with remorse and took the thirty pieces of silver back to the chief priests and elders, saying:

O I have sinned. I have betrayed innocent blood.

N They replied:

C What is that to us? That is your concern.

N And flinging down the silver pieces in the sanctuary he made off, and went and hanged himself. The chief priests picked up the silver pieces and said:

C It is against the Law to put this into the treasury; it is blood money.

N So they discussed the matter and bought the potter's field with it as a graveyard for foreigners, and this is why the field is called the Field of Blood today. The words of the prophet Jeremiah were then fulfilled: And they took the thirty silver pieces, the sum at which the precious One was priced by children of Israel, and they gave them for the potter's field, just as the Lord directed me. Jesus, then, was brought before the governor, and the governor put to him this question:

O Are you the king of the Jews?

N Jesus replied:

✠ It is you who say it.

N But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him:

O Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?

N But to the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of the charges. At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at this time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered Pilate said to them,

O Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Christ?

N For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. Now as he was seated in the chair of judgement, his wife sent him a message,

O Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.

N The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them:

O Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

N They said:

C Barabbas.

N Pilate said to them:

O What am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?

N They all said:

C Let him be crucified!

N Pilate asked:

O Why? What harm has he done?

N But they shouted all the louder,

C Let him be crucified!

N Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said:

O I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.

N And the people, to a man, shouted back:

C His blood be on us and on our children!

N Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified. The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort around him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying:

C Hail, king of the Jews!

N And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him. On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothes by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping guard over him. Above his head was placed the charge against him; it read: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews'. At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said:

C So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!

N The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way, saying:

C He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, 'I am the son of God'.

N Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way.

From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice:

✠ Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?

N That is: 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood there heard this, they said:

C The man is calling on Elijah,

N and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink. The rest of them said:

C Wait! See if Elijah will come to save him.

N But Jesus, again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

(All kneel and pause a moment.)

N At that, the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people, Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said:

C In truth this was a son of God.

N And many women were there, watching from a distance, the same women who had followed Jesus from Galilee and looked after him. Among them were Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee's sons. When it was evening, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, called Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate thereupon ordered it to be handed over. So Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean shroud and put it in his own new tomb which he had hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a large stone across the entrance of the tomb and went away. Now Mary of Magdala and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the sepulchre. Next day, that is, when Preparation Day was over, the chief priests and the Pharisees went in a body to Pilate and said to him,

C Your Excellency, we recall that this imposter said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I shall rise again.' Therefore give the order to have the sepulchre kept secure until the third day, for fear his disciples come and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead'. This last piece of fraud would be worse than what went before.

N Pilate said to them:

O You may have your guards. Go and make all as secure as you know how.

N So they went and made the sepulchre secure, putting seals on the stone and mounting a guard.



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