

PALM SUNDAY of the PASSION OF THE LORD, Year B

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

FIRST READING:

A reading from 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.

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

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:

A reading from St Paul's letter 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.

The Word of the Lord.

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!

GOSPEL:

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 14:1-15:47

N It was two days before the Passover and the feast of Unleavened Bread, and the chief priests and scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by some trick and have him put to death. For they said,

C **It must not be during the festivities, or there will be a disturbance among the people.**

N Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper; he was at dinner when a woman came in with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the ointment on his head. Some who were there said to one another indignantly,

C **Why this waste of ointment? Ointment like this could have been sold for over three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor;**

.....On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to him,

C **Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?**

.....The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus on which they might pass the death sentence. But they could not find any. Several, indeed, brought false evidence against him, but their evidence was conflicting. Some stood up and submitted this false evidence against him,

C **We heard him say, 'I am going to destroy this Temple made by human hands, and in three days build another, not made by human hands.'**

.....And they all gave their verdict: he deserved to die. Some of them started spitting at him and, blindfolding him, began hitting him with their fists and shouting,

C **Play the prophet!**

.....But he again denied it. A little later the bystanders themselves said to Peter,

C **You are one of them for sure! Why, you are a Galilean.**

...But in that case, what am I to do with the man you call king of the Jews?

N They shouted back.
C Crucify him!
 N Pilate asked them,
 O Why? What harm has he done?
 N But they shouted all the louder,
C Crucify him!

.....The soldiers led him away to the inner part of the palace, that is, the Praetorium, and called the whole cohort together. They dressed him up in purple, twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on him. And they began saluting him,

C Hail, king of the Jews!

.....The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said,

C Aha! So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself: come down from the cross!

.....The chief priests and the scribes mocked him among themselves in the same way. They said,

C He saved others, he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the king of Israel, come down from the cross now, for us to see it and believe.

This means, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood by heard this, they said,

C Listen he is calling on Elijah.

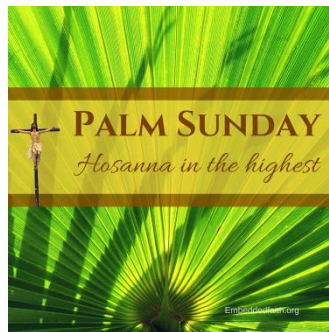
....But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last

ALL KNEEL

..... Mary of Magdala and Mary the mother of Joset were watching and took note of where he was laid.

The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.



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| READINGS NEXT WEEK: | |
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| EASTER VIGIL | |
| First Reading: Genesis 22:1-18 | Second Reading: Exodus 14:15-15:1 |
| Third Reading: Ezekiel 36:16-28 | Fourth Reading: Romans 6:3-11 |
| Gospel: Mark 16:1-7 | |
| EASTER SUNDAY | |
| First Reading: Acts 10:34,37-43 | |
| Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4 | |
| Gospel: John 20:1-9 | |

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
 I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.
 I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.
 Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,
 come at least spiritually into my heart.
 As though you have already come,
 I embrace You and Unite myself entirely to You:
 never permit me to be separated from You.
 Amen