

GOOD FRIDAY

First Reading

ISAIAH 52:13-53:12

A Reading from the Scroll of Isaiah

The Lord says, “My servant will succeed in his work. He will be highly honored. Many people saw him and they were shocked. He was hurt so badly that they could not recognize him.

But more people will be amazed. The kings will also be amazed and can’t say anything. They will see and understand but they never know.

The people will say, “Who will believe? Who would accept his punishment?”

He was like a plant. He was like a root growing in dry ground. He did not look special. If we look at him, we would see nothing special about him that would makes us like him.

People made fun of him and his friends left him. He suffered so much pain. People did not even notice him. But he took away our troubles.

Good Friday

He accepted our pain for the wrong things we did. We were healed because of his pain. He was hurt and punished but he never protested. He said nothing like a sheep carried out to be killed. He never opened his mouth to protect himself. Men used force and took him away. They did not judge him fairly. He was punished for the sins of the people. He died and was buried.

So the servant gave himself up to die for us. But he will live a new life for a long time. He will see his people. He will do things the Lord wants him to do. He will be satisfied with the things he did. He will make many people free from guilt. He will take away their sins. For that I will make him a great man among people. People said he was a thief. But he took away the sins of many people. And now he speaks for people that have sinned.

The Word of the Lord

Good Friday

RESPONSE: Father, I give you my Spirit.

Lord, I depend on you.
Don't disappoint me.
Be nice to me and save me.
Lord, you are the God we trust.

RESPONSE:

My enemies hate me.
Also, my neighbors hate me.
They are afraid of me and avoid me.
The people forgot me completely.

RESPONSE:

Lord, I trust you.
You are my God.
My life is in your hands.
Save me from my enemies.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Jesus, the Son of God, is our high priest. He went up to live with his Father in heaven.

Let us continue to be strong in faith. Jesus, the high priest, can understand our weakness. Jesus lived on earth and he was tempted in every way. He was tempted like we are tempted, but he never sinned. With Jesus we can feel free to face God for forgiveness. We get help through his mercy and kindness we need.

Christ lived on earth and he prayed to God for help. God saved him from death. Jesus prayed with loud cries and tears. God answered because Jesus was humble and did everything God wanted him to do.

Jesus was the Son of God. He learned through his suffering because he obeyed God. Jesus was perfect. All people obeying him will be saved.

The Word of the Lord

Good Friday

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you Lord, Jesus Christ

Christ was humble and accepted death on a cross. But God raised him to life.

Praise and honor to you Lord, Jesus Christ

Gospel

JOHN 18:1-19-19:42

Narrator-----Jesus Christ-----People

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ from the Holy Gospel of John

Jesus with his disciples went through the valley of Kidron and into a garden. Jesus went to that garden often with his disciples. Judas knew that place so he with a group of Roman soldiers went into the garden. They had torches and swords. Jesus knew that something would happen to him. So he said,

“Who are you looking for?”

“We are looking for Jesus from Nazareth.”

“I am Jesus from Nazareth.”

The men were surprised and moved back and fell to the ground. Again Jesus asked,

Good Friday

“Who are you looking for?”

“Jesus from Nazareth”

“I have already told you I am Jesus from Nazareth. If you want me, let my friends go free.”

Simon Peter took out a sword and cut off the right ear of the servant of the high priest. Jesus said to Peter,

“Put back your sword!

The soldiers went around Jesus and arrested him. They tied him and brought him to Annas, the father in law of Caiaphas. Caiaphas was the high priest of that year.

Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. The soldiers brought Jesus into the house of the high priest. Peter stayed outside by the door. The woman guarding the door saw Peter and asked him if he is the disciple of Jesus. Peter answered that he is not. It was cold outside so the servants made a fire. They were standing around the fire keeping warm. Peter stood with them near the fire. The high priest was questioning Jesus. Jesus said,

Good Friday

“I talked freely to everybody. I always taught in the temple where the Jews gather. I have not hidden anything. So why question me? Ask the people. They heard me and they know what I said.”

One of the guards slapped Jesus saying,

“You should not talk like that to the chief priest!”

“What did I say is wrong? Tell me what I said is wrong. Why slap me?”

Simon Peter still stood outside by the fire trying to keep warm. Someone asked him if he is the disciple of Jesus. Peter denied that he is. Another person saw Peter and told him that he saw him in the garden with Jesus. Again Peter denied that he was with Jesus.

At once a cock crowed. Early in the morning the Jews brought Jesus to Pontius Pilate. They did not go into the house of Pontius Pilate because of their Jewish laws. They wanted to keep themselves clean so they can eat the Passover meal. So Pontius Pilate went outside and asked the people what Jesus has done wrong. The Jews answered,

Jesus is criminal. That is why we brought him here for you.”

Good Friday

Pilate said to the Jews, “You, Jews, take him yourself. Judge him with your law.” The Jews answered,

Your Roman law will not permit us to punish Jesus with death.”

Pilate asked Jesus, “Are you the king of the Jews?” Jesus replied,

“Are you asking that question yourself or did the people tell you that?”

Pilate said, “I am not a Jew. Your people brought you here. What have you done wrong?” Jesus said,

“My kingdom is not in this world. If it is, my people will fight to stop the Jews from arresting me. No, my kingdom does not belong to this world.”

Pilate said, “So, are you the king?” Jesus replied,

“You said that. Yes, I am the king. I was born to be a king. I came into this world to tell the people about the truth.”

Good Friday

Pilate told the Jews that he sees nothing wrong with Jesus. It is the Passover time and it is the custom that one prisoner will be freed. So Pilate asked the people which one should he free, Jesus or Barabbas? All the people shouted,

“Free Barabbas! Free Barabbas!”

Pilate told the soldiers to whip Jesus. The soldiers whipped him, made a crown from thorns and put it on his head. They put a purple robe on him, slapped him and mocked him,

“Hail the king of the Jews!”

Then the soldiers brought Jesus in front of the people. Pilate was eager to free Jesus and said, “Look at Jesus! I find nothing wrong against him.” The people saw Jesus and they shouted,

“Crucify him! Crucify him!”

Pilate said, “You crucify Jesus yourself. I find nothing wrong with him.” The Jews said,

“We have a law. Our Jewish law says that if anyone says he is the Son of God, he must die.”

Pilate became afraid and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” Jesus said nothing. So Pilate said to him,

Good Friday

“Why are you refusing to speak to me?” You know I have power to free you. Also, I have power to crucify you.” Jesus replied,

“You have power over me because God gave you the power. That is why the person that betrayed me is guilty.”

Now Pilate really wanted to free Jesus but the Jews shouted,

“If anyone makes himself a king, he is against Caesar. If you free Jesus, you are not a friend of Caesar!”

It was almost noon. So Pilate said to the Jews, “Here is your king!” The Jews shouted,

“Away with him! Kill him! Crucify him!”

Pilate said, “Do you want me to crucify your king?”
The chief priests answered,

“We have no king but Caesar.”

Then Pilate let the Jews crucify Jesus. The soldiers forced Jesus to carry a cross. He carried it out of the city to Golgotha which means place of skull.

Good Friday

There the soldiers crucified Jesus with two thieves one on the right and the other on the left. A sign was put on the top of the cross. It said, 'Jesus from Nazareth, king of the Jews.' The Jews saw the sign and said to Pilate,

“You should not write ‘King of the Jews’. You should write ‘This man said, ‘I am the king of the Jews.’”

Pilate replied, “What I have written will not be changed.”

Mary, the mother of Jesus, her sister, Mary, the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene were standing near the cross. Jesus saw his mother and his favorite disciple. He said to his mother,

“This man is now your son.”

Then Jesus said to his favorite disciple,

“She is now your mother.”

Jesus knew that everything was finished and said,

“I am thirsty.”

Near the cross there was a jar of cheap wine. One soldier soaked a sponge with wine, put the sponge on a stick and bring it up to Jesus. Jesus tasted the wine and said,

“It is finished.”

Jesus bowed his head and died.

SILENCE

The next day was the Sabbath. The Jewish laws did not allow bodies to be left on the cross. So the soldiers went and broke the legs of the men. Then they went to Jesus but he was already dead. One soldier took a spear and pierced the side of Jesus. Blood and water came out.

Joseph from Arimathea, a secret follower of Jesus, went to Pilate and asked him for the body of Jesus. He and Nicodemus, another follower of Jesus, took the body down, wrapped the body with linen cloth with spices. That is the way the Jewish people prepare a body for burial. Near the place where Jesus was crucified was a garden and in it was a new tomb that was never used before. There they buried Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord

Good Friday

