

ASH WEDNESDAY

First Reading

JOEL 2:12-18

A Reading from the Scroll of Joel

The Lord says, “Now come back to me. Come back to me with all your heart. Come back to me with your fasting, weeping and mourning. You don’t have to tear off your clothes. Just come back with all your heart.

Go back to the Lord. He is kind, patient and full of mercy. He is always ready to forgive. Perhaps the Lord will change his mind and bless you with lots of crops. Then you can offer him grain and wine.

Come and blow the trumpet on Mt. Zion. Call all the people to fast. Tell them to come in for a holy meeting. Call the old people, the children and also the babies. Let all the newly married couples leave their bedrooms and come. Let the priests serving the Lord in the temple shout, “Lord, have mercy on your people. Do not let the people from other countries hate us and mock us saying ‘Where is your God?’ ”

The Lord will show his concern for his people and have mercy on them.

The Word of the Lord

Ash Wednesday

RESPONSE: O Lord, have mercy on us.
We have sinned.

I am always aware of sins.
I have sinned against you.
You have the right to punish me.
Please wipe away my sins.

RESPONSE:

I have sinned since the day I was born.
Love and truth are what you want.
Teach me your true wisdom.

RESPONSE:

Let me have the joy that is from your salvation.
Make me willing to obey you.
I will teach sinners your law.
And they will go back to you.

RESPONSE:

Protect me from sin.
Only you can save me.
I will shout and sing your saving power.
You will not reject a humble and sorrowful heart.

RESPONSE:

Ash Wednesday

Second Reading

2 CORINTHIANS 5:20-6:2

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Paul said, “We are servants for Christ. We speak for Christ. God is begging you to listen to our message. We speak for Christ and beg you to make peace with God. Christ never sinned. But God made Jesus share our sin so that with him we can be united to God.

We work together with God. So we beg you to accept the grace God has given you. In the scriptures God says, ‘At the right time I listened to your prayers. You needed help. So I am here to help you’.

Now is the time. Today is the day for you to be saved.

The Word of the Lord

Ash Wednesday

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Lord, make our heart clean.
Give us the joy of your help.

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-18

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples, “Be careful. Don’t brag of your good works for the people to see what you did. If you brag, you will not get a reward from your Father in heaven. If you give something to poor people, keep quiet. Don’t be like the hypocrites in the meeting places and on the streets. They like to brag because they want people to look at them so they can get praise from them. I tell you that they already have the reward.

Help the poor but keep quiet about it. Don’t let anyone know what you did. Your Father in heaven knows what you did and he will bless you.

As you pray, don’t be like the hypocrites. They love to stand up and pray in the meeting places and at street corners for the people to see. I tell you that they already have their reward.

Ash Wednesday

So if you want to pray, go into a room alone and close the door. Pray to the Father in private. He knows what you have done in private and he will reward you.

In your fasting, don't show your gloomy face like the hypocrites do in their fasting. They already have reward. Instead wash your face and comb your hair so people will not know that you are fasting. Only your Father in heaven will know. He will see what you have done in secret and he will reward you.”

The Good News of the Lord

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

GENESIS 2:7-9, 3:1-7

A Reading from the Scroll of Genesis

The Lord God took the soil from the ground and made a man. Then he breathed into the nose of the man and the man became alive.

God planted a garden in Eden in the East. He put the man in the garden. God made all kinds of beautiful trees that give good fruit. In the middle of the garden God put a tree of life, the tree that gives knowledge of what is good and what is bad.

God made a snake, the most cunning animal. The snake asked the woman, “Did God really tell you not to eat fruit from any tree in the garden?” The woman answered, “We can eat fruit from any tree but not the fruit from the tree in the middle or even touch it. If we do, we will die.” The snake said to the woman, “No, you will not die! Eat it and you will be like God. You will know what is good and what is evil.”

The woman saw that the tree is beautiful and the fruit looks good to eat. She thought it will be nice to have wisdom. So she took the fruit and ate it. Then she gave it to her husband and he ate it.

First Sunday of Lent

Their eyes opened and they realized that they were naked. So they sewed fig leaves together and covered themselves.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 51:3-4, 5-6 12-13, 17

RESPONSE: Lord, have mercy on us. We have sinned

I know my sins.

You are the one I have sinned against.

You have right to punish me.

Please wipe away my sins.

RESPONSE:

I have sinned from the day I was born.

From the time I was conceived I have been sinner.

Honesty and truth are what you want.

Teach me your true wisdom.

RESPONSE:

Make me happy that is from your salvation.

Make me willing to obey you.

I will teach sinners your law.

And they will go back to you.

RESPONSE:

Lord, protect me from sin.

Only you can save me.

I will shout and sing about your saving power.

You will not reject a humble and sorrowful heart.

RESPONSE:

First Sunday of Lent

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the
Romans
(Short form – Read in black)

Paul said, “Brothers and sisters, Adam sinned and his sin brought death into the world. Now everyone has sinned and everyone has to die.

Sin was in the world before the Law was made. Years ago there was no law and no one could be accused of sin. Death had power over all people from the time of Adam to the time of Moses. All died because of their sins but their sins were not the same as the sin of Adam.

Because of Adam, another man, Jesus Christ, had to come. But they were not the same. The gift from God was more powerful than the sin of Adam. It is true that many people died because of the sin of one man, Adam, but the grace from God is more powerful.

The free gift God gave us in Jesus Christ saves many people. The gift of God is different from the sin of Adam. Adam sinned once and he was judged guilty. But with the grace from God we became free.

It is true that through the sin of one man death ruled over all people. It is also true that because of Jesus Christ everybody will receive grace and be reconciled to God and have life with Christ.

Because of the sin of Adam, all people were punished and through the good act of one man, Jesus Christ, God accepts us and gives us the gift of life. Adam disobeyed God and made us sinners. But Christ obeyed God and we all became friends with God.”

The Word of the Lord

First Sunday of Lent

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord says, “Don’t depend only on bread
but on the word of God.”

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

MATTHEW 4: 1-11

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew

The Holy Spirit led Jesus into the desert. The devil came to Jesus and began to tempt him. Jesus did not eat for forty days and forty nights and he became very hungry. The devil said to Jesus, “If you are the Son of God, you can order the stone to become bread.”

Jesus answered, “People should not depend only on bread. They need to know every word that God speaks.”

The devil then took Jesus to Jerusalem and they went up to the top of the temple. The devil said to Jesus, “If you are the Son of God, jump off. The Scripture said that God ordered his angels to protect you. They will catch you so your feet will not get hurt on the stones.”

Jesus answered, “The Scripture also said, “Don’t try to challenge the Lord your God.”

First Sunday of Lent

Finally the devil took Jesus up on a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms on earth and all the glory. The devil said to Jesus, “I will give you all this but first you have to bow down and worship me.”

Jesus answered, “Go away, you Satan! The Scripture says, ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve only him.’ ”

The devil left and the angels came and comforted Jesus.

The Good News of the Lord

First Sunday of Lent

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

GENESIS 12:1-4a

A Reading from the scroll of Genesis

The Lord said to Abram, “Leave your country, your family and your father’s house. Go to the land I will show you. I will give you many descendants and they will become a great nation. I will bless you and make your name famous. Your name will be used as a blessing.

The people that bless you I will bless them. The people that do wrong against you I will condemn them. Through you I will bless all the people of the earth.”

That time Abram was seventy five years old. He obeyed the Lord in leaving the house of his father.

The Word of the Lord

Second Sunday of Lent

RESPONSE: Lord, show us your great love.

The Lord is honest.
We can trust him.
He loves justice and is fair.
He is kind to everyone on earth.

RESPONSE:

The Lord watches over people honoring him.
He protects people from danger.
He protects them from death and starvation.

RESPONSE:

We depend on the Lord.
He is our protector and our help.
Lord, may your love be with us.
Show us your great love.

RESPONSE:

Second Reading

2 TIMOTHY 1:8-10

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to Timothy

Paul said, “Don’t be ashamed to speak for our Lord. Don’t be ashamed of me because I am in jail serving the Lord.

Use the power that God gave you. Join me in suffering for telling the Good News.

God saved us and chose us to be his holy people. We did nothing wrong to deserve suffering. God planned it because he is very kind. God decided before the beginning of time to give us grace through Jesus Christ.

Christ already came to show us the kindness of God. Christ our Savior destroyed death and gave us the Good News. Jesus gave us new life that never ends.”

The Word of the Lord

Second Sunday of Lent

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The voice from the cloud said,
“Listen, this is my beloved Son.”

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

MATTHEW 17:1-9

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew

Jesus, with Peter and two brothers, James and John, went on a mountain so they can be alone. Jesus stood in front of them and began to change. His face shined like the sun. His clothes became white like snow.

Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared and began to talk with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here. Let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

Peter was still talking and the bright cloud went over them. A voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son and I am very pleased with him. Listen to him!” The disciples heard the voice and they became afraid. Then they fell flat on the ground. Jesus went to them and touched them. He said, “Get up and don’t be afraid.” They looked up and saw no one but Jesus.

Second Sunday of Lent

On their way down the mountain Jesus warned them to keep quiet and not to tell anyone what they saw until the Son of Man rises from death.

The Good News of the Lord

Second Sunday of Lent

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

EXODUS 17:3-7

A Reading from the Scroll of Exodus

The people became very thirsty and they began to complain to Moses, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt? Did you bring us here so that we, our children and our cattle, would die of thirst?”

Moses prayed to the Lord, “What can I do with these people? They will kill me.” The Lord said to Moses, “Go and stand in front of the people with some of the leaders of Israel. Take a stick you use before in the river. I will stand in front of you on a rock in Mount Sinai. Hit the rock with the stick and the water will flow from the rock for the people to drink.” So Moses hit the rock in front of the people and the water flowed.

The place was named Massiah and Meribah because that was the place where people complained and asked, “Is the Lord with us or not?”

The Word of the Lord

Third Sunday of Lent

RESPONSE: Listen to God!

Come and let us praise the Lord!
Sing with joy to the Lord.
Come and worship him.
Praise him with songs of joy.

RESPONSE:

Bow down and worship the Lord.
The Lord is our God.
We are his people.
We are his sheep.

RESPONSE:

Listen to what the Lord says.
Don't be stubborn like the people in the desert.
For forty years they tested God.
And they saw what he did.

RESPONSE:

Second Reading

ROMANS 5:1-2, 5-8

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Paul said, “God accepted us because of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now we have peace with God through Jesus Christ.

We received grace from God and because of this grace we can look forward to the glory of God. This hope is not false because God gives us his love through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is a gift from God. Christ died for us.

It is not easy to die for another person even for a good person. But if a person is very good, maybe someone will be ready to die for that good person. We are still sinners but Christ died for us. This proves that God really loves us.

The Word of the Lord

Third Sunday of Lent

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Lord, give us the living water so we will never
be thirsty again.

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

JOHN 4:5-42

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John
(Short Form – Read in Black)

Jesus with his disciples left Judea and went into the town of Sychar in Samaria. That town was not far from the field that Jacob gave to his son, Joseph. In the field was a well that belongs to Jacob. Jesus was tired from his long trip so he sat down next to the well. It was about noon. The disciples had gone into the town to buy some food.

A Samaritan woman went to the well to draw some water. Jesus said to the woman, “Please give me a drink of water.” The woman answered, “You are Jew and I am Samaritan. How can you ask me for a drink of water?” She said that because the Jews are not friends with the Samaritans.

Jesus answered. “You do not know who is asking for a drink. If you do know, you will ask him for the water that gives life.”

Third Sunday of Lent

The woman said, “But you do not have a bucket to get the water. The well is deep. Where can you get the water that gives life? Our ancestor Jacob years ago gave us this well. He drank from this well. Also his sons and animals drank from this well. Are you more important than Jacob?”

Jesus answered, “Anyone that drinks from this water will be thirsty again. But anyone drinking my water will never be thirsty again. The water I will give is like a spray of water flowing inside that person. That water will give eternal life.”

The woman answered, “Give me that water so that I will never be thirsty again and never have to come here to get more water from the well.”

Jesus told her, “Go and bring your husband.” The woman replied, “I have no husband.” Jesus answered, “You are right but you have been married five times. The man you are living with is not your husband. You told me the truth.”

The woman said, “I see that you are a prophet. My ancestors worshipped God on this mountain but you Jew say, ‘People must go to Jerusalem to worship God.’”

Jesus said, “Believe me. Soon people will not worship God either on this mountain or in Jerusalem. You Samaritans do not know the God you worship.

But we Jews know the God we worship because salvation happens through the Jews.

The time is now for the people with true faith to worship the Father in Spirit and truth. God is spirit and we must worship him in spirit and truth.” The woman said, “I know that a Messiah will come and he will explain everything to us.” Jesus said, “I am the one you are talking with.”

The disciples came back from the town and saw Jesus talking with the woman. They were surprised but did not ask him why he was talking with the woman.

The woman left her water jug and ran back into town. She said to the people, “Come and see the man that knows everything I did. He could be the Messiah.” Everyone in the town left and went to see Jesus.

The disciples told Jesus to eat. But Jesus said to them, “I have food that you do not know anything about.” The disciples began to ask each other, “Did someone give him something to eat?” Jesus said, “My food is to do what God wants me to do. He is the one that sent me and I must finish the work he gave me. You may say, “Four more months until harvest time. But I tell you to look around and see the fields. The crops are ready to be harvested. The farmers are receiving their rewards for gathering a harvest that gives eternal life.

Third Sunday of Lent

Everyone that planted the seed and everyone that harvests the crop will celebrate together. I am sending you to harvest crops that others did all the hard work.

Many Samaritans in the town began to believe in Jesus because of what the woman said. So they begged Jesus to stay with them. He stayed with them for two days.

Many more people began to believe in Jesus because of what he said. They said to the woman, “We now believe Jesus not only because of what you told us but also because we heard him. We now know that he is really the Savior of the world.

The Good News of the Lord

Third Sunday of Lent

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

1 SAMUEL 16:6-7, 10-13

A Reading from the First Scroll of Samuel

The Lord said to Samuel, “I have decided to take Saul out as king of Israel. Get some olive oil and go to Bethlehem. I want you to see a man named Jesse. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.”

Samuel arrived in Bethlehem and saw one of the son of Jesse named Eliab. He thought, “I am sure that the Lord wants him to be king.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not choose him because he is tall and handsome. I do not want him to be king. I am not like the people who look at the body, face and clothes. I look at the heart.”

Jesse called his seven sons and showed them to Samuel. But Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any one of them.” Then he asked Jesse, “Are these all your sons?” Jesse said, “I have one more son, the youngest. His name is David and he is out in the field taking care of the sheep.” Samuel said, “Tell him to come here. We will not sit down to eat until I see him.”

So Jesse called David to come. He was healthy and good looking with beautiful eyes.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

The Lord said to Samuel, “Yes, he is the one I want to be king. Anoint him.” So Samuel poured the olive oil over his head anointing him in front of his brothers. At once the spirit of the Lord went into David and stayed with him forever.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: The Lord is my shepherd. He gives me everything I need.

The Lord is my shepherd.
He gives me everything I need.
He lets me rest on green grass.
He leads me to quiet pools of water.
He gives me strength to my soul.

RESPONSE:

He leads me on the right paths,
I may walk in the dark but I will not be afraid.
You are with me, Lord.
Your staff protects me.

RESPONSE:

You prepared a banquet for me in front of my enemies.
You welcome me as your honored guest.
My cup is full and overflowing.
Your love and kindness will always be with me.
I will live forever in your house.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians

Paul said, “In the past you were like people living in the dark. Now you are the people of light because you belong to the Lord. So be like the people of light and make your light shine. Be good and honest as you try to make the Lord happy.

Don’t do things that people do in the dark. Let the people know that doing the work in the dark is not good and waste of time. People doing things in secret are ashamed to admit.

The light will show everything that people do. That is why we say, ‘Wake up and rise from death. Christ will shine on you.’”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord says, "I am the light of the world.
Anyone following me will have
the light of life,"

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

JOHN 9:1-41

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John
(Short Form --- Read in Black)

Jesus was walking and he saw a man who was born blind. His disciples asked Jesus, "Teacher, why was this man blind? Is it because his parents sinned?"

Jesus answered, "No! He was born blind for us to see the work of God in him. As long it is still daylight we must do the work of God. Soon it will be dark and we can't do the work. I am here as the light of the world."

Jesus spat on the ground and made some mud. Then he smeared the mud over the eyes of the blind man. He told him to go to the pool of Siloam (this name means 'sent'). The man went to the pool, washed his face and he began to see.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

The neighbors of the man and some people saw him begging before said, “Look at that man! Was he the same man sitting and begging?” Some said, “Yes!” Others said, “No, but he looks like the man.” The man before he was blind said, “Yes, that is me! Before I was blind and now I can see.”

The people asked him, “How can you now see?” The man answered, “Someone named Jesus made some mud and smeared it over my eyes. Then he told me to go to the pool to wash the mud off. So I went and washed my eyes. Now I can see.” The people asked the man, “Where is Jesus?” The man replied, “I don’t know”.

The day Jesus made mud and healed the man was a Sabbath. So the people brought the man to the Pharisees. The Pharisees asked the man, “How he was able to see?” The man told them, “Jesus smeared the mud over my eyes and I washed the mud off. Now I can see.” The Pharisees said, “Jesus cannot be from God because he broke the law of Sabbath.”

The people asked, “How can a sinner do a miracle like that?” The Pharisees began to quarrel with each other. Then they asked the man again, “You said that Jesus healed you. What do you think of him?” The man answered, “He is a prophet.”

But the Pharisees would not believe that the man was blind before and now he could see. So they called his parents and asked them, “Is that your son? Was he born blind and now he can see?” His parents answered, “Yes, he is our son. We know that he was born blind. But we do not know how he is able to see. Ask him. He is old enough to answer for himself.” The parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. They knew that the Jewish leaders would punish anyone believing Jesus as the Messiah. That is why the parents said, “You ask him. He is old enough”.

Again the Pharisees called the man that was born blind back and said to him “Tell us the truth! We know that Jesus is a sinner.” The man replied, “I do not know if Jesus is a sinner or not but I tell you the truth that I was born blind and now I can see.”

The Jewish leaders asked him, “What did Jesus do to you? How did he make you see?” The man answered, “I have already told you but you won’t listen. Why do you want me to explain again? Maybe you would like to be his disciples?” The Jewish leaders became very angry and swore at him saying, “You can be disciple of Jesus. But we are disciples of Moses. We know that God spoke to Moses. But for Jesus we do not know where he is from.” The man answered, “It is strange that you do not know where Jesus is from but he healed me.

We know that God listens only to people that respect him. He does not listen to sinners. This is the first time that anyone has give sight to someone born blind. Jesus can't do that if he is not from God."

The Pharisees replied, "Are you trying to teach us? You are sinner since you were born." Then they threw him out of the temple.

Jesus heard what had happened. He saw the man sitting outside and asked him, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" The man answered, "Tell me where he is so I can believe in him." Jesus said, "You are seeing him now. You are now talking with him." The man replied, "Lord, I believe." and knelt before Jesus.

Jesus said, "I came into this world to judge. I am here to give sight to the blind so they can see me. The people that can see will be blind. Some Pharisees heard Jesus saying that asked him, "Are you telling us that we are blind?" Jesus answered, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty. But you say that you can see means that you are still guilty."

The Good News of the Lord

Fourth Sunday of Lent

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

EZEKIEL 37:12-14

A Reading from the Scroll of Ezekiel

The Lord said, “I will open your graves. I will take you out of your graves and bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the Lord because I brought you out of your graves.

I will put my spirit in you and you will become alive again. I will lead you back to your own land. Then you will know that I am the Lord because I have done as I have promised.”

The Word of the Lord

Fifth Sunday of Lent

RESPONSE: The Lord is full of mercy.
He will save us.

Lord, I am in deep trouble.
I am calling you.
Lord, hear my cry.
I beg you for your mercy.

RESPONSE:

If you keep a record of our sins, how can we be saved?
But, Lord, you forgive us.
So we will worship you.

RESPONSE:

With all my heart I am waiting for you, Lord.
I trust your promises.
I am waiting for you more eagerly.

RESPONSE:

Trust the Lord.
He is always full of mercy.
He has the power to save us.
The Lord will save us from all our sins.

RESPONSE:

Fifth Sunday of Lent

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Paul said, “People interested only in things that are not spiritual cannot make God happy. You are not that people. The Spirit of God lives in you because you are interested in spiritual things.

Any person without the Spirit of Christ inside them does not belong to God. With sin the body is dead. But if the Spirit of Christ lives in you, you will have life. God raised Jesus from death and if the Spirit of God lives in you, God will give you life even though you have died.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord said, “I am the resurrection and the life.
Anyone believing in me will never die.”

Praise and honor to you Lord, Jesus Christ

Gospel

JOHN 11:1-45

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John
(Short Form – Read in Black)

A man named Lazarus and he lived in a town of Bethany with his two sisters, Mary and Martha. Mary was the one who poured perfume over the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. One day Lazarus became sick.

Two sisters sent a message to Jesus telling him that his good friend Lazarus was sick. Jesus received the message and said that his sickness will not end with death but it will be in glory of God and his Son.

Jesus loved Martha, Mary and Lazarus. But he did not go to Bethany until two days later. Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Now let us go back to Judea.”

The disciples said to Jesus, “Teacher, remember the people in Judea tried to kill you with stones. Why do you want to go there?”

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jesus answered, “The light of one day is twelve hours long. If a person walks in the day, they will not fall because they can see in the daylight. But if they walk at night, they will fall because they can’t see without light.” Then he told them that our friend Lazarus is asleep and I am going there to wake him up.”

The disciples replied, “If Lazarus is asleep, will he get better?” They thought Jesus meant that Lazarus was sleeping but Jesus really meant that Lazarus was already dead.

Then Jesus explained that Lazarus is dead and I am glad that I was not there until now so you will believe. Thomas, also named the Twin, said to the other disciples, “Let’s go with Jesus so we can die with him.”

Jesus arrived in Bethany and heard that Lazarus was already in the tomb for four days. Bethany is about two miles from Jerusalem. Many people came from Jerusalem to comfort Martha and Mary because their brother had died.

Martha heard that Jesus had arrived. She went out to meet him. Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had come earlier, my brother would not have died. But I know God will do anything you ask.” Jesus said, “Your brother will live again.” Martha said, “I know that he will be raised to life in the resurrection on the last day.”

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone believing in me will have life after death. Anyone believing in me will never die. Do you believe this? Martha answered, “Yes I believe that you are Christ, the Son of God. You are the one we hope would come into the world.”

Martha went back home and told Mary privately that the teacher is here and he wants to see you. Mary got up and went out to see Jesus. Jesus was still outside the village. Many people were in the house with Mary comforting her. They saw Mary going out. So they followed her thinking that she was going to the tomb to cry.

Mary went to see Jesus and knelt before him saying, “Lord, if you come earlier, my brother would not have died.” Jesus saw Mary and the people with her crying. He felt bad and asked her, “Where did you put the body of Lazarus?” They replied, “Lord, come and you will see.” Jesus began to cry. The people said, “See how much Jesus loved Lazarus.” Some people said, “He gives sight to the blind. Why did he not come to save Lazarus from dying?”

Jesus, still feeling upset, went to the tomb. It was a cave with a large stone covering the entrance. He told the people to move the stone away.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Martha said, “Lord, you know that Lazarus has been dead for four days and the smell will be awful.”

Jesus said, “Remember what I told you before that if you believe in me, you will see the glory of God.” So the people moved the stone away. Jesus looked up and prayed, “Father, I thank you for answering my prayer. I know that you always answer my prayers. But I say for this for the people here so they will believe that you sent me.”

Then Jesus shouted, “Lazarus, come out!” The man that had been dead came out with his hands and feet tied with strips of cloth and a cloth covering his face. Jesus told the people to untie him and let him go. Many people that came to visit Mary saw what had happened and they began to believe in Jesus.

The Good News of the Lord

Fifth Sunday of Lent

PASSION SUNDAY

Gospel

MATTHEW 21:1-11

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew

Jesus and his disciples were on their way to Jerusalem. They went to a town, Bethphage, on the Mount of Olives. Jesus said to the two disciples, “Go to the village and you will see a donkey and her colt. Untie them and bring them here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you taking the donkeys?’ Tell that person that the Lord needs them. He will let you have the donkeys.”

This happened to show what the prophet had said was true:

“Tell the city of Zion. Your king is coming to you. He is humble and rides on a donkey, born from a work animal.”

The disciples went into the village and did what Jesus told them to do. They brought the donkey and the colt and put cloaks on them. Then Jesus got on. Many people spread their cloaks on the road. Other people cut branches from the trees and put them on the road.

Some people walked in front of Jesus and others behind. They were all shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”

Passion Sunday

Jesus entered Jerusalem and all the people were excited. They asked each other, “Who is that man?” Some people said, “This man is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The Good News of the Lord

A Reading from the Scroll of Isaiah

The Lord God taught me what to say so I can speak to inspire the people. Every morning he makes me eager to hear what he is going to tell me.

The Lord opened my mind. I did not rebel or ignore him. I let people whip me on my back. They insulted me and I did not stop them. I let them pull the hairs of my beard and spit in my face.

But they still cannot hurt me because the Lord God is with me. I make myself strong so I can accept their insults. I know that I will not be shamed.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20

RESPONSE: My God, my God, Why you have forsaken me.

People look at me and mock me.
They stick out their tongues at me and say:
“Ask God to save you!”
Maybe he will save you.
If he loves you so much, why doesn’t he save you.

RESPONSE:

People around me are like dogs.
They tied me up.
They pierced my hands and my feet.
I can see my bones.

RESPONSE:

They took off my clothes and gambled for them.
They are throwing dices for my robe.
Lord, don’t leave me!
Hurry and save me!

RESPONSE:

Passion Sunday

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

Paul said, “Christ was truly God. But he did not make himself equal with God. He gave up everything and became slave. He was like one of us.

Christ was humble. He obeyed God and died on a cross. Then God gave him the highest place and honored his name above all other names. So everyone will bow down at the name of Jesus and those in heaven, on earth and under earth.

To the glory of God the Father everyone will agree, ‘Jesus Christ is the Lord.’ ”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

Christ was humble and accepted death on a cross.
God raised him and gave him the name that is
above all other names.

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

MATTHEW 26:14-27:66

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

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ from the Holy Gospel of Matthew

Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve apostles, decided to betray Jesus. So he went to the chief priests and asked them what they will give him if he betrays Jesus to them. The chief priests counted out thirty silver coins and gave them to him. Then Judas began to plan on how to betray Jesus. On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples asked Jesus where he wants to have a Passover meal. Jesus replied,

“Go into the city and tell the man that the master wants to use his house to eat the Passover meal with his disciples.”

Passion Sunday

The disciples went into the city and told the man. Then they prepared the Passover meal. In the evening Jesus sat down to eat with the twelve apostles. Jesus said,

“I tell you the truth. One of you will betray me.”

The apostles were upset and began to ask him,

“Lord, do you mean me?”

“The man that dips his hand into the same bowl with me is the person that will betray me. It will be terrible for that man to betray the Son of Man. It would be better if he is never born.”

Judas, the man that would betray Jesus, said to Jesus,

“Not me?”

“You said it.”

Jesus took some bread. He thanked God for the bread and broke it. Then he gave the bread to his disciples and said,

“Take this bread and eat it. This is my body.”

Then Jesus took a cup of wine, thanked God and gave it to his disciples saying,

“Drink, all of you. This is my blood, the blood of the covenant. This blood will be poured out for many people for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you the truth. I will not drink this wine again until the day I drink the new wine with you in the kingdom of my Father.”

Then they all sang the psalm and went to the Mount of Olives. Jesus said to his disciples,

“Tonight you will lose faith in me.”

Peter said,

“Not me! I will never lose faith.”

Jesus answered,

“I tell the truth. Three times tonight you will say you don’t know me. This will happen before the cock crows.”

But Peter said to Jesus,

“I will never betray you. I will die with you.

Then Jesus went to a garden called Gethsemane and said to his disciples,

“Stay here. I am going there and pray.”

Jesus became very sad and said to Peter and the two brothers, John and James,

“My soul is full of sorrow. Stay awake with me.”

Jesus went up a little further and fell on the ground and prayed,

“Father, is it possible for you to take away the cup of suffering from me. But do what you want; not what I want.”

Jesus came back to the three disciples and saw them sleeping. Jesus said to Peter,

“You could not stay awake with me for one hour? Stay awake and pray that you will not be tempted. Your Spirit is eager but your body is weak.”

Second time Jesus went back to pray,

“My Father, if the cup of suffering cannot be taken away before I drink it. Then do what you want.”

Jesus came back and saw the disciples asleep. He said to them,

“Now is the time for the Son of Man to be betrayed. Get up! Let us go! The man betraying me is here.”

Judas, one of the twelve apostles, arrived with a large crowd of men carrying swords and clubs. Judas said to the men,

“The man I kiss is Jesus. Arrest him!”

Judas went to Jesus and kissed him. Jesus said to Judas,

“My friend, do what you came here for.”

The men grabbed Jesus and arrested him. One of the disciples pulled out his sword and cut off the ear of the servant of the high priest. Jesus said,

“Put back your sword. People that uses sword will be killed by the sword.”

Then Jesus said to the people,

“Am I thief? You came to arrest me with swords and clubs. Every day I sat in the temple teaching you and you did not arrest me.”

All the disciples ran away. Then the men brought Jesus to the house of Caiaphas, the high priest. Peter followed Jesus from the distance and went into the yard. The chief priests tried to find something against Jesus so they could kill him. Many people came and told lies against Jesus. Then two men said,

“This man, Jesus, said that he has power to destroy the temple and build it up again in three days.”

The high priest stood up and said to Jesus,

“These men said that. What do you have to say?”

Passion Sunday

Jesus said nothing. Again the high priest said to Jesus,
“Tell us the truth. Are you the Christ, the Son of God?”

“You say that I am or did someone tell you?”

The high priest heard that and he became angry. So he tore off his clothes and said,

That is blasphemy. We heard what Jesus said. What do you think? He is guilty. He must die.

Then they spat at the face of Jesus and hit him with their fists. Others slapped him and said,

“Tell us who hit you”

Peter was sitting in the yard. A servant girl went to Peter and said,

“You were with Jesus, the man from Galilee.”

But Peter denied and said, “I do not know what you are talking about.”

Another servant girl saw Peter and said,

“This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.”

Again Peter denied and said, “I do not know the man.”
Later some people saw Peter and said to him,

Passion Sunday

“You are one of the disciples of Jesus. We know by your voice.”

Peter became angry and swore I do not know this man, Jesus. At once the cock crowed. Peter heard and remembered what Jesus told him that before the cock crowed, he will say three times that he does not know Jesus. Peter went out and cried.

Early the next morning the chief priests brought Jesus to Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor. Judas heard that Jesus was to be killed he was filled with sorrow. He went to the chief priests to give back the thirty silver coins and said,

“I have sinned. I have betrayed a good man.”

The chief priests replied,

“We don’t care. That is your problem.”

Judas threw down the money in the temple, ran away and hanged himself.

Jesus stood before Pontius Pilate. Pilate asked him if he is the king of the Jews?” Jesus answered,

“You say so.”

The chief priests accused Jesus but he said nothing. Pilate said to Jesus, “You hear all these people accusing you.” But Jesus still said nothing. Pilate was surprised.

Passion Sunday

Every year it was the custom during Passover for the people to choose one prisoner to be freed. Pilate knew that the Jewish leaders wanted to get rid of Jesus because they were jealous of him. That time was a killer named Barabbas. The chief priests persuaded the people to ask for Barabbas to be freed. Pilate asked the people, “Which one do you want to free: Barabbas or Jesus the Christ?” The people shouted,

“Barabbas! Barabbas!”

Pilate asked the people what he should do with Jesus. They shouted,

“Crucify him! Crucify him!”

Pilate asked them why? Jesus has done nothing wrong. But the people shouted louder,

“Crucify him! Crucify him!”

Pilate realized that he can't do anything. He became worried that the people would make trouble. So he washed his hands in front of the people.

Then Pilate freed Barabbas. He ordered Jesus to be whipped. The soldiers gathered around Jesus, took off his clothes and put on a red robe. They made a crown of thorns and put it on his head. Then they bowed before Jesus and mocked him,

Passion Sunday

“Hail, king of the Jews!”

The soldiers spat at Jesus and hit his head with a stick. Then they took off the robe and took him away to be killed on a cross.

On the way the soldiers forced a man named Simon from Cyrene to carry the cross for Jesus. They got to a place called Golgotha which means “The Place of the Skull”.

The soldiers gave Jesus wine mixed with gall to drink. Jesus tasted it but refused to drink it. Then the soldiers nailed Jesus to a cross. They gambled for his clothes with dice. On the top of the cross was a sign saying “Jesus, the king of the Jews.”

At the same time two thieves were crucified with Jesus, one on the right and the other on the left. People were shaking their fists at Jesus and mocked him saying,

“You said that you would destroy the temple and build it up again in three days! So save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross!”

The chief priests and other people also mocked Jesus saying,

“He saved other people but he can’t save himself! If he is the king of Israel, he should come down from the cross. Then we will believe in him.”

Passion Sunday

At noon the whole country became dark for three hours.
At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

“Eli, Eli, Iema sabachthani?”

That means,

My God, my God, Why are you forsaking me?

Some people heard Jesus and said,

“He is shouting to Elijah!”

Someone went to get a sponge, dipped it in cheap wine and put it on a stick. Then he gave it to Jesus to drink from it. Other people said,

“Wait! See if Elijah will come to save Jesus.”

Again Jesus shouted in a loud voice and died.

SILENCE

The curtain in the temple was torn from top to bottom. Then the earth shook. The rocks cracked and the tombs opened. Bodies of many holy men and women rose from the dead. The Roman officer guarding saw what all had happened. He became afraid and said,

“This man is truly the Son of God!”

Many women standing near the cross were watching. The women were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the wife of Zebedee.

In the evening a rich man named Joseph from Arimathaea. He was a follower of Jesus. He went to Pontius Pilate and asked him for the body of Jesus. Pilate ordered the soldiers to give the body of Jesus to Joseph.

Joseph took the body, wrapped in a new cloth and put his body in the tomb, the new one that was never used before. Then he closed the tomb with a large heavy stone. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary sitting near the tomb were watching where Joseph buried Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord

HOLY THURSDAY

First Reading

EXODUS 12:1-8, 11-14

A Reading from the Scroll of Exodus

Moses and Aaron were in Egypt. The Lord said to them, “This month is to be the first month of the year for you. You must tell the people of Israel ‘On the tenth day of this month each man must choose either a lamb or a young goat for his family.’

If his family is too small to eat the whole animal, he must share an animal with his neighbor according to the number of people and how much each person can eat. You may choose either a sheep or a goat, but it must be a one-year old male without blemishes. Then on the evening of the fourteenth day of the month the whole community of Israel will kill the animals. The people are to take some of the blood, paint it on the doorposts and above the doors of the houses that the animals are to be eaten.

The night the meat is to be roasted and eaten with bitter herbs and with bread made without yeast. You are to eat the meat quickly. You must be dressed for travel, with your sandals on your feet and your walking stick in your hand. It is the Passover festival to honor me, the Lord.”

Holy Thursday

On that night I will go through the land of Egypt, killing every first-born male, both human and animal and punish all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. The blood on the doorposts will be a sign to show the houses in which you live. I will see the blood and I will pass over it. I will not harm you but I will punish the Egyptians. You must celebrate this day as a religious festival to remind you what I, the Lord, have done. Celebrate it for all time to come.”

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: The cup we share is the blood of Christ.

How can I thank the Lord?
He gave me everything I need.
I will bring him a wine offering.
I will pray in his name because he saved me.

RESPONSE:

For the people I will keep my promise to the Lord.
For people to die is painful to the Lord.
Lord, I am your servant.
I worship you just as my mother did.

RESPONSE:

I will offer my thanks.
I will offer to you my prayer.
I will keep my promises to you.

RESPONSE:

Second Reading

1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-26

A Reading of the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Paul said, “I have already told you what the Lord did on the night he was betrayed. This is what the Lord did.

He took the bread and gave thanks to God. Then he broke it and said, ‘This is my body given up for you. Eat this and do this in memory of me.’

Then Jesus took a cup of wine and said, ‘This is my blood and with this blood God makes his agreement with you. Drink it in my memory.’

This means that every time you eat this bread and drink from this cup you are to proclaim about his death until he comes.

The Word of the Lord

Holy Thursday

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "Love one another as I love you."

Praise and honor to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

Gospel

JOHN 13:1-15

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

The day before Passover Jesus knew it is time for him to leave the world and go back to his Father. He had always loved his people in the world.

Jesus and his disciples were having supper. The devil had already persuaded Judas Iscariot to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had given him full power and that he is from God and he will go back to his Father.

During the meal Jesus stood up, took off his robe and tied a towel around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin, began to wash the feet of his disciples and dried them with the towel. He came to Peter. Peter said to Jesus, "Are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know what I am doing but you will understand."

Holy Thursday

Peter replied, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “If I do not wash your feet, you cannot be my disciple.” Peter said, “Wash not only my feet, but my hands and my head.” Jesus said, “People who have bathed do not need to be washed again. All of you are clean, but one of you is not.” Jesus knew who will betray him. That is why he said ‘but one of you’.

Then Jesus stood up and put on his robe. He sat down at the table and asked them, “Do you understand what I have done? You call me ‘teacher’ and ‘Lord’. You are right because I am your teacher and Lord. But I washed your feet like a servant. So you should wash each other’s feet. I gave you an example so that you should do what I have done to you.”

The Good News of the Lord

Holy Thursday

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 will say nothing. 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.

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.

Good Friday

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, hear my prayer.

Save me now.

Be my mighty rock.

Lord, protect me.

RESPONSE:

You hate those worshipping false gods.

But I trust you, Lord.

RESPONSE:

People forgot me.

I am like something thrown out.

I hear people whispering against me.

They are planning to kill me.

RESPONSE:

Second Reading

HEBREWS 4:14-16, 5:7-9

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 is the Son of God. But he still had to suffer before he could learn what it really means to obey God. Suffering made Jesus perfect so he can save all people obeying him.

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 18:1-19:42

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 servant 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,

“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 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.”

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,

Good Friday

“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.”

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, “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,

Good Friday

“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. 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 for the 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, 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 in linen cloths with the spices according to the Jewish custom of preparing 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