

Holy Week 2021



Readings and prayers
for the home
through the Songs of Isaiah

Palm Sunday

Hosanna to the Son of David.

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

Behold your king comes to you, O Zion,
meek and lowly, sitting upon an ass.
Ride on in the cause of truth and for the sake of justice.
Your throne is the throne of God, it endures for ever;
and the sceptre of your kingdom is a righteous sceptre.
You have loved righteousness and hated evil.
Therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

11:¹Approaching Jerusalem, Jesus sent two of his disciples, ² saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here." ³ If anyone asks you, "Why are you doing this?" tell him, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly." ⁴ They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, ⁵ some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" ⁶ They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. ⁷ When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road. ⁹ Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" ¹⁰ "Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!" "Hosanna in the highest!" *Mark 11:1-10*

Our Father...

True and humble King,
the crowd hailed you as Messiah then turned against you:
may our praise last longer than a day;
may we be found beside you on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you, and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Holy Monday

God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

42:¹ Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

² He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;

³ a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵ Thus says God, the Lord...., ⁶ I am the Lord,
I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;

I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,
⁷ to open the eyes that are blind,

to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness. *Isaiah 42:1-7*

Our Father...

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Holy Tuesday

We preach Christ crucified, the power of God and the wisdom of God.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

49:¹ Listen to me, O coastlands,

pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The Lord called me before I was born,

while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

² He made my mouth like a sharp sword,

in the shadow of his hand he hid me;

he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.

³ And he said to me, 'You are my servant,

Israel, in whom I will be glorified.'

⁴ But I said, 'I have laboured in vain,

I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;

yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God.'

⁵ And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant,

to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him,

for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord,

and my God has become my strength—

⁶ he says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you as a light to the nations,

that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.' *Isaiah 49:1-6*

Our Father...

Most merciful God,

in your plan of salvation

your Son Jesus Christ accepted the cross

and freed us from the power of the enemy.

May we come to share the glory of his resurrection,

through him who suffered for our redemption.

Amen.

Holy Wednesday

God forbid that I should glory,
save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

50 The servant of the LORD said: ⁴ The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens - wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵ The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. ⁶ I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷ The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸ he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ⁹ It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty? *Isaiah 50:4-9*

Our Father...

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example
of his patience and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Maundy Thursday

Jesus says : I am the living bread that came down from heaven.
If anyone eats of this bread, they will live for ever.

This bread is my flesh.
Which I will give for the life of the world.

If you love me, keep my commandments.
Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.

25: ⁶ On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.

⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

⁸ he will swallow up death for ever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation. *Isaiah 25:6-9*

Our Father...

Lord Jesus Christ,
we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament
you have given us the memorial of your passion:
grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your body and blood
that we may know within ourselves
and show forth in our lives the fruit of your redemption,
for you are alive and reign, now and for ever.

Amen.

GOOD FRIDAY

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?

Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow,
which was brought upon me,
which the Lord inflicted on the day of his fierce anger. *Lamentations 1:12*
Holy God, holy and strong,
holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

52 ¹³. See, my servant will act wisely; he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted. ¹⁴ Just as there were many who were appalled at him- his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and his form marred beyond human likeness- ¹⁵ so will he sprinkle many nations, and kings will shut their mouths because of him. For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand. **53** ¹. Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ² He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. ³ He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. ⁴ Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. ⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. ⁷ He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. *Isaiah 52:13-53:7*

Our Father...

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

O Saviour of the world, who by your cross and precious blood
have redeemed us, save us and help us, we humbly pray.

Holy Saturday

His cross stands empty in a world grown silent
Through hours of anguish and of dread;
In stillness, earth awaits the resurrection,
While Christ goes down to wake the dead

He summons Adam and his generations,
Brings light where darkness endless seemed;
He frees and claims His own, so long held captive,
Who, with the living, are redeemed.

53:⁸ My servant was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken. ⁹ He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth. ¹⁰ Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. ¹¹ After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. ¹² Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. *Isaiah 53: 8-12*

Our Father...

Almighty and ever-living God,
whose only begotten Son descended to the realm of the dead,
and rose from there to glory,
grant that your faithful people,
who were buried with him in baptism,
may by his resurrection,
be brought to the fulness of eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.