



At the heart of the Good Friday service is the passion according to John, which proclaims Jesus as a triumphant king who reigns from the cross. The ancient title for this day, the Triumph of the Cross, reminds us that the church gathers not to mourn this day but to celebrate Christ's life-giving passion and to find strength and hope in the tree of life.

According to the Church's tradition, Mass is not celebrated today. The altar is completely bare: without a cross, without candles and without cloths. Today we celebrate the Lord's Passion, consisting of three parts, namely: the Liturgy of the Word, the Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion.

We gather in silence. The clergy enter the church and prostrate themselves while all pray in silence. The Opening Prayer is recited, and we sit for the Liturgy of the Word.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Is 52:13—53:12

Suffering and Triumph of the Servant of the Lord

See, my servant shall prosper, he shall be raised high and greatly exalted. Even as many were amazed at him — so marred was his look beyond human semblance and his appearance beyond that of the sons of man — so shall he startle many nations, because of him kings shall stand speechless; for those who have not been told shall see, those who have not heard shall ponder it.

Who would believe what we have heard? To whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? He grew up like a sapling before him, like a shoot from the parched earth; there was in him no stately bearing to make us look at him, nor appearance that would attract us to him. He was spurned and avoided by people, a man of suffering, accustomed to infirmity, one of those from

whom people hide their faces, spurned, and we held him in no esteem. Yet it was our infirmities that he bore our sufferings that he endured, while we thought of him as stricken, as one smitten by God and afflicted. But he was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins; upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole, by his stripes we were healed. We had all gone astray like sheep, each following his own way; but the LORD laid upon him the guilt of us all. Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth; like a lamb led to the slaughter or a sheep before the shearers, he was silent and opened not his mouth. Oppressed and condemned, he was taken away, and who would have thought any more of his destiny? When he was cut off from the land

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Father, into your hands I Commend my Spirit

Second Reading: Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9 Jesus, Compassionate High Priest.

Brothers and sisters: Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin. So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

of the living, and smitten for the sin of his people, a grave was assigned him among the wicked and a burial place with evildoers, though he had done no wrong nor spoken any falsehood. But the LORD was pleased to crush him in infirmity. If he gives his life as an offering for sin, he shall see his descendants in a long life, and the will of the LORD shall be accomplished through him. Because of his affliction he shall see the light in fullness of days; through his suffering, my servant shall justify many, and their guilt he shall bear. Therefore I will give him his portion among the great, and he shall divide the spoils with the mighty, because he surrendered himself to death and was counted among the wicked; and he shall take away the sins of many, and win pardon for their offenses.

In the days when Christ was in the flesh, he offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel: Jn 18:1– 19:43

We ask all who can to remain standing for the proclamation of the Passion. Those who cannot stand, may be seated. Please take the appropriate parts during the proclamation of the Passion.

N. – Narrator V. – Voice † - Christ C. - Crowd (All are to read)

N. The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to where there was a garden, into which he and his disciples entered. Judas his betrayer also knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with his disciples. So Judas got a band of soldiers and guards from the chief priests and the Pharisees and went there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. Jesus, knowing everything that was going to happen to him, went out and said to them, † “Whom are you looking for?”

N. They answered him,

C. “**Jesus the Nazorean.**”

N. He said to them,

† “I AM.”

N. Judas his betrayer was also with them. When he said to them, “I AM,” they turned away and fell to the ground. So he again asked them,

† “Whom are you looking for?”

N. They said,

C. “**Jesus the Nazorean.**”

N. Jesus answered,

† “I told you that I AM. So if you are looking for me, let these men go.”

N. This was to fulfill what he had said, “I have not lost any of those you gave me.”

Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest’s slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave’s name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter,

† “Put your sword into its scabbard. Shall I

not drink the cup that the Father gave me?”

N. So the band of soldiers, the tribune, and the Jewish guards seized Jesus, bound him, and brought him to Annas first. He was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had counseled the Jews that it was better that one man should die rather than the people.

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Now the other disciple was known to the high priest, and he entered the courtyard of the high priest with Jesus. But Peter stood at the gate outside. So the other disciple, the acquaintance of the high priest, went out and spoke to the gatekeeper and brought Peter in. Then the maid who was the gatekeeper said to Peter, **C.** “**You are not one of this man’s disciples, are you?**”

N. He said,

V. “I am not.”

N. Now the slaves and the guards were standing around a charcoal fire that they had made, because it was cold, and were warming themselves.

Peter was also standing there keeping warm. The high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his doctrine. Jesus answered him, † “I have spoken publicly to the world. I have always taught in a synagogue or in the temple area where all the Jews gather, and in secret I have said nothing. Why ask me? Ask those who heard me what I said to them. They

know what I said.”

N. When he had said this, one of the temple guards standing there struck Jesus and said,

V. “Is this the way you answer the high priest?”

N. Jesus answered him,

† “If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong; but if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?”

N. Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Now Simon Peter was standing there keeping warm. And they said to him,

C. “**You are not one of his disciples, are you?**”

N. He denied it and said,

V. “I am not.”

N. One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the one whose ear Peter had cut off, said,

C. “**Didn’t I see you in the garden with him?**”

N. Again Peter denied it. And immediately the cock crowed.

Then they brought Jesus from Caiaphas to the praetorium. It was morning. And they themselves did not enter the praetorium, in order not to be defiled so that they could eat the Passover. So Pilate came out to them and said,

V. “What charge do you bring against this man?”

N. They answered and said to him,

C. “**If he were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.**”

N. At this, Pilate said to them,

V. “Take him yourselves, and judge him according to your law.”

N. The Jews answered him,

C. “**We do not have the right to execute anyone,**”

N. in order that the word of Jesus might be fulfilled that he said indicating the kind of death he would die. So Pilate went back

into the praetorium and summoned Jesus and said to him,

V. “Are you the King of the Jews?”

N. Jesus answered,

† “Do you say this on your own or have others told you about me?”

N. Pilate answered,

V. “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?” **N.** Jesus answered,

† “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not here.”

N. So Pilate said to him,

V. “Then you are a king?”

N. Jesus answered,

† “You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

N. Pilate said to him,

V. “What is truth?”

N. When he had said this, he again went out to the Jews and said to them,

V. “I find no guilt in him. But you have a custom that I release one prisoner to you at Passover. Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?”

N. They cried out again,

C. “**Not this one but Barabbas!**”

N. Now Barabbas was a revolutionary.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him scourged. And the soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and placed it on his head, and clothed him in a purple cloak, and they came to him and said,

C. “**Hail, King of the Jews!**”

N. And they struck him repeatedly. Once more Pilate went out and said to them,

V. “Look, I am bringing him out to you, so that you may know that I find no guilt in

him.”

N. So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple cloak. And Pilate said to them,

V. “Behold, the man!”

N. When the chief priests and the guards saw him they cried out,

C. **“Crucify him, crucify him!”**

N. Pilate said to them,

V. “Take him yourselves and crucify him. I find no guilt in him.”

N. The Jews answered,

C. **“We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.”**

N. Now when Pilate heard this statement, he became even more afraid, and went back into the praetorium and said to Jesus,

V. “Where are you from?”

N. Jesus did not answer him. So Pilate said to him,

V. “Do you not speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you and I have power to crucify you?”

N. Jesus answered him,

† “You would have no power over me if it had not been given to you from above. For this reason the one who handed me over to you has the greater sin.”

N. Consequently, Pilate tried to release him; but the Jews cried out,

C. **“If you release him, you are not a friend of Caesar. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.”**

N. When Pilate heard these words he brought Jesus out and seated him on the judge’s bench in the place called Stone Pavement, in Hebrew, Gabbatha. It was preparation day for Passover, and it was about noon. And he said to the Jews,

V. “Behold, your king!”

N. They cried out,

C. **“Take him away, take him away! Crucify him!”**

N. Pilate said to them,

V. “Shall I crucify your king?”

N. The chief priests answered,

C. **“We have no king but Caesar.”**

N. Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus, and, carrying the cross himself, he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus in the middle.

Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, “Jesus the Nazorean, the King of the Jews.” Now many of the Jews read this inscription, place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek. So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate,

C. **“Do not write ‘The King of the Jews, but that he said, ‘I am the King of the Jews.’”**

N. Pilate answered,

V. “What I have written, I have written.” **N.** When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four shares, a share for each soldier. They also took his tunic, but the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top down. So they said to one another,

C. **“Let’s not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it will be,”**

N. in order that the passage of Scripture might be fulfilled that says:

They divided my garments among them,

and for my vesture they cast lots.

This is what the soldiers did.

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved he said to his mother,

† “Woman, behold, your son.”

N. Then he said to the disciple,

† “Behold, your mother.”

N. And from that hour the disciple took her into his home. After this, aware that everything was now finished, in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled, Jesus said, † “I thirst.”

N. There was a vessel filled with common wine. So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop and put it up to his mouth. When Jesus had taken the wine, he said,

† “It is finished.”

N. And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit.

Here all kneel and pause for a short time.

N. Now since it was preparation day, in order that the bodies might not remain on the cross on the sabbath, for the sabbath day of that week was a solemn one, the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken and that they be taken down.

So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs,

but one soldier thrust his lance into his side, and immediately blood and water flowed out.

An eyewitness has testified, and his testimony is true; he knows that he is speaking the truth, so that you also may come to believe. For this happened so that the Scripture passage might be fulfilled:

Not a bone of it will be broken.

And again another passage says:

They will look upon him whom they have pierced.

After this, Joseph of Arimathea, secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus. And Pilate permitted it. So he came and took his body. Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes weighing about one hundred pounds.

They took the body of Jesus and bound it with burial cloths along with the spices, according to the Jewish burial custom. Now in the place where he had been crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had yet been buried. So they laid Jesus there because of the Jewish preparation day; for the tomb was close by.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, Lord, Jesus Christ.

Homily

Solemn Intercessions

The Solemn Intercessions come down to us in a form derived from ancient tradition and they reflect the full range of intentions. They conclude the Liturgy of the Word of Good Friday, as the General Intercessions conclude the Liturgy of the Word at Sunday and weekday Eucharist. The intercessions this day follow an ancient Roman pattern. Each intercession has three parts: the intention, the silent prayer and the collect.

1. For Holy Church
2. For the Pope
3. For all orders and degrees of the Faithful
4. For Catechumens
5. For the Unity of Christians
6. For the Jewish People
7. For those who do not believe in Christ
8. For those who do not believe in God
9. For those in public office
10. For Delivery from the Pandemic
11. For those in any need

Collection

Thank you for your generosity to this collection for the Vatican for the divine works of the Holy Father.

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ADORATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

When we adore the Cross, we adore not a wooden structure but the Risen Christ, of whom the Cross is a most sacred symbol.

Showing of the Cross

The Priest or Deacon, accompanied by ministers, goes to the door of the church, where he receives the veiled CROSS, and the ministers take lighted candles; then the procession passes through the church to the Sanctuary. Near the door, in the middle of the Church, and Before the Entrance to the Sanctuary, the one who carries the Cross elevates it and sings, and we respond.

Priest: Behold, the wood of the cross, on which hung our salvation.

All: Come let us Adore!

Veneration of the Cross

ALL then KNEEL for a moment of adoration while the Priest holds the Cross Aloft

HOLY COMMUNION

When the Veneration of the Cross is completed, a cloth is spread on the altar, and a corporal and Missal put in place. We share the Eucharistic bread that was consecrated for the community on Holy Thursday. Meanwhile, the Priest brings the Blessed Sacrament from the place of Repose to the altar while all STAND in Silence. Two ministers with lighted candles accompany the Blessed Sacrament and place the candlesticks near the altar.

Our Father

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

Priest: Deliver us ...

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Invitation to Communion

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, blessed are those called to the supper of the lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, But only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Holy Communion

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

We Depart...

As we leave our worship today, we reflect on the Cross. We wish you a safety and good health in your homes and places of rest and bid you peace until we meet again.

Our prayer continues with Morning Prayer tomorrow at 8:30 a.m. and will continue with the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Masses.

Please see [Worship Schedule | St. Michael Catholic Church \(stmichaellivermore.com\)](http://stmichaellivermore.com) for the complete schedule for Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday.