

WEEKEND HOME WORSHIP AIDE

APRIL 4-5, 2020
PALM SUNDAY

Prepare your space | Turn off all electronics, light a candle, and sit in a comfortable chair

Prepare your head / *“My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not as I will, but as you will.”* The suffering caused by the pandemic of 2020 unites us in an unprecedented way with this prayer of Jesus. As Jesus prayed his cup of suffering would pass, so too do we pray that *our* cup of suffering will pass – and quickly. Yet, more than this, Jesus prayed three times that he fulfill the Father’s will. By being faithful he knew he would fulfill the Father’s plan for salvation. As we embrace our cup of suffering, how can we make this time of suffering salvific for others? How can we reach out to those who suffer more than we do – the sick, the poor, bereaved, the lonely, those anxious and distressed?

Special Entrance Reading for Palm Sunday | Mt. 21:1-11

When Jesus and the disciples drew near Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tethered, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them here to me. And if anyone should say anything to you, reply, ‘The master has need of them.’ Then he will send them at once.” This happened so that what had been spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled: *Say to daughter Zion, “Behold, your king comes to you, meek and riding on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.”* The disciples went and did as Jesus had ordered them. They brought the ass and the colt and laid their cloaks over them, and he sat upon them. The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road. The crowds preceding him and those following kept crying out and saying: “Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is the he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest.” And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was shaken and asked, “Who is this?” And the crowds replied, “This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee.” The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Opening Prayer

Almighty ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Savior to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Amen

First Reading | IS 50:4-7

The Lord GOD has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. Morning after morning he opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame. The word the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Responsorial Psalm | PS 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24: **My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

- All who see me scoff at me; they mock me with parted lips, they wag their heads: "He relied on the LORD; let him deliver him, let him rescue him, if he loves him." **R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**
- Indeed, many dogs surround me, a pack of evildoers closes in upon me; They have pierced my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones. **R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**
- They divide my garments among them, and for my vesture they cast lots. But you, O LORD, be not far from me; O my help, hasten to aid me. **R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**
- I will proclaim your name to my brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you: "You who fear the LORD, praise him; all you descendants of Jacob, give glory to him; revere him, all you descendants of Israel!" **R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

Second Reading | PHIL 2:6-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. The word the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel | MT 27:11-54 (longer version: 26:14—27:66)

Jesus stood before the governor, Pontius Pilate, who questioned him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so." And when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he made no answer. Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many things they are testifying against you?" But he did not answer him one word, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now on the occasion of the feast the governor was accustomed to release to the crowd one prisoner whom they wished. And at that time they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. So when they had assembled, Pilate said to them, "Which one do you want me to release to you, Barabbas, or Jesus called Christ?" For he knew that it was out of envy that they had handed him over. While he was still seated on the bench, his wife sent him a message, "Have nothing to do with that righteous man. I suffered much in a dream today because of him." The chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas but to destroy Jesus. The governor said to them in reply, "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" They answered, Barabbas!" Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus called Christ?" They all said, "Let him be crucified!" But he said, "Why? What evil has he done?" They only shouted the louder, "Let him be crucified!" When Pilate saw that he was not succeeding at all, but that a riot was breaking out instead, he took water and washed his hands in the sight of the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood. Look to it yourselves." And the whole people said in reply, "His blood be upon us and upon our children." Then he released Barabbas to them, but after he had Jesus scourged, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus inside the praetorium and gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped off his clothes and threw a scarlet military cloak about him. Weaving

a crown out of thorns, they placed it on his head, and a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat upon him and took the reed and kept striking him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the cloak, dressed him in his own clothes, and led him off to crucify him. As they were going out, they met a Cyrenian named Simon; this man they pressed into service to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha — which means Place of the Skull —, they gave Jesus wine to drink mixed with gall. But when he had tasted it, he refused to drink. After they had crucified him, they divided his garments by casting lots; then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And they placed over his head the written charge against him: This is Jesus, the King of the Jews. Two revolutionaries were crucified with him, one on his right and the other on his left. Those passing by reviled him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, if you are the Son of God, and come down from the cross!" Likewise the chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him and said, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. So he is the king of Israel! Let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusted in God; let him deliver him now if he wants him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" The revolutionaries who were crucified with him also kept abusing him in the same way. From noon onward, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Some of the bystanders who heard it said, "This one is calling for Elijah." Immediately one of them ran to get a sponge; he soaked it in wine, and putting it on a reed, gave it to him to drink. But the rest said, "Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to save him." But Jesus cried out again in a loud voice, and gave up his spirit. And behold, the veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth quaked, rocks were split, tombs were opened, and the bodies of many saints who had fallen asleep were raised. And coming forth from their tombs after his resurrection, they entered the holy city and appeared to many. The centurion and the men with him who were keeping watch over Jesus feared greatly when they saw the earthquake and all that was happening, and they said, "Truly, this was the Son of God!"

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Reflection Questions

1. What words/phrases or images strike you? Why?
2. How does Jesus Passion and Crucifixion offer us hope?
3. Jesus gives His life for us. What graces do you want to ask of Him this week?
4. As we enter into Holy Week, how are we going to enter more deeply in the Meditation of the Paschal Mystery? (Christ's Suffering, Death, and Resurrection)

Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Petitions | Response: Lord, hear our prayer

1. For all God's people, that in meditating on Christ's Paschal Mystery, we may have an increase of hope, we pray.
2. For those in positions of leadership throughout the world, give them wisdom and prudence and may they use their influence to effect positive change and promote the common good, we pray.
3. For all health care workers, and all public servants who care for us, that they may have a greater outpouring of perseverance, patience and trust, we pray.
4. For all those who are feeling the economic impact of these trying times, especially those who have lost their jobs and their families, we pray.
5. For all those who are sick in body and spirit, those on our prayer tree and those dealing with the Coronavirus, we pray.
6. For those mourning the loss of a loved one, may they know the comfort and care of Jesus who wept at the tomb of his friend Lazarus, we pray.
7. For all those who have died, especially in our own families, and for consolation to those who mourn, we pray...

God of life, you are the source and the destiny of our lives. Kindle your Spirit within us and hear the prayers we offer through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Offertory

Pray

Through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son, O Lord, may our reconciliation with you be near at hand, so that, though we do not merit it by our own deeds, yet by this sacrifice made once for all, we may feel already the effects of your mercy.

Through Christ our Lord.

Meditate

What do you want to offer to the Lord?

-What struggles in your own life?

-A person you want to offer up in prayer?

-Something I want to thank/praise God for

Giving

Your financial support is very important to our parishes, even if we are not able to celebrate Mass as a faith community. The majority of our parishes' expenses will still be incurred even though we do not have weekend Masses. You now have the option to make your gift online through a portal set up by the Archdiocese of Dubuque.

Use this link: <https://dbqarch.org/donate-to-your-parish> or click on it from our linkage website. Choose your amount and select your parish from the drop-down menu, which is listed alphabetically by city. Just complete the fields and click donate! The Archdiocese will notify us of all gifts and transfer the funds directly to the parish account. If you would like to make an additional gift later, please repeat the same process. Please contact Mary Quinlin, linkage business manager, at dbq108bm@dbqarch.org if you have any questions. Thank you for your support!

Our Father...

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. 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.

Closing Prayer

We humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, just as through the death of your Son you have brought us to hope for what we believe, so by his Resurrection you may lead us to where you call. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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