

Good Friday Reflection:

“He was pierced through for our faults” Is. 53:5

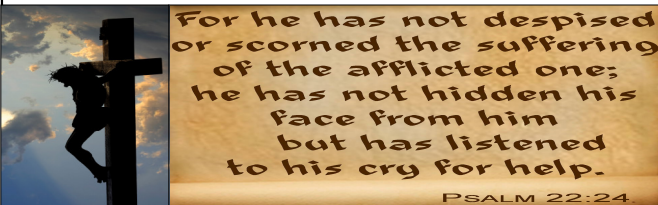
As we stand before the Cross this Good Friday, if we come in purity of heart, we will enter into a mystery of love beyond the world. See the innocent Son of God hanging there, bloodied and battered. Our Lord willingly accepted that brutal death so that we might be saved from ourselves. Through His Passion and Death on the Cross, enduring undeserved pain and agony, our God rescued us. He saved us from death without our asking, without our deserving it.

Prior to His last words Jesus said, "I thirst", and "they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop and put it up to His mouth." It was a sprig of hyssop that the people of Israel used to apply the lambs' blood to the doorposts in Egypt to save themselves from the destroyer. Christ thirsts on the Cross that His blood will be shed so that the destroyer will pass over us. He thirsts for our salvation, thirsts to accomplish what the Father has willed: the Final Covenant sealed in His own blood.

And, at last, "It is finished". The last words uttered from that terrible yet wondrous Cross embodies Christ's entire mission of salvation: His birth as God Incarnate; His life within the Holy Family at Nazareth; His countless and beautiful acts as Master and Teacher; and His selfless, radical love so evident in His Passion and Death. The spotless Lamb has given Himself over to the People of God in an indescribable act of thirst and love.

The Cross challenges us, it troubles our consciences, it reveals in the light of reality our failings and sin. It demands change and repentance; it demands a new life of unity with Christ and His people. It demands love. Let us remember that this Love who pours out His blood for us does so to transform us into something beyond ourselves. We are called to a new life. We are called to pick up our cross. Let us thirst for Him.

(excerpt: catholic.org /F. K. Bartels)



Kids Column -
ON PALM SUNDAY EVERYBODY CHEERED FOR JESUS, BUT A FEW DAYS LATER THEY SHOUTED AT HIM AS HE WAS LED TO HIS DEATH. WE MUST BE FAITHFUL TO JESUS WHEN IT'S EASY AND EVERYONE AROUND US IS, AND WE MUST ALSO BE FAITHFUL WHEN IT'S REALLY HARD AND EVERYONE ELSE IS AGAINST HIM.

Holy Week

This is a very special week. On Thursday we celebrate the day that Jesus ate the Last Supper with His apostles. This was the first Mass, when He gave His Body and Blood to them in what still looked like bread and wine. He also made them priests by giving them the power to turn bread and wine into His Body and Blood to offer them to the Father.

On Good Friday we remember the suffering and death of Our Lord. He was beaten and made fun of, and had to carry the heavy cross. Then He was nailed to the cross, where He hung for hours before He gave up His life to God for us.

On Holy Saturday we remember the day that Mary and the apostles and Jesus' other friends were very sad and upset by what had happened. Their best friend and leader had just been killed! Do you think they knew what was about to happen on Easter Sunday?

(kidsbulletin.com)



Synod 2021-2023: Communion/Participation/Mission

PALM SUNDAY - 24TH MARCH 2024 - YEAR B

Death Destroyed.

Crowned with thorns, our Lord is lifted up on the Cross, where He dies as "King of the Jews." Notice how many times He is called king in today's Gospel, mostly in scorn and mockery.

As we hear the long accounts of His Passion, at every turn we must remind ourselves that He suffered this cruel and unusual violence for us. He is the Suffering Servant foretold by Isaiah in the First Reading. He reenacts the agony described in the Psalm, and even dies with the first words of that Psalm on His lips. Listen carefully for the echoes of this Psalm throughout the Gospel, as Jesus is beaten, His hands and feet pierced, as His enemies gamble for His clothes, wagging their heads, mocking His faith in God's love, His faith that God will deliver Him.

Are we that much different from our Lord's tormenters? Don't we often deny that He is King, refusing to obey His command that we love Him and one another? Don't we render Him mock tribute, pay Him lip service with our half-hearted devotions?

In the dark noon of Calvary, the veil in Jerusalem's temple was torn. It was a sign that by His Death, Jesus destroyed forever the barrier separating us from the presence of God. He was God and yet humbled himself to come among us.

And despite our repeated failures, our frailty, Jesus still humbles himself to come to us, offering us His body and blood in the Eucharist. His enemies never understood: His kingship isn't of this world. He wants to write His law, His rule of life on our hearts and minds.

As we enter Holy Week, let us once more resolve to give Him dominion in our lives. Let us take up the cross He gives to us, and confess with all our hearts, minds, and strength, that truly this is the Son of God.

(excerpt:stpaulcenter.com)

St. Joseph the Worker Parish
Gros Islet, Grande Riviere & Monchy

CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday
9.00 - 10.00 a.m.
&
by appointment

Parish Priests: Msgr. Michel Francis., Fr. Joseph X. Savarimuthu
Deacons: Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. David Popo
Address: P.O. Box Choc 8192, Castries LC02 801, Saint Lucia
Tel: (758) 450-8325 / (758) 450-9390 ☩ Cell: (758) 285-8831
Email: st.joseph_church@hotmail.com ☩
Website: www.grosisletchurch.org ☩
Facebook: facebook.com/stjosephtheworkerparish ☩

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading

Is.50:4-7

Second Reading

Phil.2:6-11

Gospel

Mk.14:1-15:47

MASS TIMES

GROS ISLET

Morning Prayers:
5:45a.m.



MONDAY

6:00 a. m./12:30 p.m.



TUESDAY

6:00 a.m.



WEDNESDAY

6:00 a. m./12:30 p.m.
G/Riviere: 6:00 p.m.



THURSDAY

6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.
Monchy: 6:00 p.m.



FRIDAY

6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.



SATURDAY

6:30 a.m./6:00 p. m.



SUNDAY

G/Islet/G.Riviere
7:30 a.m.



Gros Islet/Monchy

10:00 a.m.



HOLIDAY

Variable



Holy Thursday: "Do this in memory of Me"

Holy Thursday is the day on which we commemorate the institution of three pillars of the Catholic Faith: the Sacrament of Holy Communion, the Priesthood, and the Mass. He showed us his example of humility by washing the feet of His disciples, gave the assurance of His peace, gave his new command to love one another and announced the gift of the Holy Spirit.


On the night before He died, Jesus, at the Last Supper with His apostles, took the unleavened bread of the Passover into His hands, blessed the bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples saying: "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." He also took the cup after supper, saying: "this cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." He thus instituted the Mass and set apart the Twelve as priests of the New Testament.

From that Last Supper until the last moment of the world's existence, Christ committed Himself to be present to His people whenever one of His priests obeys His command: "Do this in memory of me." Through the sacred rite of the Eucharist, bread ceases to be bread, becoming Christ's body, crucified for our sins and raised from the dead. The Passover wine ceases to be wine, becoming Christ's blood, poured out on the cross to ransom us from sin, Satan, and death. Whenever believers eat the Lord's body, and drink His blood, they become one with Him, and through Him, with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

In the Catholic tradition, the celebration of the Lord's Supper ends with a procession with the Body of Christ to an altar of repose. We are invited to journey along with Jesus as He leaves the Upper Room and goes out to the place called Gethsemane. Here Jesus asks His followers to stay awake and pray with Him. He goes forward and asks His Father if there is any way that He need not go through what is about to happen and that He be spared. Yet Jesus submits to the will of His Father, and is willing to undergo whatever is necessary for our salvation. He returns to find His disciples sleeping.

The question asked of the disciples can be asked of us: "Can we not spend at least a little time in prayer with our Master-Teacher-Lord?"

(excerpt: hprweb.com)



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Holy Thursday is also known as "Maundy Thursday." The word maundy comes from the Latin word **mandatum** (commandment) which is the first word of the Gospel acclamation:

Mandatum novum do vobis dicit Dominus, ut diligatis invicem, sicut dilexi vos. "I give you a new commandment: Love one another as I have loved you." (John 13:34)

catholicsknowtheanswerofficialpage

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Patsy Crafton
Iris Macauldy
Martha Mason
Teresa Huntley
Marie Joseph

DECEASED

Lance Defraites
Marie Sebastien
Andrew Gustave
Marie E. Jn. Baptiste

WEEKDAY READINGS

†
MONDAY
Is.42:1-7
Jn.12:1-11
†
TUESDAY
Is.49:1-6
Jn.13:21-33, 36-38
†
WEDNESDAY
Is.50:4-9
Mt.26:14-25
†
THURSDAY
Ex.12:1-8, 11-14
1 Cor.11:23-26
Jn.13:1-15
†
FRIDAY
Is.52:13-53:12
Heb.4:14-16, 5:7-9
Jn.18:1-19:42
†
SATURDAY
Rom.6:3-11
Mk.16:1-7
†

MASS INTENTIONS

GROS ISLET	CLERGY / RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
PALM SUNDAY - YEAR B		
Sat Mar 23 - 6:00 p.m.		B'day: Jaylon Poyotte, Sybil James William Dussiel, Anselma O'Neil
Sun Mar 24- 7:30 a.m. <i>Palm Sunday</i>		MISSA PRO POPULO
10:00 a.m.		B'day: Cecilia Louisy Protec/Deliv/Success: Rebecca Foster
Grande Riviere -7:30 a.m.		B'day: Jonathan Joseph
Monchy - 10:00 a.m.		Deliv: Josiane Bertome & family
WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon Mar 25 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Henry Nmor Fr. Konrad Mair Fr. Kenneth Haakyav	Dc'd: Dorista Annius Frances Valasse, Lennox Belrose
12:30 p.m.		B'day: Theresa Herman, Mary Sidoine Thks: Francisca Jean Meuris Raymond, Anselma Williams
Tues Mar 26 - 6:00 a.m.	Rev. Nathalbert Husbands Sr. Stephanina Banda	Healing: Lydie Bellay & family Guid & Protec: Andre, Ross & Melanie Downes
Wed Mar 27- 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Kevin Murray Rev. Gabriel Geoffrey	Dc'd: Kate Moise
Thu Mar 28 - 6:00 p.m. <i>Gros Islet, Monchy</i> <i>Holy Thursday</i>		Parishioners
Fri Mar 29 - 3:00 p.m. <i>Good Friday</i>		Conversion of Sinners
Sat Mar 30 - 8:00 p.m. <i>Easter Vigil</i>		MISSA PRO POPULO