

GOOD FRIDAY CEREMONY

Fr Tom prostrates, other priests kneel.

PRAYER *(Let us pray is not said)*

Remember your mercies, O Lord,
and with your eternal protection sanctify your servants,
for whom Christ your Son,
by the shedding of his Blood,
established the Easter Mystery.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **R.** Amen.

Or:

O God, who by the Passion of Christ your Son, our Lord,
abolished the death inherited from ancient sin
by every succeeding generation,
grant that just as, being conformed to him,
we have borne by the law of nature
the image of the man of earth,
so, by the sanctification of grace,
we may bear the image of the Man of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 52:13-53:12 *(1st Reading in Missal)*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

See, my servant will prosper,
he shall be lifted up, exalted, rise to great heights
As the crowds were appalled on seeing him
--so disfigured did he look
that he seemed no longer human--
so will the crowds be astonished at him,
and kings stand speechless before him;
for they shall see something never told
and witness something never heard before:
"Who could believe what we have heard,
and to whom has the power of the Lord been revealed? "

Like a sapling he grew up in front of us,
like a root in arid ground.
Without beauty, without majesty (we saw him),
no looks to attract our eyes;
a thing despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering,
a man to make people screen their faces;
he was despised and we took no account of him.
And yet ours were the sufferings he bore,
ours the sorrows he carried.
But we, we thought of him as someone punished,
struck by God, and brought low.
Yet he was pierced through for our faults,
crushed for our sins.
On him lies a punishment that brings us peace,
and through his wounds we are healed.
We had all gone astray like sheep,
each taking his own way,
and the Lord burdened him
with the sins of all of us.
Harshly dealt with, he bore it humbly,
he never opened his mouth,
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter-house,
like a sheep that is dumb before its shearers
never opening his mouth.
By force and by the law he was taken;
would anyone plead his cause?
Yes, he was torn away from the land of the living;
for our faults struck down in death.
They gave him a grave with the wicked,
a tomb with the rich,
though he had done no wrong
and there had been no perjury in his mouth.
The Lord has been pleased to crush him with suffering.
If he offers his life in atonement,
he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life
and through him what the Lord wishes will be done.

His soul's anguish over
he shall see the light and be content.

By his sufferings shall my servant justify many,
taking their faults on himself.

Hence I will grant whole hordes for his tribute,
he shall divide the spoil with the mighty,
for surrendering himself to death
and letting himself be taken for a sinner,
while he was bearing the faults of many
and praying all the time for sinners.

The word of the Lord.

SHORT PERIOD OF SILENCE

RESPONSORIAL PSALM. Psalm: 30: 2.6.12-13.15-17.25

Response: Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

1. In you, O Lord, I take refuge.
Let me never be put to shame.
In your justice, set me free.
Into your hands I commend my spirit.
It is you who will redeem me, Lord. (R.)
2. In the face of all my foes
I am a reproach,
an object of scorn to my neighbours
and of fear to my friends. (R.)
3. Those who see me in the street
run far away from me.
I am like a dead man, forgotten in men's hearts,
like a thing thrown away. (R.)
4. But as for me, I trust in you, Lord,
I say: "You are my God."
My life is in your hands, deliver me
from the hands of those who hate me. (R.)
5. Let your face shine on your servant.
Save me in your love.
Be strong, let your heart take courage,
all who hope in the Lord. (R.)

Second Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 *(2nd Reading in Missal)*

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace when we are in need of help.

During his life on earth, he offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard.

Although he was a Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Response: Glory and Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on the cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names

Glory and Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

GOSPEL ST. JOHN 18:1-19:42

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST according to JOHN

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

1. For the Church

Let us pray for the Church,
that God will give her peace and unity
throughout the whole world.
May he guard her and grant that,
in a life tranquil and quiet,
we may glorify God the Father almighty.

Silent prayer. Then the Celebrant says:

Fr E Almighty ever-living God,
who in Christ revealed your glory to all the nations,
watch over the works of your mercy,
that your Church, spread throughout all the world,
may persevere with steadfast faith in confessing your name.
This we ask through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

2. For the Pope

Let us pray also for Pope Francis,
chosen by God to lead the Church,
that he may remain safe to govern us,
the holy people of God.

Silent prayer. Then the Celebrant says:

Fr A Almighty ever-living God,
by whose decree all things are founded,
look with favour on our prayers
and in your kindness protect the Pope chosen for us,
that, under him, the Christian people,
governed by you their maker,
may grow in merit by reason of their faith.
This we ask through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

3. For the clergy and laity of the Church

Let us pray for the whole of the faithful people and for deacons, priests, Bishop Vincent and all bishops of the Church.

Silent prayer. Then the Celebrant says:

Fr T Almighty ever-living God,
by whose Spirit
the whole body of the Church is sanctified and governed,
hear our humble prayer for your ministers,
that, by the gift of your grace,
all may serve you faithfully.
This we ask through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

4. For catechumens

Let us pray for our catechumens
that God will open their minds and hearts
and unlock the gates of his mercy that,
having received forgiveness of all their sins
through the waters of rebirth,
they may be one with Christ Jesus our Lord.

Silent prayer. Then the Celebrant says:

Fr E Almighty ever-living God,
who makes your Church ever fruitful with new offspring,
increase the faith and understanding of our catechumens,
that, reborn in the font of Baptism,
they may be added to the number of your adopted children.
This we ask through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

5. For the unity of Christians

Let us pray for all our sisters and brothers
who believe in Christ and live in truth,
that God will gather them together
and keep them in his one Church.

Silent prayer. Then the Celebrant says:

Fr A Almighty ever-living God,
who gathers what is scattered
and keeps together what you have gathered,
look kindly on the flock of your Son,
that those whom one Baptism has consecrated
may be joined together by integrity of faith
and united in the bond of charity.
This we ask through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

6. For the Jewish people

Let us pray for the Jewish people,
to whom the Lord our God spoke first,
that he may grant them to grow in love of his name
and in faithfulness to his covenant.

Silent prayer. Then the Celebrant says:

Fr T Almighty ever-living God,
who bestowed your promises on Abraham and his descendants,
graciously hear the prayers of your Church,
that the people you first made your own
may attain the fullness of redemption.
This we ask through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

7. For those who do not believe in Christ

Let us pray for those who do not believe in Christ,
that, enlightened by the Holy Spirit
they, too, may enter on the way of salvation.

Silent prayer. Then the Celebrant says:

Fr E Almighty ever-living God,
grant to those who do not confess Christ
that, by walking before you with a sincere heart,
they may find the truth
and that we ourselves,
being constant in mutual love
and striving to understand more fully the mystery of your life,
may be made more perfect witnesses to your love in the world.
This we ask through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

8. For those who do not believe in God

Let us pray for those who do not acknowledge God, that, following what is right in sincerity of heart, they may find the way to God himself.

Silent prayer. Then the Celebrant says:

Fr A Almighty ever-living God,
who created all people to seek you always
by desiring you and, by finding you, come to rest,
grant, we pray, that, despite every harmful obstacle,
all may recognize the signs of your fatherly love
and the witness of the good works done
by those who believe in you,
and so in gladness confess you,
the one true God and Father of our human race.
This we ask through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

9. For all in public office

Let us pray for those in public office,
that God may direct their minds and hearts
according to his will for the true peace of all.

Silent prayer. Then the Celebrant says:

Fr T Almighty ever-living God,
in whose hand lies every human heart
and the rights of peoples,
look with favour, we pray,
on those who govern with authority over us,
that throughout the whole world,
the prosperity of peoples, the assurance of peace,
and freedom of religion may through your gift be made secure.
This we ask through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

10. For those in tribulation

Let us pray to God, the Father Almighty,
that he may cleanse the world of all errors,
banish disease, drive out hunger, unlock prisons,
loosen fetters, granting to travellers safety,
to pilgrims return, health to the sick,
and salvation to the dying.

Silent prayer. Then the Celebrant says:

Fr E Almighty ever-living God,
comfort of mourners, strength of all who toil,
may the prayers of those who cry out in any tribulation
come before you,
that all may rejoice,
because in their hour of need your mercy was at hand.
This we ask through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

IX b. For the afflicted in time of pandemic

Let us pray for all those who suffer
the consequences of the current pandemic,
that God the Father may grant health to the sick,
strength to those who care for them,
comfort to families
and salvation to all the victims who have died.

Silent prayer. Then the Celebrant says:

Fr A Almighty ever-living God,
only support of our human weakness,
look with compassion upon the sorrowful condition of your children
who suffer because of this pandemic;
relieve the pain of the sick,
give strength to those who care for them,
welcome into your peace those who have died and,
throughout this time of tribulation,
grant that we may all find comfort in your merciful love.
Through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen.

SHORT PERIOD OF SILENCE

Simple & Silent VENERATION OF THE CROSS by the priests

Celebrant: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days, that,
by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope and
the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

OUR FATHER

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes
away the sins of the world. Blessed are those
called to the supper of the Lamb.

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

SHORT PERIOD OF SILENCE

Celebrant: Final Prayer

Almighty ever-living God, who have restored us to life
by the blessed Death and Resurrection of your Christ,
preserve in us the work of your mercy,
that, by partaking of this mystery,
we may have a life unceasingly devoted to you.
Through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

BLESSING

Celebrant:

May abundant blessing, O Lord, we pray,
descend upon your people,
who have honoured the Death of your Son
in the hope of their resurrection: may pardon come,
comfort be given, holy faith increase,
and everlasting redemption be made secure.
Through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.