



Passion (Palm) Sunday

He Took Our Sins Upon Himself

Introduction

This week, all over the world, Christians will be celebrating the great mystery of Christ's love for us. "Greater love no man has than he who lays down his life for his friends". (Jn.15: 13) This is the week Christ lived out the truth of these words. He took on himself our sins and the sins of the entire world.

Gospel For Procession (Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16)

This tells of the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem as the humble king and gentle Messiah. His followers greet him with joy.

First Reading (Isaiah 50:4-7)

The prophet suffers in carrying out his mission, but he is convinced that God will eventually save him.

Second Reading (Philippians 2:6-11)

Because Jesus took on himself our human condition and accepted death on a cross, the Father has made him Lord of heaven and earth

Gospel (Mark 14:1-15; 47)

St. Mark stresses the cruel trial and the shocking details of our Lord's suffering. But a sudden light appears when a pagan soldier makes a profession of faith in the crucified Son of God.

Prayer Of The Faithful

God the Father did not even spare his own Son but gave him up to death on our behalf. Let us then with confidence place our requests before him.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.



Liturgy Cycle B

For the Christian Community, the flock for which Christ died; that Christ the Good Shepherd may heal in it the wounds of sin and division. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

For all world leaders: that Christ may help them in the exercise of their grave responsibilities so that the world may find the way to justice and peace. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

For those who have lost their faith in God and in man: that Christ the Good Shepherd may seek them out and lead them to his fold. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

That the power of Christ's death and resurrection may help us to abandon the ways of darkness and walk in the bright light he brought into our world. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

Communion Reflection

This prayer was found in a German concentration camp at the end of the last war. We know the terrible things that happened in the camps. Yet this prayer speaks, not of revenge, but of forgiveness.

Lord, remember not only people of goodwill
but also those of ill will.

Do not remember only the sufferings
that have been inflicted on us,
but remember too the fruit we have bought
as a result of this suffering:

the comradeship and loyalty,
the humility and courage,
the generosity and greatness of heart
that has grown out of it.

And when they come to judgement,
let all the fruits we have borne
be their forgiveness.

Father, forgive them,
for they know not what they do.