

Sunday, March 29 2026
Palm Sunday

Prayer for the Morning

Blessed is the king who comes / in the name of the Lord!
Glory to the Father,...Amen.

Hymn

Meter: 76 76 D

R/ All glory, laud and honor,
To you, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.
You are the King of Israel,
And David's royal Son,
Now in the Lord's Name coming,
Our King and blessed One. R/
The people of the Hebrews
With palms before you went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems
Before you we present. R/
To you, before your Passion,
They sang their hymns of praise;
To you, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise. R/

Psalm

145: 1-7, 11, 13a

You say I am a king. (Jn 18:37)

*At Easter we will reclaim the truth of Jesus' triumph,
darkened by the days of suffering and death that followed
his entry into Jerusalem. Through the mystery of the cross,
we are made wiser than those who thought his kingdom a
mere political phenomenon.*

I will give you glory, O God my King,
I will bless your name for ever.
I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured.
Age to age shall proclaim your works,
shall declare your mighty deeds,
shall speak of your splendor and glory,
tell the tale of your wonderful works.
They will speak of your terrible deeds,
recount your greatness and might.
They will recall your abundant goodness;
age to age shall ring out your justice.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God.
Yours is an everlasting kingdom;
your rule lasts from age to age.

Glory to the Father.

Word of God

Zechariah 9:9

*Rejoice heartily, O daughter Zion, / shout for joy,
O daughter Jerusalem! / See, your king shall come to*

*you; / a just savior is he, / Meek, and riding on an
ass, / on a colt, the foal of an ass.*

Hosanna! (Is 49:23)

Canticle of Zechariah

My kingdom does not belong to this world. (Jn 18:36)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father...

Intercessions

Let us acclaim our faith in the true triumph of the cross:

R/ Your love is stronger than death, O Lord.

Out of the depths of the world's sin, we pray and we believe: R/

Out of the depths of the world's weariness, we pray and we believe: R/

Out of the depths of the world's faithlessness, we pray and we believe: R/

Out of the depths of the world's passing fancies, we pray and we believe: R/

Out of the depths of the world's illusions, we pray and we believe: R/

Personal intentions

Our Father....

O Lord, we are so easily deceived still into expecting from you a kingdom governed according to the laws of this world. Keep our eyes fixed on the triumph of life over death through the mystery of the cross, so that we may grow into a deeper understanding of the power of your law of love over the laws of human expectation, through Christ our Lord.. Amen

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Reading 1

Isaiah 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.

Reading 2

Philippians 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.

Gospel

Matthew 27: 11-54

(NOTE: See Missal for Long Form)

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, "Eli, Eli, 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!"

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