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 St Paul's Mass Live Streaming: [www.churchservices.tv/dover](http://www.churchservices.tv/dover)  
<https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulsdoverstfinbarrsavle7499/streams>



## ***PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD*** ***13th APRIL 2025 YEAR C***

***Missal P184 Order of the Mass P470***

***TODAY THERE WILL BE A 2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION FOR OUR LENTEN PROJECT TO HELP THOSE CHILDREN IN OUR SCHOOLS TO PURCHASE UNIFORM***

***Palm Sunday Celebration for the Children & their Families in the Parish Hall after 11am Mass at St Paul's Today***

***GOOD FRIDAY: A Day of Fasting & Abstinence - Collection for Holy Places***

***MASS TIMES ON SUNDAYS WILL CHANGE AS FROM THE 4<sup>TH</sup> OF MAY: MASS AT DOVER WILL BE BY 9AM AND 11AM, AYLESHAM WILL BE BY 11AM ON SUNDAYS. PLEASE INFORM YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY.***

**PRIEST CORNER:** I would like to invite you all to attend the Reconciliation service which is precious for our Lenten Journey and the Holy Week. We are happy to welcome **Fr. Giovanni Prandini** from St. Thomas's Canterbury who will be leading the service. There will be an opportunity for a Sacramental Confession during and after the service. In Dover, it will be on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April and in Aylesham, it will be on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April; Starting at 6pm until 7:30pm.** Apart from the designated days of the Reconciliation services, we have other schedules for confession throughout the week. Do please have a look at the schedules on the newsletter and take the opportunity and celebrate the sacrament of Penance.



On another note, I wish to congratulate the Lay Eucharistic ministers who have been meeting and training for ministry in both Churches. Apart from serving during the Mass, their core commitment will be taking the Eucharist to those who are sick at home, those in the care homes, etc. We keep them in our prayers.

### **GOSPEL REFLECTION – THE PASSION OF CHRIST (Lk 8, 7.14-23, 56)**

Today is Passion Sunday, also known as Palm Sunday, which commemorates Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem on a donkey, symbolizing peace and kingship. This day marks the beginning of Holy Week, where Christians remember Jesus' Passion, death, and resurrection.



The Passion narrative challenges us to reflect on our own actions in the light of the characters involved in Jesus's suffering and death. Key figures like Peter's repeated denial of knowing Jesus, despite his previous promises, highlights the human capacity for fear and weakness. Judas's act of betrayal, driven by a combination of greed and despair, demonstrates the destructive power of sin. Herod, the tetrarch of Galilee, mocks and ridicules Jesus, showcasing the rejection of Jesus by those in power. Pilate, the Roman governor, finds no fault in Jesus but ultimately surrenders to political pressure and condemns him to death, highlighting the conflict between personal conscience and societal demands.

The Jewish leaders, driven by a desire to maintain their positions and authority, seek to eliminate Jesus, demonstrating the dangers of prioritizing power over truth. The narrative

encourages self-examination and a deeper understanding of the complexities of the Passion story. The Passion narrative is not merely a historical account but a call to reflection. By examining the actions of these characters, we are encouraged to consider how our own choices and behaviours reflect our faith and values, and to learn from our past mistakes.

**SVP:** We thank all those who were able to make out time to Join the SVP afternoon Tea last week. It was a lovely time because you were there. We are still looking for people willing to serve as members of the SVP to please come forward and join us. **If you are feeling the desire to help; Speak to the new leaders; Jennie Holt ([snapdragonstarlight@live.co.uk](mailto:snapdragonstarlight@live.co.uk)) and Silvana Della Gatta: [Silvana.dellagatta@gmail.com](mailto:Silvana.dellagatta@gmail.com))**

**ST. JUDE SOCIETY:** We are grateful to the Late Jane Francis for all the sacrifices and leadership of St. Jude Society until her demise last month; May She continue to rest in Peace. If you would like to join the Prayer Group or be part of them, speak to Mrs. Trudy Boston ([wbboston2012@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wbboston2012@yahoo.co.uk)) who is the Contact Person (Lead) for the group going forward. Let's keep them in our prayers.

**ST JUDE'S PRAYER GROUP** will meet on **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2pm – 3pm** in St Paul's church hall. The group meets once a month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. Please bring along your favourite prayer. All Welcome.

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR.** We are looking for a new Voluntary Parish Newsletter Editor. If you have a few hours to spare during the week especially on a Thursday, Friday and Saturday morning, and are skilled in using Microsoft Word, Excel and emails please let Fr Leo know, or speak to Mary for more information.

**EASTER EGG DONATIONS FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE PARISH.** The Mustard Seeds are planning to give out Easter eggs on Easter Sunday to the children of the parish. If there are any parishioners who would like to donate some Easter eggs, there will be a box left at the back of the church until Palm Sunday (today).

**PLEASE PRAY FOR Anthony Grilli**, former teacher at St Edmund's School, Dover. Anthony's funeral service will take place on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April, 11am** at St Andrews Church Shepherdswell. Please also pray for **Siobhan Barringer** from Dover who has passed away. Siobhan's funeral service will be on **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April** at St Paul's, time to be confirmed. May Anthony and Siobhan Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory, Amen.

**GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION: For the Holy Places in Palestine.**

**EASTER SUNDAY COLLECTION: Your Easter Offering for the Clergy. Envelopes at the back of church.**

**NEXT SATURDAY** there will be refreshments in the parish hall after the Easter Vigil at St Paul's. **Please join us and wish each other a Happy Easter.** (Please note there will be no Sunday morning coffee at St Paul's next Sunday)

**JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP & MUSTARD SEEDS: EASTER EGG HUNT EASTER MONDAY 21<sup>st</sup> APRIL 11am-1pm.** Join with your family in St Paul's Parish Hall for lunch, games, colouring competition, fun & enjoyment.

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE - FRIDAY 19<sup>th</sup> to MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> SEPTEMBER:**

**This is now confirmed.** Cost for 3 nights half board accommodation £485 per person based on 2 people sharing (plus £60 single supplement). Estimated flight costs £320 per person. Book early to avoid flight supplement. Deposit £300 per person. Balance 10 weeks prior to departure. For a booking form and further information please contact Mary in the parish office, email [dover@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:dover@rcaos.org.uk) or message 07936 573155. God bless, Fr Leo.

**ROSARY AND BIBLE STUDY ST PAUL'S** The next pre 10am Mass rosary and post Mass bible study will take place on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April.** OT Book of Exodus. (No Rosary or Bible Study on Maundy Thursday)

**ST PAUL'S REPOSITORY.** Easter, Mother's Day, St. Patrick's, Birthday, Sympathy Cards and many others are on sale in the Church Hall after the 9:15 a.m. Sunday Mass each week, also rosaries and Holy Water bottles.

**KNIT FOR 90:** Dover Street Pastors are raising money by a sponsored knit to make blankets for charity, using size 8 knitting needles and double-knit wool. **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April St Mary's Parish Centre Dover, 2pm-4pm.** See the poster in the porch for more information or email [dover@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:dover@streetpastors.org.uk) for a sponsor form.

**MASS IN CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY AT ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, SOUTHWARK.** If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible, **and no later than the middle of May**, providing the following details: **your names** in the format John and Mary Smith, **your home address**, your **parish**, and the **anniversary you are celebrating**, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Contact Carole at [mflkent@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflkent@rcaos.org.uk). As the **title of your email, please write your parish location** e.g. Dover, Aylesham.

**ARCHDIOCESAN JUBILEE CELEBRATION DAY AT THE FRIARS AYLESFORD 7th JUNE 2025:**

Led by Archbishop John Wilson, we will gather as an Archdiocese at The Friars, Aylesford for a day of prayer, reflection, celebration, and fun. **If you would like to go please let Mary in the parish office know, email [dover@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:dover@rcaos.org.uk) or message 07936 573155. We will go as a parish group. God bless, Fr Leo.**

**Parish of the Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham**  
**‘Called to Bear Fruit’: Parish Renewal**

	April 2025	
<b>Mustard Seed Children’s Liturgy</b>	Every Third Sunday 9.15am (Easter Sunday)	<b>St Paul’s Upper Hall, Dover</b>
<b>St Jude’s Prayer Group</b>	Every Third Monday 2pm – 3pm (Next meeting 28 <sup>th</sup> April)	<b>St Paul’s Hall, Dover</b>
<b>First Holy Communion Preparation</b>	Every Saturday (Restart 26 <sup>th</sup> April)	<b>St Paul’s Hall, Dover</b>
<b>First Holy Communion Preparation</b>	Every Sunday (Restart 27 <sup>th</sup> April)	<b>St Finbarr’s, Aylesham</b>
<b>Adult SYCAMORE Course</b>	Every Wednesday 7pm (Final Session 16 <sup>th</sup> April)	<b>St Paul’s Hall, Dover</b>
<b>Young Adults SYCAMORE Course</b>	Every Sunday (Restart 27 <sup>th</sup> April)	<b>St Paul’s Upper Hall, Dover</b>
<b>SYCAMORE Course, Fides &amp; Bible Study, all combined session</b>	Every Tuesday (No session on 15 <sup>th</sup> April, restart on 22 <sup>nd</sup> April)	<b>St Finbarr’s, Aylesham.</b>
<b>Confirmation Preparation</b>	Saturday (Restart 12 <sup>th</sup> May)	<b>St Paul’s Upper Hall, Dover</b>
<b>Lenten Penitential Service</b>	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 6pm (St Paul’s) Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 6pm (St Finbarr’s)	<b>St Paul’s, Dover</b> <b>St Finbarr’s, Aylesham</b>
<b>Ecumenical Service Planting the Crosses</b>	Palm Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 4pm	<b>St Mary-the-Virgin, Biggin Street, Dover</b>
<b>CTiD Walk of Witness</b>	Good Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 10am	<b>Start by The Town Hall, Dover</b>
<b>Easter Sunrise Service</b>	Easter Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 5.30am	<b>St Mary-in-Castro Dover Castle</b>
<b>Easter Egg Hunt</b>	Easter Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 11am-1pm	<b>St Paul’s Hall, Dover</b>

**CATECHISM- HOLY WEEK**



The Holy Week is the most important week in Catholicism. This week of great reverence and reflection spans the final eight days of Jesus’ life—from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. It is astounding how much wisdom, insight and inspiration are available to us during this one week. Let us see our lives and experiences with the eyes of Holy Week; knowing that no matter what we go through, the resurrection morning awaits us in Christ.

**Prayer for Holy Week:** Lord, let everything I do in the coming Holy Week be inspired by You. Help me to remember that nothing is important in my life unless it glorifies You in some way. It’s so easy to get caught up in the day to day of my life. Help me to enter fully into your Passion through my Lenten promises and always be reminded that You went to the desert, the garden and the cross for me. Amen *(Taken from DSHA Prayer Book, Vol. II)*

**“Let us love the Cross and let us remember that we are not alone in carrying it. God is helping us. And in God Who is comforting us, as St. Paul says, we can do anything.” – St. Gianna Beretta Molla.**

**Please Pray for those who are unwell:**

**St Finbarr’s:** Audrey Stitt, Elisabet Sulianti, Gabriela le Bohec, Charlie Golden, Tina Isaacs, Ray Deverson, Lucy Purbrick, Amanda Dennis, Jadon Michael Kalp, Denise Mastro, Tara Conklin, Jamie Chitwood.

**St Paul’s:** Maria Frost, Roz & Rob Pain, Rosa Mazzitelli, David Meadows, Roselene Hindle, Sr Rani Xavier, Thanima Jayan, Janice & Livra Fernandes, Catriona Stark, Chris Quinn, Mary Pressnell, Gaby Anaya Amor, Fr John Ryan, Pat Evans, Shirley Lazarus, Shirley Jefford, Clare Quigley, Gail White, Neil Stevens, John & Joyce Nix, Bailey Turner, Peggy Merrell, Ryan Whittall, Iris (Tilly) Ball, Jean Ann Dowle, Norman Woolhouse, Ted Peel, Christopher Browne, Angela, Alice Wilson, Angela Henbrey, Madison Woodall, Elisa Gomez Melero, Ann Tomalak, Cathy Huntley, Emin Jain, Pat & Patricia Sherratt, Chris Roy.

**Please Pray for those whose anniversaries occur this week:**

**St Finbarr’s:** Henry Valentine Gunson, Peter Yore, Sarah Deary, Thelma Friel, Catherine Hart

**St Paul’s:** Malcolm John Skinner, Dorothy Smith, Iris Taylor, Elizabeth Marie Peters, Marshall Jones, Hilda Freed, Peter Tiernan, Michael Boston, Hannah Ride, Nigel Jonathan Walker, Kay Walsh, Joyce Elkington, Peter Payton

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES CONTACT EMAIL**

Stephen Carton for St Finbarr’s [ayleshamsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:ayleshamsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

Keith Wells for St Paul’s [doversg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:doversg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

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For a newsletter emailed weekly, or to suggest articles/additions, contact the Editor: [dovernewsletter@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:dovernewsletter@rcaos.org.uk)

Newsletter items received after 6pm Thursday may not be included that week. The Editor reserves the right to edit articles.

A Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST FINBARR'S			
	Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	4pm	Syro Malabar Mass
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	10.30am 11.15am	Stations of the Cross Mass for George Gilchrist RIP (Bett)
TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	6pm	Reconciliation Service / Confessions
WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	10.15am	Eucharistic Service
MAUNDY THURSDAY	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	6pm 7pm	Confessions (until 6.45pm) MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER for Peace in Sudan Followed by the Watch until 9.30pm
GOOD FRIDAY	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	2.30pm 3pm	Stations of the Cross & Confessions THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
HOLY SATURDAY	Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	6pm 7pm	Confessions (until 6.45pm) EASTER VIGIL for Peace in the Holy Land
EASTER SUNDAY RESURRECTION OF THE LORD	Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	11.15am	Mass for People of the Parish
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL'S			
	Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	10am 5pm 6pm	Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for Jane Francis RIP (Lizzie) Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Deceased Relatives of Dowle Family (Jean)
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	9.15am 11am 12 noon 2.45pm 4pm	Mass for Mary SR (Birthday) Lizzie Coffee after Mass Mass for Kevin Jordan RIP (Geraldine Miles) Palm Sunday Celebration for the Children & their Families in the hall Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet until 3.45pm CTiD Planting of the Crosses St Mary's Dover
MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	9am 10am 6pm	Confessions (until 9.45am) Mass for Shirini RIP (Dona) Reconciliation Service / Confessions
TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	9am 10am	Confessions (until 9.45am) Mass for Harry & Mary Curtin RIP (John & Mary)
WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	9am 10am 5.30pm 7pm	Confessions (until 9.45am) Mass for Birthday Thanksgiving (Esiri) Exposition and Holy Rosary (until 6.30pm) Adult Sycamore Course in the hall (Final Session)
MAUNDY THURSDAY	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	6pm 7pm	NO Holy Rosary in the church NO Morning Mass NO Bible Study Confessions (until 6.45pm) MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER for Lydie Decostere RIP Followed by the Watch until midnight
GOOD FRIDAY	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	2pm 3pm 6pm	NO Morning Mass Stations of The Cross THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST Confessions (until 7pm)
HOLY SATURDAY	Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	5pm 7pm	NO Mass in St Edmund's Chapel Confessions in the Church (until 6pm) EASTER VIGIL Mass for People of the Parish Refreshments after Mass in the Hall – please join us!
EASTER SUNDAY RESURRECTION OF THE LORD	Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	9.15am 11am	Mass for Children of the Parish Mustard Seed Children's Liturgy NO Coffee after Mass Mass for Families of the Parish NO Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet

# READINGS FOR SUNDAY 13TH APRIL 2025

## Gospel

Luke 19:28-40

*'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'*

At that time: Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" you shall say this: "The Lord has need of it."' "

So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' And they said, 'The Lord has need of it.' And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. As he was drawing near — already on the way down the Mount of Olives — the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!' And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, rebuke your disciples.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.'

These are the readings for the Mass itself, after the blessing of the palms.

## First reading

Isaiah 50:4-7

*'I hid not my face from disgrace, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.'*

The Lord God has given me  
the tongue of those who are taught,  
that I may know how to sustain with a word him  
who is weary.  
Morning by morning he awakens;  
he awakens my ear  
to hear as those who are taught.  
The Lord God has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious;

I turned not backwards.  
I gave my back to those who strike,  
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;  
I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.  
But the Lord God helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like a flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22(21):8-9. 17-18a. 19-20. 23-24. R2a

### My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

All who see me deride me;  
they curl their lips, they toss their heads:  
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;  
let him release him, for in him he delights.'

### My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

For dogs have surrounded me;  
a band of the wicked besets me.  
They tear holes in my hands and my feet;  
I can count every one of my bones.

### My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

They divide my clothing among them,  
they cast lots for my robe.  
But you, O Lord, do not stay afar off;  
my strength, make haste to help me!

### My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

I will tell of your name to my kin,  
and praise you in the midst of the assembly;  
'You who fear the Lord, give him praise;  
all descendants of Jacob, give him glory;  
revere him, all you descendants of Israel.'

### My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

## Second reading

Philippians 2:6-11

*'He humbled himself, therefore God has highly exalted him.'*

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, 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 Acclamation**                      **Philippians 2:8-9**

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Christ became for us obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name.

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

**The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.**                      **Luke 22:14-23:56**

*Key: N. Narrator. ✠ Christ. S. Speaker or speakers other than Christ.*

N. When the hour came, Jesus reclined at table, and the Apostles with him. And he said to them,

✠ I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.

N. And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said,

✠ Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.

N. And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying,

✠ This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

N. And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying,

✠ This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!

N. And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this.

A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. And he said to them,

✠ The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called

benefactors. But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves. You are those who have stayed with me in my trials, and I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.

N. Peter said to him,

S. Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death.

N. Jesus said,

✠ I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me.

N. And he said to them,

✠ When I sent you out with no money bag or knapsack or sandals, did you lack anything?

N. They said,

S. Nothing.

N. He said to them,

✠ But now let the one who has a money bag take it, and likewise a knapsack. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors.' For what is written about me has its fulfilment.

N. And they said,

S. Look, Lord, here are two swords.

N. And he said to them,

✠ It is enough.

N. And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. And when he came to the place, he said to them,

✠ Pray that you may not enter into temptation.

N. And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, saying,

✠ Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.

N. And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, and he said to them,

✠ Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation.

N. While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus said to him,

✠ Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?

N. And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said,

S. Lord, shall we strike with the sword?

N. And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said,

✠ No more of this!

N. And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him,

✠ Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.

N. Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance. And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said,

S. This man also was with him.

N. But he denied it, saying,

S. Woman, I do not know him.

N. And a little later someone else saw him and said,

S. You also are one of them.

N. But Peter said,

S. Man, I am not.

N. And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying,

S. Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean.

N. But Peter said,

S. Man, I do not know what you are talking about.

N. And immediately, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking him as they beat him. They also blindfolded him and kept asking him,

S. Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?

N. And they said many other things against him, blaspheming him.

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes. And they led him away to their council, and they said,

S. If you are the Christ, tell us.

N. But he said to them,

✠ If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God.

N. So they all said,

S. Are you the Son of God, then?

N. And he said to them,

✠ You say that I am.

N. Then they said,

S. What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips.

N. Then the whole company of them arose and brought him before Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying,

S. We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king.

N. And Pilate asked him,

S. Are you the King of the Jews?

N. And he answered him,

✠ You have said so.

N. Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,

S. I find no guilt in this man.

N. But they were urgent, saying,

S. He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place.

N. When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them,

S. You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore punish and release him.

N. But they all cried out together,

S. Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas.

N. A man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, but they kept shouting,

S. Crucify, crucify him!

N. A third time he said to them,

S. Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him.

N. But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. But turning to them Jesus said,

✠ Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us', and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?

N. Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said,

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

N. And they cast lots to divide his garments. And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying,

S. He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!

N. The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying,

S. If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!

N. There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals who were hanged there railed at Jesus, saying,

S. Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!

N. But the other rebuked him, saying,

S. Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.

N. And he said,

S. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

N. And he said to him,

✠ Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.

N. It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said,

✠ Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!

N. And having said this he breathed his last.

All kneel for a period of silence.

N. Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying,

S. Certainly this man was innocent!

N. And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, and wrapped it in a linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

#### **Act of 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 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.**