



PASSION OF THE LORD - PALM SUNDAY, YEAR A

SUNDAY 2 APRIL 2023

REFLECTION By Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

This year we hear Matthew's passion narrative through the lens of armed conflict and death from deprivation. The prospect of untimely death is a reality for many. Even more abhorrent is the ongoing practice of capital punishment in so many places, particularly when a just person is put to death for specious reasons or to political ends. That's what confronts us in today's gospel, although the gospel writers pay little attention to the details of the suffering and death of Jesus: they are more interested in the meaning of these events.

The Romans execute Jesus outside Jerusalem when the city is filled with Jewish pilgrims, there for the Passover festival. For Jesus' friends and followers, every subsequent Passover is celebrated in the light of his death by crucifixion. They share their memories and reflect on the meaning of his death in the light of their sacred traditions. Every element of the Passover story, the ancient story of God's deliverance of their ancestors, resonates with echoes of the experience of Jesus who is now present to them in a new way. Little wonder, then, that the final events of Jesus' life were probably the first part of his story to be committed of writing.

Though Matthew draws much of his material from Mark, he fashions the tradition into a new narrative and adds several distinctive features. "To fulfil all righteousness" is Jesus' stated mission (3:15). He has declared "blessed" those who suffer for the sake of righteousness (justice or right relationship)" (5:10). He now embodies his own teaching as the just or righteous one, the one in right relationship with God. The prayer on his lips as he faces death (Psalm 22) is that of the suffering just Israelite who is utterly faithful to his mission and whose trust in God never fails.

There are hints that Jesus' death is not the end, but is rather the inauguration of the new age of God's empire, a compassionate alternative to the brutality of Rome. In response to the high priest Caiaphas, Jesus points beyond death to his resurrected life "at the right hand of power...." Extraordinary signs follow his death: the tearing of the temple curtain; the trembling of the earth; the recognition by the Roman centurion and his companions that this man is of God; and finally, the opening of the graves and appearance of the dead in anticipation of the resurrection of those who accept him as the Christ. These signs offer the hope of reversal to all who have witnessed the events surrounding Jesus' death. They offer hope to the women who have followed him all the way from Galilee and "ministered to him". They offer hope to the male disciples who have deserted or denied him, to faithful disciples like Joseph of Arimathea, and even to his Roman executioners. They have the potential to bring hope to us all at this time, especially to those who put their lives on the line for others.

St Patrick's Cathedral

EASTER CEREMONIES TIME TABLE

CHRISM MASS - MASS OF THE OILS

Saturday 1st April - 10.00am

HOLY THURSDAY - MASS OF THE LORDS SUPPER

Thursday 6th April - 7.30pm (Televised C31)

(Please note NO 7.00am or 1.00pm Mass)

GOOD FRIDAY 7th APRIL

(Please note NO 7.00am or 1.00pm Mass)

- Stations of the Cross - 9.00am in Cathedral

- Ecumenical Stations of the Cross - 10.00am

Stations of the Cross in the city

(Beginning at St Francis Church)

- THE PASSION OF OUR LORD - 3.00pm (Televised on C31)

(Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered after

The Passion of our Lord)

- Tenebrae - 7.30pm

SATURDAY 8th APRIL

-EASTER VIGIL - 7.30pm (Televised on C31)

SUNDAY 9th APRIL

- 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am and 6.30pm

(11.00am Mass (Televised on C31))

MONDAY 10th APRIL - Public Holiday 11am Mass



**Palm Sunday
1 & 2 April**



Every day, more than 200 million children miss out on school, around 690 million people go hungry and 2.2 billion people cannot access clean drinking water.

With your generosity, Caritas Australia has been able to help millions of vulnerable people around the world, through the Project Compassion appeal.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2023 to help continue empowering vulnerable communities around the world to lift themselves and their communities out of poverty.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

TODAY’S LITURGY—YEAR A

Entrance Antiphon

Six days before the Passover,
when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem,
the children ran to meet him;
in their hands they carried palm branches
and with a loud voice cried out:

* Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!
Who is this king of glory?

He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.
* Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

Entrance Hymn CWBII 303

Refrain: All glory, laud and honour, 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, and blessed One. Refrain

The company of angels are praising you on high,
to you, now high exalted exultant, make reply. Refrain

The people of the Hebrews, with palms
before you went; our praise and prayer
and anthems before you we present. Refrain

To you before your passion they sang
their hymns of praise, as and all creation,
our melody we raise. Refrain

Their praises you accepted, accept the prayers
we bring, rejoicing in all goodness,
our Saviour and our King. Refrain

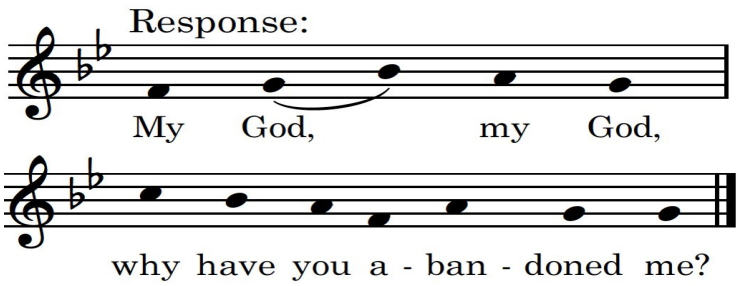
Text: Gloria, laus et honor, Theodulph of Orleans c.760-820 Tr. John Mason Neale 1818-66., alt.
Music: ST THEODULPH Melchior Teschner 1584 - 163

1st Reading Is 50:4-7

*I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not
be ashamed.*

The Lord has given me
a disciple’s tongue.
So that I may know how to reply to the wearied
he provides me with speech.
Each morning he wakes me to hear,
to listen like a disciple.
The Lord has opened my ear.
For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.
The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24



1. 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 if this is his friend.’ (R.)

2. Many dogs have surrounded me,
a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet.
I can count every one of my bones. (R.)

3. They divide my clothing among them.
They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help me! (R.)

4. I will tell of your name to my brethren
and praise you where they are assembled.
‘You who fear the Lord give him praise;
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.
Revere him, Israel’s sons. (R.)

2nd Reading Phil 2:6-11

*He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him
on high.*

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his
equality with God but emptied himself to assume the
condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all
men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high and gave him the name which is
above all other names so that all beings in the heavens,
on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the
name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
Christ became obedient for us even to death
dying on the cross.
Therefore God raised him on high
and gave him a name above all other names.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel Mt 27:11-54

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate, the governor, and the
governor put to him this question, ‘Are you the king of the
Jews?’ Jesus replied, ‘It is you who say it.’ But when he was
accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to
answer at all. Pilate then said to him, ‘Do you not hear how
many charges they have brought against you?’ But to the
governor’s complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of
the charges.
At festival time it was the governor’s practice to release a
prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at
that time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So

when the crowd gathered, Pilate said to them, ‘Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?’ For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over.

Now as he was seated in the chair of judgement, his wife sent him a message, ‘Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.’

The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them, ‘Which of the two do you want me to release for you?’ they said ‘Barabbas’. ‘But in that case,’ Pilate said to them ‘what am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?’ They all said, ‘Let him be crucified!’ ‘Why?’ he asked ‘What harm has he done?’ But they shouted all the louder, ‘Let him be crucified!’ Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said, ‘I am innocent of this man’s blood. It is your concern.’ And the people, to a man, shouted back, ‘His blood be on us and on our children!’ Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified.

The governor’s soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort around him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying, ‘Hail, king of the Jews!’ And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him.

On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink mixed with gall, which he tasted but refused to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping guard over him.

Above his head was placed the charge against him; it read: ‘This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.’ At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said ‘So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself! If you are God’s son, come down from the cross!’

The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way. ‘He saved others,’ they said ‘he cannot save himself. He is the king of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, “I am the son of God.”’

Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way.

From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, ‘Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?’ that is, ‘My God, my God, why have you deserted me?’ When some of those who stood there heard this, they said, ‘The man is calling on Elijah,’ and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink. ‘Wait!’ said the rest of them ‘and see if Elijah will come to save him.’ But Jesus again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

At that, the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people. Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said, ‘In truth this was a son of God.’

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
He descended into hell;
on the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the God the Father
Almighty;
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of Saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it,
your will be done.

Communion Hymn CWBII 507 v1,5,6,7

Refrain: Christ, our God and brother, hear our humble plea;
by this holy banquet keep us joined to thee.

Humbly we adore thee, Christ, Redeemer, King;
thou art Lord of heaven, thou to whom we sing. Refrain

Thou who died to save us, live on as our light;
through our eyes are blinded,
yet our faith gives sight. Refrain

Christ, do thou be merciful, Lamb for sinners slain;
we in grief confess our guilt;
cleanse our souls of stain. Refrain

Make us one in loving thee, one in mind and heart;
from this holy unity, let us not depart. Refrain

Text: Melvin Lloyd Farrell 1930-1986
Music: ADORO TE DEVOTE 11.11.11.11; mode V©1955. 1961 World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

Hymn after Communion/ Recessional Hymn CWBII 400 v1,2,4

Hail, Redeemer, King divine! Priest and Lamb,
the throne is thine, King, whose reign shall never cease,
Prince of everlasting peace.

King, whose name creation thrills, rule our minds,
our hearts, our wills, till in peace, each nation rings
with thy praises, King of kings.

Shepherd King, from mountains steep,
homeward bring the wand’ring sheep;
shelter in one royal fold states and nations, new and old.

Text: Patrick Brennan CSSR 1877-1952, © Search Press; alt
Tune: REX 77.77D; William Henry Grattan Flood 1859-1928



HOLY LAND COMMISSARIAT

HOLY LAND COLLECTION -GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 7th 2023

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, April 7th 2023. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing, Parishes, and orphanages. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus.

Please give generously.



ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL
MELBOURNE

JOHANN VEXO

Organist – Notre-Dame Cathedral, Paris

Friday 21 April, 6pm

St Patrick's Cathedral

1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne

Internationally acclaimed organist **Johann Vexo** to play a dazzling program of mostly grand French organ music with selections by Bach, Franck, Messiaen and Duruflé.

An event not to be missed!

Tickets \$30, Concession \$25

At door or from trybooking.com/BRYBS

Children aged 15 years and under admitted free

Mass Setting - 11.00am Mass of the Holy Trinity-Tuuk
- 6.30pm Missa O quam gloriosum-Victoria

Offertory - 11.00am Ingrediente Domino-George
Malcolm

- 6.30pm Christus factus est-Anerio

Communion Motet - 11.00am Hosanna to the son of
David-Thomas Weelkes

- 6.30pm Communion Antiphon:Pater, si non potest

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

We pray for the sick and for all who have asked for our prayers.

We pray for all those who have died recently, especially Fr John Tollan, John Ahern and Eugenio Labeikousky and those whose anniversaries we remember at this time, especially Catherine Alphonse, Ellen Wells, Herbert & Madeline Rothchild.

EXTRAORDINARY FORM LATIN MASS

In the
Sacred Heart Chapel at
St Patrick's Cathedral
every Wednesday at
5.30pm

HOLY HOUR HELD IN THE CATHEDRAL EVERY THURSDAY AT 6.30PM

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Each Friday at the
conclusion
of the 1.00pm Mass,
in the
Sacred Heart Chapel
Exposition until 2.15pm.

Wedding Congratulations

Natasha
Sanchez &
Nicolas Lara



Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist

Catechist classes in the preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist will begin in the last week of April until first week of July. Families living within the Cathedral Parish who would like their children to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist are asked to contact the parish office at cathedral@cam.org.au or call 9662 2233 for further information. Application close on 19 April 2023.



Archbishop

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli

Dean of

St Patrick's Cathedral

Very Rev Werner Utri

Master of Ceremonies

Rev. Michael Buck

Assistant Priest of Cathedral

Rev. Alexander Chow

Priest in Residence

Rev. Philip Mathew

Chaplain: St Vincent's Hospital

Director Music

Dr. Philip Matthias

Director

Cathedral Organist

Dion Henman

Cathedral Singers

Christopher Mason

Director

Thomas Grubb

Organist

St Patrick's Cathedral Choir

in partnership with

St Kevin's College, Toorak

Cathedral Parish Secretary

Julie Allan

Cathedral Office

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Cathedral Administration

Assistant

Huong Nguyen

SAFEGUARDING.

Child Protection Officer:

Rev Alexander Chow

Please refer to the two new posters 'Rights and Responsibilities' and 'Feel safe and be Safe at Our Church' at the entrances of the Cathedral

<https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding>

St Patrick's Cathedral Young Adult Ministry (SPCYAM) (age 18 to 40 yrs old)

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday at Cathedral Room, CKC Centre, 383 Albert St, East Melbourne

Last Saturday of each month; 6pm mass, followed by meal.

Contact Fr. Alex Chow
(Alexander.Chow@cam.org.au)
or info.spcyam@gmail.com