

The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord , Year B

FIRST READING Is 52:13-53:12

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 its mouth.
By force and by 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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Father, I put my life in your hands.

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 Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
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.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

THE NARRATIVE OF THE LORD'S PASSION ACCORDING TO ST JOHN Jn 18:1-19:42

GOOD FRIDAY: HOLY LAND APPEAL

Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in Catholic Churches throughout the world to support Franciscans in their upkeep of **holy sites** in the Holy Land as well as supporting education and health.
In solidarity with the Universal Church, our parish will be raising funds for this important mission. Thank you for your support and generosity.



EASTER OFFERINGS

Easter Offerings **help support our priests.**
Easter Offering envelopes will be available in the Church pews from the Easter Vigil and throughout the Easter Season.
Thank you for your continued support of our parish priests.

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EASTER SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Mass times for Easter Sunday will be as per the usual Mass Timetable with the exception that the Easter Vigil (Saturday) will begin at 7pm and no evening Mass on Easter Sunday. We are anticipating large attendances at our Masses so please be patient, be prepared and be welcoming.

EASTER MONDAY MASS TIMES

St. Therese's Church 8:00 am
St. Benedict's Shrine 10:00 am



EASTER WATER

Easter water will be available after the Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 7TH APRIL.

There will be a special afternoon of prayer beginning at 1pm and including rosary, a spiritual talk by Fr. Damian Mosakowski, exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet, then concluding with Mass at 3pm. Images of Divine Mercy will be blessed following the Mass. These can be purchased at the Piety Stall.
Tea & Coffee in the Montefano Hall following Mass.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

The Divine Mercy Novena will begin on Good Friday following the Commemoration of the Lord's Passion and will conclude Saturday 6th April on the eve of Divine Mercy Sunday.

THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is recited using ordinary Rosary beads.

1. **Introductory Prayers:** Our Father, Hail Mary and the Apostles Creed.
2. **Prayed on large bead prior to each decade:** *Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.*
3. **Prayed on 10 small beads of each decade:** *For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.*
4. **Prayed after all 5 decades of Chaplet are complete:** Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world x 3

FOLLOW ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH ON SOCIAL MEDIA



REMINDER ~ PLEASE TURN OFF MOBILE PHONES
Please remember to turn off your mobile phones – or switch to silent – when entering the Church.

PARISH DONATIONS

First Collection (Priests) Account : Smithfield House –
Order of St Paul the First Hermit
BSB 066711 Acct. No. 007392
Second Collection (Parish) Account : Smithfield Catholic Church
BSB: 062784 Acct. No. 100001084
Thank you for your continued support and generosity. God Bless.



DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

Jesus asked that the Feast of the Divine Mercy be preceded by a Novena to the Divine Mercy which would begin on **Good Friday**. He gave St. Faustina an intention to pray for on each day of the Novena.

**Each day's intention is followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.*

FIRST DAY

"Today bring to Me all mankind, especially all sinners, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. In this way you will console Me in the bitter grief into which the loss of souls plunges Me."

Most Merciful Jesus, whose very nature it is to have compassion on us and to forgive us, do not look upon our sins but upon our trust which we place in Your infinite goodness. Receive us all into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart, and never let us escape from It. We beg this of You by Your love which unites You to the Father and the Holy Spirit.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon all mankind and especially upon poor sinners, all enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion show us Your mercy, that we may praise the omnipotence of Your mercy for ever and ever. Amen.

SECOND DAY

"Today bring to Me the Souls of Priests and Religious, and immerse them in My unfathomable mercy. It was they who gave me strength to endure My bitter Passion. Through them as through channels My mercy flows out upon mankind."

Most Merciful Jesus, from whom comes all that is good, increase Your grace in men and women consecrated to Your service,* that they may perform worthy works of mercy; and that all who see them may glorify the Father of Mercy who is in heaven.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the company of chosen ones in Your vineyard -- upon the souls of priests and religious; and endow them with the strength of Your blessing. For the love of the Heart of Your Son in which they are enfolded, impart to them Your power and light, that they may be able to guide others in the way of salvation and with one voice sing praise to Your boundless mercy for ages without end. Amen

THIRD DAY

"Today bring to Me all Devout and Faithful Souls, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. These souls brought me consolation on the Way of the Cross. They were a drop of consolation in the midst of an ocean of bitterness."

Most Merciful Jesus, from the treasury of Your mercy, You impart Your graces in great abundance to each and all. Receive us into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart and never let us escape from It. We beg this grace of You by that most wondrous love for the heavenly Father with which Your Heart burns so fiercely.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon faithful souls, as upon the inheritance of Your Son. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, grant them Your blessing and surround them with Your constant protection. Thus may they never fail in love or lose the treasure of the holy faith, but rather, with all the hosts of Angels and Saints, may they glorify Your boundless mercy for endless ages. Amen.

FOURTH DAY

"Today bring to Me those who do not believe in God and those who do not know Me, I was thinking also of them during My bitter Passion, and their future zeal comforted My Heart. Immerse them in the ocean of My mercy."