



APRIL 5,
2020

FOR YOUR PRAYER & REFLECTION
THE GOSPEL FOR THE PALM SUNDAY, THE PASSION OF THE LORD (MATTHEW 26:14–27:66)
PRINTED BELOW IS THE SHORTENED VERSION MATTHEW 27:11-54



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!”

REFLECTION ON THE LITURGY OF THE WORD & OUR ENTRANCE INTO HOLY WEEK

On Palm Sunday we celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, the week before his Passion, Death and Resurrection. Palm Sunday, now referred to as “Passion Sunday”, marks the beginning of Holy Week, which concludes with the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Masses. The Scriptures reveal that when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the crowds greeted him by waving palm branches and covering his path with palm branches. Immediately following this great time of celebration in the ministry of Jesus, he begins his journey to the cross. The biblical account of Passion Sunday can be found in *Matthew 26:1-27:65; Mark 14:1-15:47; Luke 22:1-23:56 and John 17:1-19:42*

Holy Thursday begins our celebration of the Triduum, the three days that form the climax of Jesus’ life on earth. Knowing that he is about to die, Jesus takes the opportunity at the Last Supper not only to tell his disciples what they should do but to show them. After washing their feet he tells them: “*I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do.*” We remember the Institution of the Eucharist and pray with Jesus in the Garden Readings: Exodus 12:1-8,11-14; Psalm 116; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15

Good Friday We remember Jesus’ Passion and Death. Jesus accepts the Crucifixion knowing the redemptive power of his death. Thankful for the redemption Jesus won for us we reflect on the readings for the Passion: Isaiah 52:13—53:12; Psalm 31; Hebrews 4:14-16;5:7-9; John 18:1—19:42

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED SICK:

Luke Peterson, Ralph Valenti, Theresa Gonzalez, Natalie Delgado, Carmelo Pulizzotto, Salvatore Pandolfo, Arthur Malagoli, Thomas Messina, Mary Ann DeForca, Maureen Rivera, Anthony Calabrese, Fred Lesto, Joseph Perrelli, Jean Bevacqua, George Cagno, Ariana Mainner, Julia Bruzzese, Josephine Zimmitti, Frank DiBari, Rose Dee, Calogero & Consiglia Bertolino, Carmine Barone, George Constantin, Isabel Ayala, Frances Cantone, Venancio Rosado, Vito Pisano, Theresa Mierzejewski, Quintin Leone, Rose Scianno, James Amato, Gloria Freda, Jean Hoskey, Isabelle Grenier, Caterina Romeo, Helen Scalia, Diana Torres, Rosemarie Roccotagliata, Joseph Trovato, Ann Esposito, Dorothy DeVita, James Toner, Nancy Young, Angela I

FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED: Vittorio Perrina

A private Mass is offered every day by Fr. Guy & Fr. Clement for the following intentions: The People of the Parish, Anthony & Mary Caso, Rita Betto, Mary Josephine & Thomas Connolly, Giovanni & Bina Capotorto, Dr. Charles LaCerra, Vincenza DiGrigoli, Josephine Mandella, May Mazzelli, Anthony Furaci, Antonio Alfeo, In Honor of St. Joseph, For an End to the Coronavirus. HOLY THURSDAY: MASS OF THE LORD’S SUPPER, Offered for the People of the Parish; GOOD FRIDAY: PASSION OF THE LORD; EASTER VIGIL & LIGHTING OF PASCHAL CANDLE: Offered for the People of the Parish



**ST ANTHONY NOVENA FOURTH TUESDAY
THE SPIRIT OF PENANCE**

Reading 1: The Prophecy of Ezekiel (11:19-20)
I will give a new heart and put a new spirit within them; so that they will live according to my statutes, and observe and carry out my ordinances, thus they shall be my people and I will be their God. The Word of the Lord.

Reading 2: From the Sermons of St. Anthony
The spirit of penance and contrition of heart, which as a breath of new life God breathes into the sinful soul of man, his image and likeness defiled by sin, becomes in turn a sacrifice the humbled sinner may offer to God to obtain pardon and reconciliation. For God will not spurn a heart contrite and humbled.

Offer a time of silent prayer. Reflection on Penance below

PADUAN PRAYER TO ST. ANTHONY

O Holy St. Anthony, we come to invoke your help, confident of experiencing your goodness and your power, the consolation of so many people pray for us to the Father

of mercies. In our name, speak to him that we may obtain the particular graces we need.

(Pause for Personal Petitions)

True follower of St. Francis, help us to imitate your life and work for God and for our brothers and sisters in the Lord, put into our hearts the flame of your love that we may love our merciful Father, and live the way Jesus shows us in the Gospels. Be a guide for us this day that we may recognize the opportunities God gives us to be selfless and not selfish. Assist us in keeping the promises we made at our Baptism. Help us to obtain the grace to walk in the light of faith, and to proclaim that faith by the way we live. Guide our devotion so that we may live with you the Gospel of Christ and to grow with you in his love. Amen.

St. Anthony, light of the Holy Church, lover of God’s law and Doctor of the Gospel. Pray for us to the Son of God.

Let us pray to the Father in the words Jesus taught us.

Pray the Our Father

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: ALL MASSES AND SERVICES ARE SUSPENDED THROUGH HOLY WEEK AND EASTER. WE ARE POSTPONING THE SCHEDULED DATE FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AT THIS TIME WHILE THERE ARE NO PUBLIC CELEBRATIONS THE CHURCH AND THE PARISH OFFICE REMAINED CLOSED. IF YOU NEED TO SPEAK WITH A PRIEST PLEASE CALL THE PARISH NUMBER 718-236-9165. IF NO ONE IS AVAILABLE YOU CAN RECORD YOUR MESSAGE AND YOUR CALL WILL BE RETURNED.

ALL UPDATES AND THE CELEBRATION OF DAILY MASS CAN BE FOUND ON THE PARISH WEBSITE; www.stfrancescabrini-brooklyn.org & FACEBOOK PAGE: St. Frances Cabrini Dyker Heights
Our YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY (YAMs) continue to hold a virtual meeting each week beginning with a reflection on Living Lent! and watching the Netflix series the Messiah with a time for discussion. The YAMs invite anyone who wishes to part of this evening to join them. For more information or to join the live stream email joannefusaro@aol.com

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: A REFLECTION ON THE SPIRIT OF PENANCE

This reflection is based on the writings of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

At least three things have to happen for our people to rediscover the beauty and power of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. First, they need to regain an awareness of the destructive power of sin. Second, they need to recover a healthy sense of their own sinfulness. Third, they need to attain a clear vision of the tangible benefits that come from experiencing the healing and strengthening power of God’s mercy in this Sacrament.

Jesus’ temptation in the desert teaches us what sin is—disobeying God and refusing to embrace his will because we don’t trust him. Each of the devil’s temptations tries to get Jesus to stop trusting his Father and so veer off the path of his Father’s will. To resist temptation we need to strengthen our trust—we do that as Jesus did by feeding our souls on God’s Word and by tapping into Christ’s own strength as he shows us in the Gospels. Like Jesus we have to make God’s will our highest priority so we aren’t seduced by temptations.

