

## BLESSING OF EASTER BASKETS

**Blessing of Baskets** [*Święconka PL*]. Priest: Our Lenten season of fasting is almost over; we have celebrated the Passover of the Lord, his suffering and death, and we will shortly celebrate his glorious resurrection. This morning, we offer the first-fruits to God, asking God to bless them and to bless us, our families and all those whom we love.

*After each blessing,*  
Blesséd be God x3 Forever, Amen!  
Blesséd be God x3 Forever, Amen!

### Closing Prayer

**Our Father** *each in our own language*

*All:* Almighty, ever-living God, whose only begotten Son descended to the realm of the dead, and rose from there to glory, grant that your faithful people, who were buried with him in baptism, may, by his resurrection, obtain eternal life. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen

**Closing Hymn** *tune: Abide with me*

1. His cross stands empty, in a world grown still,  
Through hours of anguish and of tortured dread:  
In stillness, earth awaits beside his tomb,  
While Christ goes down to wake the slumbering dead.
2. He summons Adam and his faithful sons,  
Brings light where darkness cold and endless seemed;  
He frees and claims his own, so long in chains,  
Who, with the living, are at last redeemed.
3. With God the Father and the Holy Ghost  
Give praise to Christ our Lord, the Crucified,  
Who, through the ages, seeks to save the lost:  
The sinful men for whom he bled and died.



## HOLY SATURDAY

### MORNING PRAYER & BLESSING OF EASTER BASKETS

St Alphonse, Luxembourg 11th April 2020

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#### Opening hymn

1. Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
and in the depth be praise;  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways!
2. O loving wisdom of our God!  
When all was sin and shame,  
a second Adam to the fight  
and to the rescue came.
3. O wisest love! that flesh and blood,  
which did in Adam fail,  
should strive afresh against the foe,  
should strive, and should prevail;
4. and that the highest gift of grace  
should flesh and blood refine:  
God's presence and his very self,  
and essence all-divine.
5. O generous love! that he who smote  
in man for man the foe,  
the double agony in Man  
for man should undergo.
6. And in the garden secretly,  
and on the cross on high,  
should teach his brethren, and inspire  
to suffer and to die.

*repeat verse 1*

*Reader:* My body shall rest in hope!

**Psalm 15 (16) all**

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.  
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.  
My happiness lies in you alone.'

He has put into my heart a marvellous love  
for the faithful ones who dwell in his land.  
Those who choose other gods increase their sorrows.  
Never will I offer their offerings of blood.

Never will I take their name upon my lips.  
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;  
it is you yourself who are me prize.  
The lot marked out for me is my de-light:  
welcome indeed the heritage that falls to me!

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,  
who even at night directs my heart.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:  
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
even my body shall rest in safety.  
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,  
nor let your beloved know decay.

You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,  
at your right hand happiness for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. A-men.

*Reader:* My body shall rest in hope!

**Reading from an ancient homily for Holy Saturday**

**Antiphon all**

Christ humbled himself for us, and, in obedience, accepted death, even death on a cross. Therefore God raised him to the heights and gave him the name which is above all other names.

**Benedictus**

*R/* - Blessed be the Lord

Blessed be the God of Israel

Blessed be God the Redeemer

Blessed be the God who promises salvation

Blessed be God who rescues us from our enemies

Blessed be God, true to his Covenant

Blessed be God, who pledged to Abraham

Blessed be the God who calls us to serve

Blessed be the child, Prophet of the Most High

Blessed be you, who prepare the way of the Lord

Blessed be you, who announces God's saving deeds

Blessed be you, messenger of forgiveness

Blessed are you, messenger of God's mercy

Blessed be God, dawn after the long night

Blessed be God, Light to those in darkness

Blessed be God, hope in the shadow of death

Blessed be God, who leads us in ways of peace

**Intercessions**

*Reader:* Lord, in your mercy

*All:* hear our prayer