

1. THE SOLEMN ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Hosanna to the Son of David;
blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord,
the King of Israel.
Hosanna in the highest.

2. THE SIMPLE ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The children of the Hebrews spread their
garments on the road,
crying out and saying: Hosanna to the Son of
David;
blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord.

2. THE SIMPLE 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!

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
who as an example of humility for the human
race to follow
caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to
the Cross,
graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of
patient suffering
and so merit a share in his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Is 50:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.
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.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 21 (22):8-9, 17-20, 23-24

Response:

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

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.)

SECOND READING

Phil 2:6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians.

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.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL Lk 22:14 - 23:56 (Short Form Lk 23:1-49)

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according
to Luke.
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,**

**begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,**

(all bow during the next three lines)

**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary,
and became man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the
dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son,
O Lord,
may our reconciliation with you be near at hand,
so that, though we do not merit it by our own
deeds,
yet by this sacrifice made once for all,
we may feel already the effects of your mercy.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

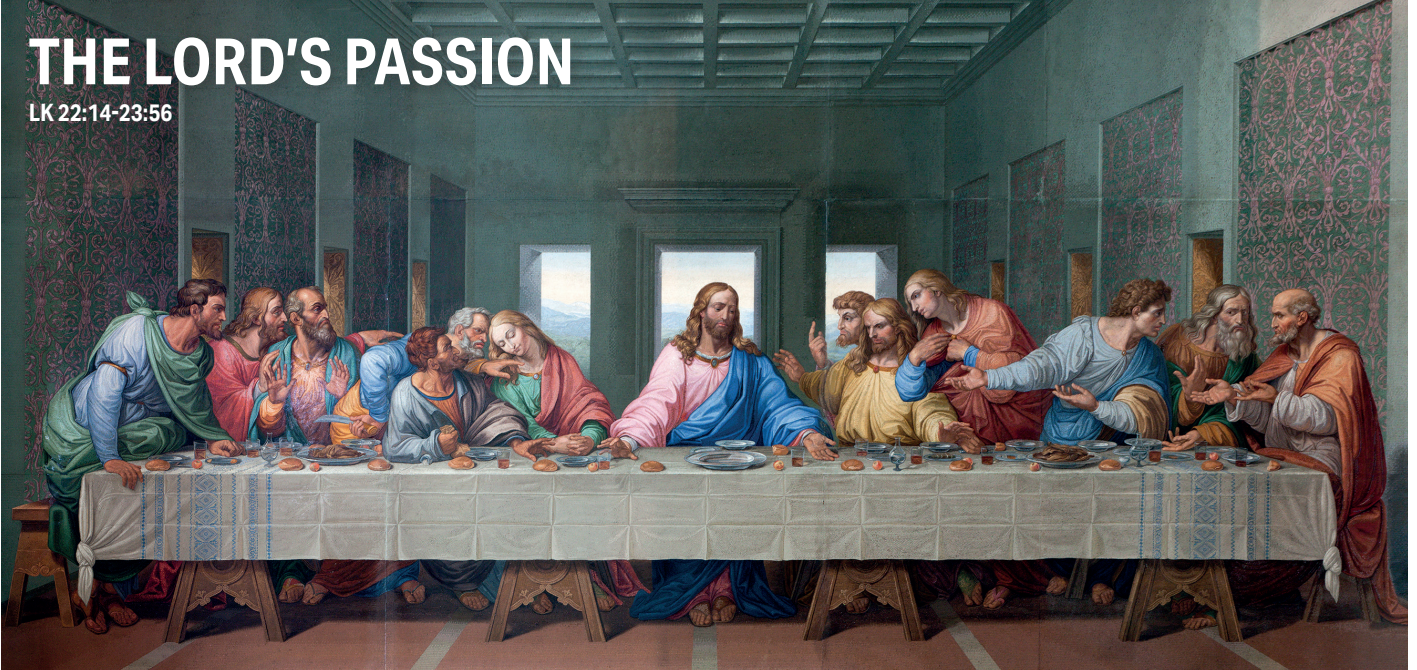
Nourished with these sacred gifts,
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,
that, just as through the death of your Son
you have brought us to hope for what we
believe,
so by his Resurrection
you may lead us to where you call.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Look, we pray, O Lord, on this your family,
for whom our Lord Jesus Christ
did not hesitate to be delivered into the hands
of the wicked
and submit to the agony of the Cross.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PASSION

LK 22:14-23:56



This account from Luke's Gospel begins with Jesus and his disciples at the Paschal Meal. There is a sense of urgency, as Jesus knows what is about to happen. This is the last time he will break bread with these followers and he asks that all humankind continue to celebrate the Eucharist in memory of him.

At the table, there are reminders that the Eucharist is no guarantee against the possibility of betrayal. Judas sits there and will ultimately hand Jesus over to Pilate. Peter sits close by and his denial of Jesus brings an atmosphere of shame to the scene. Peter is so overconfident that he's prepared to go to prison and even die with Jesus. But that's not how the story unfolds. When the time comes for Jesus' crucifixion, the leaders will deliberately humiliate him further, as they place him beside two thieves. Torture and insults and sneering from the leaders present are what Jesus must contend with. Indeed, despite everything he experiences on the cross, he still has enough energy to speak to God. 'Father, forgive them.' In his last words to the thief, Jesus assures him that they would be together in paradise. ■

REFLECT

The famous city of Herculaneum, near Naples, was buried by the eruption of the volcano Vesuvius in 79 AD. Only in recent times, excavators found a body on the shore. It was the body of a young woman who died trying to protect a child from the eruption. From her bones, they knew that she'd been undernourished from childhood and marked by heavy work. The experts concluded that she'd been a slave or a servant, there not being much difference in the ancient world between slaves and servants. This is an image very familiar to us when we read the Gospels. Slaves are commonplace. They serve table, they do the hard work, their labour is tiring, and their bodies are worn. It's interesting that on reading the Passion of Jesus Christ, our first impression is of a slave being handed over to be crucified. Except this slave would show the world kindness, compassion, love and mercy. Like the servant in Herculaneum, her last act was to wrap a child in her arms for protection and safety. Jesus, the slave, the servant and the healer, his last act would be to show the world the extent of God's love. This would ultimately get him killed. No one, not even his disciples, could fully comprehend Christ's message – That God so loved the world, he sent his only Son. So that the world might know his love. ■

DO

How can you be of service to God's people this week? Is there a reluctance in you to volunteer for a worthy parish initiative? How can you support your fellow lay missionaries?

LEARN

'The source of the Church's mission is the conviction that Christ is risen and fully alive and present to the community of believing Christians.' (Archbishop John Niendstedt)

SAY

'Give something, however small, to one in need. For it is not small to one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could.'

(Saint Gregory of Nazianzus)

