

MISSALETTE

29 MARCH 2026 ❖ PALM SUNDAY / "ALAY KAPWA" SUNDAY ❖ YEAR A

We Welcome Jesus in Our Lives

N.B. The priest wears RED vestments. The blessing of palms takes the place of the Penitential Rite.

Part 1: COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

Opening Antiphon

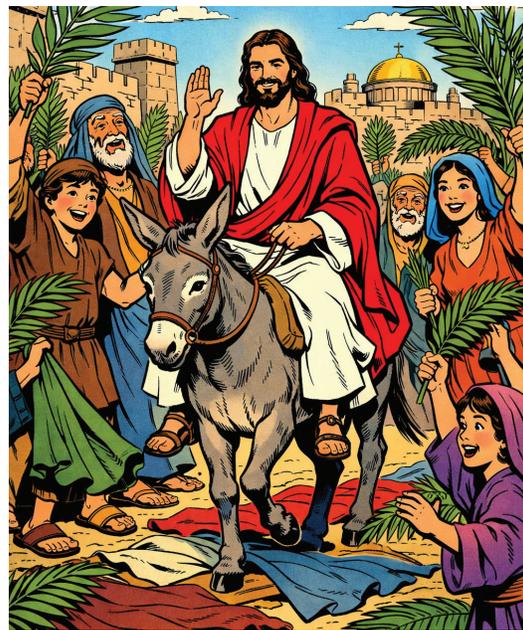
(To be recited only when no Entrance Hymn is sung.)

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.
(Mt 21:9)

The priest and the people carrying palm branches assemble in a place distinct from the church to which they will go in procession. The priest greets the congregation and addresses it using the following or similar words:

P—Dear brothers and sisters, since the beginning of Lent until now we have prepared our hearts by penance and charitable works. Today, we gather together to herald with the whole Church the beginning of the celebration of our Lord's Paschal Mystery, that is to say, of his Passion and Resurrection. For it was to accomplish this mystery that he entered his own city of Jerusalem. Therefore, with all faith and devotion, let us commemorate the Lord's entry into the city for our salvation, following in his footsteps, so that, being made by his grace partakers of the Cross, we may have a share also in his Resurrection and in his life.

Let us pray.
Almighty ever-living God,
sanctify (✠) these branches with your blessing,
that we, who follow Christ the King in exultation,



may reach the eternal Jerusalem through him.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
All —Amen.

The priest sprinkles the palm branches with holy water in silence.

Gospel

Mt 21:1-11

P—A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
All—Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus and the disciples drew near Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tethered, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them here to me.

And if anyone should say anything to you,
 reply,
 ‘The master has need of them.’
 Then he will send them at once.”
 This happened so that what had been spoken
 through the prophet might be fulfilled:
 “Say to daughter Zion,
 ‘Behold, your king comes to you,
 meek and riding on an ass,
 and on a colt, the foal of a beast of
 burden.’”
 The disciples went and did as Jesus had
 ordered them.
 They brought the ass and the colt and laid
 their cloaks over them,
 and he sat upon them.
 The very large crowd spread their cloaks on
 the road,
 while others cut branches from the trees
 and strewed them on the road.
 The crowds preceding him and those
 following
 kept crying out and saying:
 “Hosanna to the Son of David;

blessed is he who comes in the name of
 the Lord;
 hosanna in the highest.”
 And when he entered Jerusalem
 the whole city was shaken and asked,
 “Who is this?”
 And the crowds replied,
 “This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth
 in Galilee.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
All—Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

*A brief homily may be given. Before the
 procession starts, the celebrant may address the
 people in these or similar words:*

P—Dear brothers and sisters,
 like the crowds who acclaimed Jesus in
 Jerusalem,
 let us go forth in peace.

*The procession to the church begins while a
 suitable hymn is sung.*

Part 2: THE MASS

N.B. When there is no blessing of palms, the Mass begins in the usual way, with the Penitential Act soon after the Entrance Antiphon/Hymn and the Greeting.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*(To be recited only when no entrance hymn is
 sung.)*

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!
(Cf. Jn 12: 1, 12-13; Ps 24 (23): 9-10)

COLLECT (OPENING PRAYER)

P—Almighty ever-living God,
 who as an example of humility for the human
 race to follow,
 caused our Savior 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.
All – Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

1st Reading

Is 50:4-7

R – A reading from the Book of the Prophet
 Isaiah

The Lord God has given me
 a well-trained tongue,
 that I might know how to speak to the weary
 a word that will rouse them.

Morning after morning
 he opens my ear that I may hear;
 and I have not rebelled,
 have not turned back.

I gave my back to those who beat me,
 my cheeks to those who plucked my
 beard.

My face I did not shield
 from buffets and spitting.
 The Lord God is my help,

therefore I am not disgraced.
I have set my face like flint,
knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

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

Responsorial Psalm Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

R – *My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?*

R. M. Velez

My God, my God,
why have you a---bandoned me?

- * All who see me scoff at me;
they mock me with parted lips, they wag
their heads:
“He relied on the Lord;
let him deliver him, let him rescue him,
if He loves him.” R.
- * Indeed, many dogs surround me,
a pack of evildoers closes in upon me.
They have pierced my hands and my feet;
I can count all my bones. R.
- * They divide my garments among them,
and for my vesture they cast lots.
But you, O Lord, be not far from me;
O my help, hasten to aid me! R.
- * I will proclaim your name to my brethren;
in the midst of the assembly I will praise
you:
“You who fear the Lord, praise him;
all you descendants of Jacob, give glory
to him;
revere him, all you descendants of
Israel!” R.

2nd Reading Phil 2:6-11

R – A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of
God,
did not regard equality with God
something to be grasped.
Rather, he emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,

coming in human likeness.
And found human in appearance,
he humbled himself,
becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.

Because of this, God greatly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name
which is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
of those in heaven and on earth and
under the earth,
and every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

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

Verse before the Gospel cf. Jn 4:42, 15

All–Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of
endless glory.
Christ became obedient to the point of
death, even death on a cross.
Because of this, God greatly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name which
is above every name.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of
endless glory.

Gospel Mt 27:11-54

N.B. The Passion narrative may be read
by roles. When this is done, the short
interventions of the Narrator such as, “He
said”; “He replied,” etc. should be omitted.

Characters: J: Jesus; N1: First Narrator;
N2: Second Narrator; P: Pilate; C: Crowd,
Chief priests, others

P – The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew

N¹ –Jesus stood before the governor, Pontius
Pilate, who questioned him,

P –“Are you the king of the Jews?”

[N²–Jesus said,]

J –“You say so.”

N¹ –And when he was accused by the chief
priests and elders, he made no answer. Then
Pilate said to him,

P –“Do you not hear how many things they
are testifying against you?”

N² –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,

P –“Which one do you want me to release to you: Barabbas, or Jesus called Christ?”

N¹ –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,

C –“Have nothing to do with that righteous man. I suffered much in a dream today because of him.”

N² –The chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to destroy Jesus. The governor said to them in reply,

P –“Which of the two do you want me to release to you?”

[**N¹** –They answered,]

C –“Barabbas!”

[**N¹** –Pilate said to them,]

P –“Then what shall I do with Jesus called Christ?”

[**N¹** –They all said,]

C –“Let him be crucified!”

[**N¹** –But he said,]

P –“Why? What evil has he done?”

[**N¹** –They only shouted the louder,]

C –“Let him be crucified!”

N² –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,

P –“I am innocent of this man’s blood. Look to it yourselves.”

N¹ –And the whole people said in reply,

C –“His blood be upon us and upon our children.”

N² –Then he released Barabbas to them, but after he had Jesus scourged, he handed him over to be crucified.

N¹ –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,

C –“Hail, King of the Jews!”

N² – 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.

N¹ –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.

N² –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.”

N¹ –Two revolutionaries were crucified with him, one on his right and the other on his left.

N² – Those passing by reviled him, shaking their heads and saying,

C –“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!”

N¹ –Likewise the chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him and said,

C –“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.’”

N² –The revolutionaries who were crucified with him also kept abusing him in the same way.

N¹ –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,

J –“*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?*”

N² –which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” Some of the bystanders who heard it said,

C –“This one is calling for Elijah.”

N¹ –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,

C –“Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to save him.”

N² –But Jesus cried out again in a loud voice, and gave up his spirit.

(Kneel down in silent prayer.)

N¹ – 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.

N² –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,
C –“Truly, this was the Son of God!”

The Gospel of the Lord.
All–Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

Profession of Faith

(Apostles' Creed)*

**I believe in 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 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.**

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

P– Full of trust in the Lord's compassionate love, let us present our petitions to Him who understands our difficulties and needs. Let us implore Him:

All –**Merciful Father, hear us.**

C –For the pilgrim Church: may God's mercy sustain Her with the living water of His Word and Sacraments as She journeys through a world of indifference and opposition. Let us pray. **R.**

C –That the Holy Father, our bishops, and our priests may continue to guide and encourage us with the holiness of their lives to be faithful to Jesus, let us pray. **R.**

C –That all the members of the Philippine judiciary may render justice without delay, favoritism or corruption, let us pray. **R.**

C –That we may realize that the suffering endured by Jesus was also caused by our sinfulness and lack of repentance, let us pray. **R.**

P– Lord God, sustain us in our resolve to live as Jesus taught us. As we share in His suffering, may we also come to share in His glory for ever and ever.

All – **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

P –Pray, brethren . . .

All –**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P –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.

All – **Amen.**

PREFACE: THE PASSION OF THE LORD

P –The Lord be with you.

All–**And with your spirit.**

P –Lift up your hearts.

All–**We lift them up to the Lord.**

P –Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All–**It is right and just.**

P –It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,

always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

For, though innocent, he suffered willingly for sinners and accepted unjust condemnation to save the guilty.

His Death has washed away our sins, and his Resurrection has purchased our justification.

And so, with all the Angels, in joyful celebration we, too, acclaim:

All – **Holy, holy, holy . . .**

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P – The mystery of faith.

All – **When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.**

COMMUNION RITE

All—Our Father . . .

P —Deliver us, Lord . . .

All—For the kingdom,
the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.

SIGN OF PEACE

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

All—Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world:

have mercy on us. (2x)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world:

grant us peace.

COMMUNION

P — Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him who
takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are
those called to the Supper of the Lamb.

All — Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*(To be recited only when no Communion
hymn is sung.)*

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without
my drinking it,
your will be done. *(Mt 26:42)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P—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.

All—Amen.

CONCLUDING RITES

P—The Lord be with you.

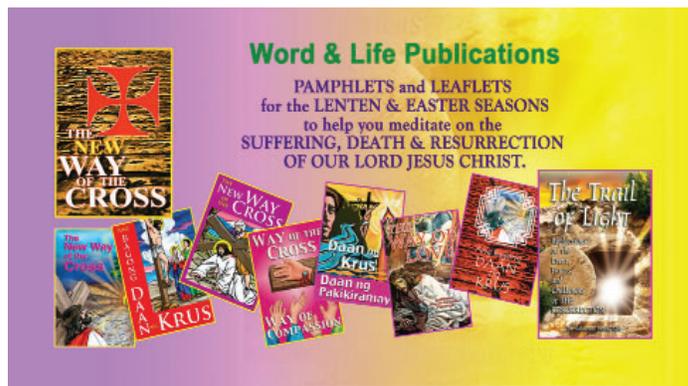
All—And with your spirit.

P—May almighty God bless you: the Father, and
the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All—Amen.

P—Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

All—Thanks be to God.



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May this Lenten season be grace-filled and prayerful for you and your family.



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