

Our Faith on Sunday

LITURGY

Palm Sunday

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Mt 21:9
Hosanna to the Son of David;
blesed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord,
the King of Israel.
Hosanna in the highest

PALM GOSPEL: Mt 21:1-11
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-7
I did not cover my face against insult - I know I shall not be shamed

PSALM: Ps. 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24, R.v2
R) My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

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)

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)

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)

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: Philippians 2:6-11
He humbled himself, but God raised him high.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Phil 2:8-9
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.

THE PASSION: Matthew 26:14-27:66

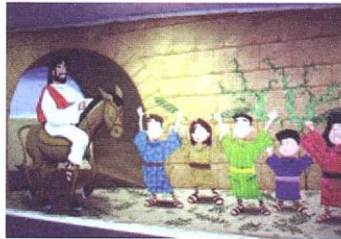
COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Mt 26:42
Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

VOCATION

PRAYER FOR MARRIAGE:

Lord God you call many of us to be husbands and wives, parents, and children, in youth and old age, in sickness and in health.
 You call us to love and holiness.
 Help us be a living image of you, and bring life to the world.
 Amen.

GOSPEL REFLECTION



For some time, Jesus had been trying to tell his followers that he was going to suffer and die, but they didn't get it, or maybe didn't want to get it. How could be that the Son of God could be treated so unjustly? Innocent suffering is incomprehensible and completely unjustifiable to our normal way of thinking, and yet the Father sent the Son to be an innocent victim, a lamb led to slaughter. When Jesus cries out, just before he gives up his spirit "My God, my God, why have you deserted me?" he reaches the most extreme moment of his suffering. He feels completely abandoned even by the Father, to whom he has always been obedient. But it was also in that moment that he fulfilled his mission on earth – to re-unite God and humankind. In our lives too, we experience sufferings of all sorts and we

try to make sense of them. Often we say "Why me?" That "Why me?" is a tiny replica of Jesus' cry from the cross. It is also a moment when we can enter into a deeper relationship with the Father.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



THE SOCIAL DIMENSION OF EVANGELIZATION REALITIES ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN IDEAS

231. There also exists a constant tension between ideas and realities. Realities simply are, whereas ideas are worked out. There has to be continuous dialogue between the two, lest ideas become detached from realities. It is dangerous to dwell in the realm of words alone, of images and rhetoric. So a third principle comes into play: realities are greater than ideas. This calls for rejecting the various means of masking reality: angelic forms of purity, dictatorships of relativism, empty rhetoric, objectives more ideal than real, brands of ahistorical fundamentalism, ethical systems bereft of kindness, intellectual discourse bereft of wisdom.

The Sacrament of the Present Moment*

MAKING ROOM FOR JESUS

Doing God's will in life's NOW brings Jesus into our hearts. If reading is the duty of the moment then read; if praying is the duty of the moment then pray; if working then work; and so on... Don't spend hours trying to decide what God is asking. Just do it!

Doing the Divine will makes the Divine present to us and within us. Doing God's will unites us to God; there is no other way to union. Let us respect God's

leading and realize that not all of us are led along the same path. There is no place for rivalry, only respect for the uniqueness of each one.

If we tune into God's plans we will be safely nourished by good plain bread rather than fancy cake. Let us acknowledge our own poverty and rely on God to give us what we need. We will be provided for, that is certain.

*Jean Pierre de Caussade's Self-Abandonment to Divine Providence for everyone by Elizabeth Ruth Obbard and published by New City ISBN: 978-1-905039-11-1

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