

## **PALM SUNDAY - APRIL 5, 2020**

### **PNCC SUNDAY WORSHIP FOR THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND HOLY MASS DUE TO COVID 19**

#### **PALM SUNDAY NARRATIVE**

##### ***FROM THE PNCC LITURGY OF THE PALMS:***

Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is He who comes in the name of

Lord! O King of Israel: Hosanna in the

highest!

So the chief priests and Pharisees gather the council, and said,

“What are we to do? For this man performs many signs.

If we let Him go on thus, everyone will believe in Him,

and the Romans will come and destroy our holy place and our nation.”

But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them,

“You know nothing at all; you do not understand that it is expedient for you

that one man should die for the people and that the whole nation should not perish.”

So from that day on they took counsel how to put Him to death, for as they said:

“The Romans will come and destroy both our holy place and our nation.”

##### **PRAYER:**

O God, Who did ordain that the multitude of Israel’s believing people should honor with a tumultuous joy the Savior before His sacred passion, and did inspire the crowd to spread branches of olive trees and palms in the way, and to sing “Hosanna” in His praise; grant the palms, the symbol of victory over evil, and the olive branches, the symbol of goodness, meekness and justice, the gifts of the Holy Spirit within our hearts, may for forth to wage war against the forces of evil, depravity, and falsehood; and so guided through life in the way of light, truth and justice, we may enter into everlasting glory. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

And when they drew near to Jerusalem, then Jesus sent two disciples,

Saying to them: “Go into the village opposite you, where you will find a donkey tied

and colt with her; untie them and bring them to Me.

If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, the Lord has need of them!”

Then disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them, they brought the donkey and colt

and put their garments on them and He sat thereon.

Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road;

and other cut branches from the trees and spread them on the roads;

and the crowds who went before Him and that followed shouted,

Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is He who comes in the name of Lord!

O King of Israel: Hosanna in the highest!

In the name of the ✠ Father and of the Son of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

Dear Father in heaven, thank You for bringing me safely to the beginning of a new day. Keep me safe throughout the day from temptation, sin and evil. O Lord, by Your help and guidance may my thoughts, words and all that I do be in accordance with Your holy will. Amen.

## **ACT OF CONTRITION**

O God, from the depth of my heart I am sorry for sinning against You. Through my sins I have turned away from You, displeased You and offended You. I promise to confess my sins, to do penance and with Your grace to amend my life by following You closely and keeping Your commandments.

## **ENTRANCE HYMN**

V. Open wide the door and gates. Lift high the ancient portals. The King of glory enters; Who is the King of glory? He is God, the mighty Lord.

R. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed are You Who has come to us so rich in love and mercy. Hosanna in the highest.

V. Lord, for us Your wounds were suffered.

R. O Christ Jesus, have mercy on us.

## **THE KYRIE**

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, You have given Your Son as Savior of the human race and a model of humility

He fulfilled Your will by becoming man and giving His life on the cross.

Guide our minds by His truth and strengthen our lives by the example of His death that we may live in union with You in the New Jerusalem.

We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-7**

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.

This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8**

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. My God, my God, why have You abandoned me?*

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. My God, my God, why have You abandoned me?*

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. My God, my God, why have You abandoned me?*

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. My God, my God, why have You abandoned me?*

**SECOND READING:** Philippians 2:6-11

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.

This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

**VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL:** Philippians 2:8-9

Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ, King of the 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 the endless glory

**THE GOSPEL:** - Abbreviated From - Matthew 27:11-54

*(For the entire Passion please read from your personal Bible Matthew 26:14 – 27:66)*

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!”

This is the Gospel of the Lord. *Praise be to You Lord Jesus Christ.*

## **REFLECTION**

On Palm Sunday we celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. He was welcomed as a King with shouts of “Hosanna” and palm branches laid in His path. There was such excitement...

But we know that these joyous shouts of “Hosanna” quickly changed to “Crucify Him!” Today we sing out “Hosanna” from our own homes but let us make sure by the way that we live – with our words and deeds – that we never cry out “Crucify Him”.

We begin the most sacred and holy week of our Church Liturgical Year. This year our Holy Week journey has taken a much different turn with outbreak of the Covid 19 virus. Things have changed so drastically in the past couple of weeks; this sacred and holy week occurs at a time when we are unable to gather in person for the Sacred Liturgies. But what we celebrate this week takes on even more importance as it is our hope, our comfort and where we can find peace!

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through His Passion and Death opened for us the way to Resurrection. As we are saddened by death and suffering around us – in the midst of despair, anxiety, suffering, sickness and crisis – we know our Lord has overcome this and Is Alive! He Lives!

Make the time this week in prayer, reflection, watching the Liturgies live streamed to share in these salvific events preparing yourselves to share in the Joy of Resurrection.

*(Take a few moments for silent reflection)*

## **NICENE CREED**

I believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one being with the Father.

Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit He was born of the Virgin Mary,  
**AND BECAME MAN.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in fulfillment of 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 and giver of life who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son, He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **OUR FATHER**

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

### **ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

Most loving Jesus, I adore You in the Most Blessed Sacrament, in Which You are truly present. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart and heal my soul. I embrace You and unite myself with You; may I never be separated from You. In flame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord and Savior.

### **COMMUNION VERSE**

Father, if this cup cannot pass away unless I drink it, Your will be done.

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

All Loving Father, You satisfy our hunger with our Lord present in the Sacred Banquet.

The death of Your Son gives us hope and strengthens our faith. May His resurrection give us perseverance and lead us to salvation.

We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **PRAYER IN TIME OF NATIONAL ANXIETY**

Let us pray.

I come to You, Lord, in this time of uncertainty and confusion that has gripped our nation. I pray that our leaders and representatives in government are filled with Your peace, strength and courage. May your gifts of wisdom and understanding, fortitude and counsel be sought and utilized by them for the well-being of our country. By their belief and trust in You may they provide capable leadership, promote unity and peace, and be attentive to the concerns of our people. May Your Church provide support and comfort; and help strengthen our hope for peace through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **THE ANGELUS – ASKING THE INTERCESSION OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER**

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary ...

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to your word.

Hail Mary...  
V. And the Word was made Flesh.  
R. And dwelt among us.  
Hail Mary ...  
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,  
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.

O Lord, we ask You, pour forth Your grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His passion and cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In the name of the ✠ Father and of the Son of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN: ALL GORY LAUD AND HONOR**

All glory, laud and honor to You, redeemer King  
To whom the lips of children made loud hosannas ring.  
You are the King of Israel, and David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comes now, the King and Blessed One.

The company of angels are praising You on high;  
And mortal men, and all things created, make reply.  
The people of the Hebrews with palms before You went.  
Our praise and prayers and anthems before You we present.

**FURTHER HYMN SELECTION FROM YOUTUBE: The Holy City – Best Version**

*By London Philharmonic Orchestra*

(For those with the ability – go to YouTube: watch and listen

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6olt7e\\_OTTs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6olt7e_OTTs))

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by Very Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich Jr.  
Chairman, PNCC National Liturgical Commission  
April 2020 for those who cannot attend Holy Mass due to Covid 19*

**DISCIPLESHIP**

2020

PNCC

