

LITURGY FOR GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday is the most solemn of occasions as we reflect deeply upon the death of our Lord. Please will all members of the congregation observe silence leaving the church not just because of Covid but as we contemplate the suffering and sacrifice of Christ for us and the whole world!

1. INTRODUCTION

There is a green hill far away,
Without a city wall,
Where the dear Lord was crucified,
Who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell,
What pains he had to bear,
But we believe it was for us
He hung and suffered there.

He died that we might be forgiven,
He died to make us good,
That we might go at last to heaven,
Saved by his precious blood.

There was no other good enough
To pay the price of sin;
He only could unlock the gate...
Of heaven, and let us in.

O dearly, dearly has he loved,
And we must love him too,
And trust in his redeeming Blood,
And try his works to do.

*The service then continues with the Litany. The congregation say all the words in **bold print**.*

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,

Have mercy upon us.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

Have mercy upon us.

O God the Holy Spirit, the Comforter,

Have mercy upon us.

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three Persons and one God,

Have mercy upon us.

Remember not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers; be gracious unto us; spare your people who your have redeemed with your most precious blood.

Spare us, good Lord.

From all evil and mischief; from pride, vain-glory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From sloth and idleness; from worldliness, greed, and covetousness; from hardness of heart, and contempt of your Word and Commandment,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From fornication and all other carnal sin; from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From lightning and tempest; from plague, pestilence, and famine; from battle, violence and murder, and from sudden death,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of your holy Incarnation; by your holy Nativity; by your Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By your Agony and bloody Sweat; by your Cross and Passion; by your precious Death and Burial,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By your glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit,

Good Lord, deliver us.

In all times of tribulation; in all times of prosperity; in the hour of death,
and in the day of judgement,

Good Lord, deliver us.

That it may please you to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our
sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to gift us with the grace of your
Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your holy Word;

We plead you to hear us, good Lord.

Son of God;

We implore you to hear us.

O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world;

Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world;

Grant us your peace.

O Christ, hear us.

O Christ, mercifully hear us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

2. THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please remain kneeling or seated for the Collects

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 53:3-12

³ He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering^[a] and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces^[b] he was despised, and we held him of no account. ⁴ Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

⁸ By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. ⁹ They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb^[c] with the rich,^[d] although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.^[e] When you make his life an offering for sin,^[f] he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

¹¹ Out of his anguish he shall see light;^[g] he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one,^[h] my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹² Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

PSALM 22: 1-8

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

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, and from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry out to you by day, but you do not answer, and by night, I take no rest.

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

But you continue Holy; you that are the praise of Israel. In you our fathers trusted; they trusted and you delivered them.

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

To you they cried and they were saved; they put their trust in you and were not disappointed. But as for me I am a worm and no man, the scorn of men and despised by the people.

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

All those who see me laugh me to scorn; they shoot out their lips at me and wag their heads saying: "He trusted in the LORD; let the LORD deliver him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."

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

SECOND READING: HEBREWS 10:1-10 AND 19-23

10 Since the law has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the true form of these realities, it^[a] can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered year after year, make perfect those who approach.² Otherwise, would they not have ceased being offered, since the worshippers, cleansed once for all, would no longer have any consciousness of sin?³ But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sin year after year.⁴ For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.⁵ Consequently, when Christ^[b] came into the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me;⁶ in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure.⁷ Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God" (in the scroll of the book^[c] it is written of me).'

⁸ When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law),⁹ then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second.¹⁰ And it is by God's will^[d] that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

¹⁹Therefore, my friends,^[g] since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.

PSALM 22 VS 1-2, 9-11 AND 14-19

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

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, and from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry out to you by day, but you do not answer, and by night, I take no rest.

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

But you are he who took me out of the womb; that bought me to lie at peace on my mother's breast. On you have I been cast since my birth; You are my God even from my mother's womb. O go not from me, for trouble is hard at hand and there is no one to help.

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

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart within my breast is like melting wax; my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death.

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

For many dogs have come about me; and a band of evil doers hem me in, they have pierced my hands and my feet. I can count all my bones; they stand staring and gazing upon me.

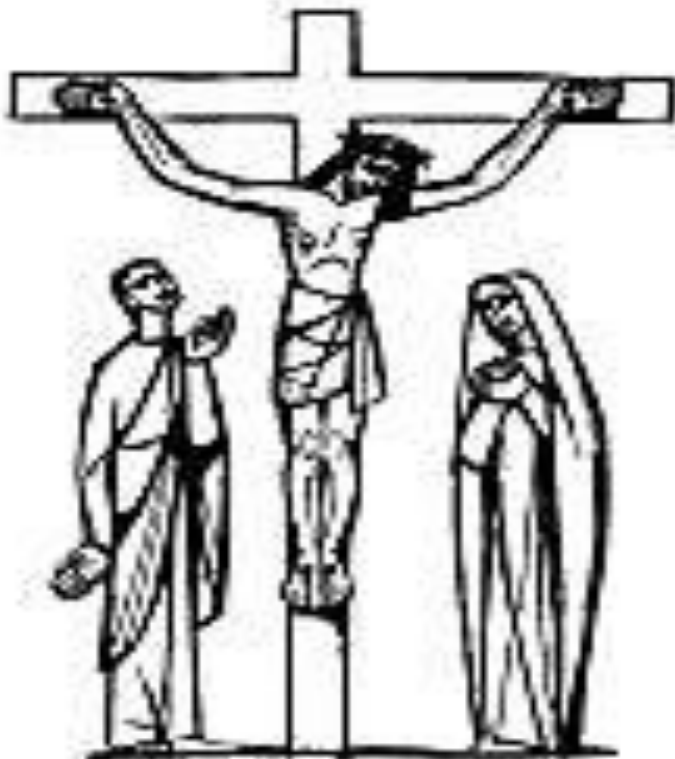
My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

They part my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing. O LORD, do not stand far off; you are my helper, hasten to my aid.

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

GOSPEL: THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

THE SERMON



3. DEVOTIONS BEFORE THE CROSS

Behold the Cross, to which the Saviour of the World was nailed
O Come let us worship

There now follows a time of deep devotion and worship as each of us reflects upon the sacrifice of Jesus. 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross'.

**When I survey the wondrous Cross,
On which the prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour content on all my pride**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.**

**See from His head, his hands, his feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands, my soul, my life, my all.**

The Reproaches follow.

Within this song the saving intervention of God in the Old Testament, particularly in Exodus, is contrasted with the treatment meted out to Christ in his passion and death.

I give you love, and how do you repay?
When you were slaves I strove to set you free;
I led you out from under Pharaoh's yoke,
But you led out your Christ to Calvary
My people, tell me, what is my offence?
What have I done to harm you? Answer me!

For forty years I was your constant guide,
I fed you with my manna from on high.
I led you out to live in hope of peace,
But you led out my only Son to die
My people, tell me, what is my offence?
What have I done to harm you? Answer me!

With cloud and fire I marked the desert way,
I heard your cries of rage and calmed your fear.
I opened up the sea and led you through,
But you have opened Christ with nail and spear.
My people, tell me, what is my offence?
What have I done to harm you? Answer me!

When in distress you cried to me for food,
I sent you quails in answer to your call,
And saving water from the desert rock,
But to my Son you offered bitter gall
My people, tell me, what is my offence?
What have I done to harm you? Answer me!

I gave you joy when you were in despair,
With songs of hope, I set your hearts on fire;
Crowned you with grace, the people of my choice
But you have crowned my Christ with thorny briar.
My people, tell me, what is my offence?
What have I done to harm you? Answer me!

When you were weak, exploited and oppressed,
I heard your cry and listened to your plea,
I raised you up to honour and renown,
But you have raised me on a shameful tree
My people, tell me, what is my offence?
What have I done to harm you? Answer me!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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
For thine is the kingdom
The power and the glory
For ever and ever. Amen.**

FINAL PRAYER

Lord, send down your abundant blessing upon your people who have devoutly recalled the death of your Son in the sure hope of the resurrection. Grant them pardon; bring them comfort. May their faith grow stronger and their eternal salvation be assured. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The minister(s) leaves and the congregation when they are ready leave in
SILENCE*