

## Readings, Triduum

### Holy Thursday

#### ✠ A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John:

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father.

He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end.

The devil had already induced Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand him over.

So, during supper,

fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power and that he had come from God and was returning to God,

he rose from supper and took off his outer garments.

He took a towel and tied it around his waist.

Then he poured water into a basin

and began to wash the disciples' feet

and dry them with the towel around his waist.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him,

“Master, are you going to wash my feet?”

Jesus answered and said to him,

“What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand later.”

Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.”

Jesus answered him,

“Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me.”

Simon Peter said to him,

“Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well.”

Jesus said to him,

“Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed, for he is clean all over;

so you are clean, but not all.”

For he knew who would betray him;

for this reason, he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

So when he had washed their feet  
and put his garments back on and reclined at table again,  
he said to them, "Do you realize what I have done for you?  
You call me 'teacher' and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am.  
If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet,  
you ought to wash one another's feet.  
I have given you a model to follow,  
so that as I have done for you, you should also do."

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

Good Friday

A reading from the book of the prophet, Isaiah

One look at him and people turned away.  
    We looked down on him, thought he was scum.  
We thought he brought it on himself,  
    That God was punishing him for his own failures.  
But it was our sins that did that to him,  
    That ripped and tore and crushed him --- our sins!  
He was beaten, he was tortured,  
    But he didn't say a word.  
Like a lamb taken to be slaughtered  
    And like a sheep to be sheared,  
    He took it all in silence.  
Justice miscarried, and he was led off ---  
    And did anyone really know what was happening?  
He died without a thought for his own welfare,  
    Beaten bloody for the sins of my people.  
Even though he's never hurt a soul  
    Or said a word that wasn't true.

The Word of God.            Thanks be to God.

## The Easter Vigil

### A reading from the Book of Genesis

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth,  
God said: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.  
Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea,  
the birds of the air, and the cattle,  
and over all the wild animals  
and all the creatures that crawl on the ground."  
God created man in his image;  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.  
God blessed them, saying:  
"Be fertile and multiply;  
fill the earth and subdue it.  
Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air,  
and all the living things that move on the earth."  
God also said:  
"See, I give you every seed-bearing plant all over the earth  
and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food;  
and to all the animals of the land, all the birds of the air,  
and all the living creatures that crawl on the ground,  
I give all the green plants for food."  
And so it happened.  
God looked at everything he had made, and found it very good.

The Word of God.

Thanks be to God.

## A reading from the Book of Exodus

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea,  
and the LORD swept the sea  
with a strong east wind throughout the night  
and so turned it into dry land.

When the water was thus divided,  
the Israelites marched into the midst of the sea on dry land,  
with the water like a wall to their right and to their left.

The Egyptians followed in pursuit;  
all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and charioteers went after them  
right into the midst of the sea.

In the night watch just before dawn  
the LORD cast through the column of the fiery cloud  
upon the Egyptian force a glance that threw it into a panic;  
and he so clogged their chariot wheels  
that they could hardly drive.

With that the Egyptians sounded the retreat before Israel,  
because the LORD was fighting for them against the Egyptians.

Thus the LORD saved Israel on that day  
from the power of the Egyptians.

When Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the seashore  
and beheld the great power that the LORD  
had shown against the Egyptians,  
they feared the LORD and believed in him and in his servant Moses.

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:  
I will sing to the LORD, for he is gloriously triumphant;  
horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.

**The Word of God.**

**Thanks be to God.**

## A reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah

Thus says the LORD:  
All you who are thirsty,  
come to the water!  
Come to me heedfully,  
listen, that you may have life.  
I will renew with you the everlasting covenant,

Seek the LORD while he may be found,  
call him while he is near.  
Turn to the LORD for mercy;  
to our God, who is generous in forgiving.  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.  
As high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so high are my ways above your ways  
and my thoughts above your thoughts.

For just as from the heavens  
the rain and snow come down  
and do not return there  
till they have watered the earth,  
making it fertile and fruitful,  
giving seed to the one who sows  
and bread to the one who eats,  
so shall my word be  
that goes forth from my mouth;  
my word shall not return to me void,  
but shall do my will,  
achieving the end for which I sent it.

The Word of God.

Thanks be to God.

A reading from the book of the prophet, Ezekiel

Thus says the Lord GOD:

Not for your sakes do I act, house of Israel,  
but for the sake of my holy name,  
which you profaned among the nations to which you came.  
I will prove the holiness of my great name, profaned among the nations,  
in whose midst you have profaned it.  
Thus the nations shall know that I am the LORD, says the Lord GOD,  
when in their sight I prove my holiness through you.  
For I will take you away from among the nations,  
gather you from all the foreign lands,  
and bring you back to your own land.  
I will sprinkle clean water upon you  
to cleanse you from all your impurities,  
and from all your idols I will cleanse you.  
I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you,  
taking from your bodies your stony hearts  
and giving you natural hearts.  
I will put my spirit within you and make you live by my statutes,  
careful to observe my decrees.  
You shall live in the land I gave your fathers;  
you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

The Word of God.

Thanks be to God.

## A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead

by the glory of the Father,

we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection.

The Word of God.

Thanks be to God.

**Reader:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

**All:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

✠ A reading from the Holy Gospel, according to Matthew

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning,  
Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb.  
And behold, there was a great earthquake;  
for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven,  
approached, rolled back the stone, and sat upon it.  
His appearance was like lightning  
and his clothing was white as snow.  
The guards were shaken with fear of him  
and became like dead men.  
Then the angel said to the women in reply,  
“Do not be afraid!  
I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified.  
He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said.  
Come and see the place where he lay.  
Then go quickly and tell his disciples,  
‘He has been raised from the dead,  
and he is going before you to Galilee;  
there you will see him.’  
Behold, I have told you.”  
Then they went away quickly from the tomb,  
fearful yet overjoyed,  
and ran to announce this to his disciples.  
And behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them.  
They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage.  
Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid.  
Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee,  
and there they will see me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.