

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Cycle B

ANTIPHON

cf. Ps 42:1-2

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.

PROCESSION GOSPEL

**A reading from the holy Gospel
according to John**

12:12-16

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord.

The crowds who had come up for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took branches of palm and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessings on the King of Israel, who comes in the name of the Lord." Jesus found a young donkey and mounted it – as scripture says: Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion; see, your king is coming, mounted on the colt of a donkey. At the time his disciples did not understand this, but later, after Jesus had been glorified, they remembered that this had been written about him and that this was in fact how they had received him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *Cf. Jn 12: 1, 12-13; Ps 23: 9-10*

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!

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.

Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

FIRST READING

**A reading from the
prophet Isaiah**

50:4-7

*I did not cover my face against insult –
I know I shall not be shamed.*

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

The word of the Lord.

PSALM

PS 21:8-9.17-20.23-24. R. v.2

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

1. 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.)
2. 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.)
3. 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.)
4. 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.)

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

2:6-11

He humbled himself but God raised him high

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he 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 other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

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!

PASSION GOSPEL (end of missalette)

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
(All bow) 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.

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my
drinking it, your will be done.

PASSION GOSPEL

N The Passion of our Lord |Jesus
Christ according to Mark.

Jesus was brought before the
Pontius Pilate the governor, and the
governor put to him this question:

O *Are you the king of the Jews?*

N He answered,

J It is you who say it.

N And the chief priests brought many
accusations against him. Pilate
questioned him again,

O *Have you no reply at all? See how many
accusations they are bringing against you!*

N But to Pilate's amazement, Jesus
made no further reply.

At festival time Pilate used to release
a prisoner for them, anyone they
asked for. Now a man called
Barabbas was then in prison with the
rioters who had committed murder
during the uprising. When the
crowd went up and began to ask
Pilate the customary favour, Pilate
answered them,

O *Do you want me to release for you the
king of the Jews?*

N For he realized it was out of
jealousy that the chief priests had
handed Jesus over. The chief
priests, however, had incited the
crowd to demand that he should
release Barabbas for them instead.
Then Pilate spoke again.

O *But in that case, what am I to do with the
man you call king of the Jews?*

N They shouted back.

C *Crucify him!*

N Pilate asked them,

O *Why? What harm has he done?*

N But they shouted all the louder,

C *Crucify him!*

N So Pilate, anxious to placate the crowd, released Barabbas for them and, having ordered Jesus to be scourged, handed him over to be crucified. The soldiers led him away to the inner part of the palace, that is, the Praetorium, and called the whole cohort together. They dressed him up in purple, twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on him. And they began saluting him,

C *Hail, king of the Jews!*

N They struck his head with a reed and spat on him; and they went down on their knees to do him homage. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the purple and dressed him in his own clothes. They led him out to crucify him. They enlisted a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross. They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, which means the place of the skull. They offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he refused it. Then they crucified him, and shared out his clothing, casting lots to decide what each should get. It was the third hour when they crucified him. The inscription giving the charge against him read: 'The King of the Jews.' And they crucified two robbers with him, one on his right and one on his left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said,

C *Aha! So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself: come down from the cross!*

N The chief priests and the scribes mocked him among themselves in the same way. They said,

C *He saved others, he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the king of Israel, come down from the cross now, for us to see it and believe.*

N Even those who were crucified with him taunted him. When the sixth hour came there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

J *Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?*

N This means 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood by heard this, they said,

C *Listen, he is calling on Elijah.*

N Someone ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink, saying,

O *Wait and see if Elijah will come to take him down.*

N But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

All kneel and pause a moment.

N And the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The centurion, who was standing in front of him, had seen how he had died, and he said,

C *In truth this man was a son of God.*

N The Gospel of the Lord.

