

# **PALM SUNDAY PARISH EUCHARIST**

## ***The Liturgy of the Palms***

*The Congregation gathers in a place apart from the church.*

**Hosanna to the Son of David.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Behold your king comes to you, O Zion,  
meek and lowly, sitting upon an ass.

Ride on in the cause of truth  
and for the sake of justice.

Your throne is the throne of God, it endures for ever;  
and the sceptre of your kingdom is a righteous sceptre.

You have loved righteousness and hated evil.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

**Hosanna to the Son of David.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

## ***The Greeting***

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

**and also with you.**

## ***Introduction***

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

*Please hold up your palm crosses while the following prayer is said and your crosses are blessed.*

God our Saviour,

whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die; let these palms be for us signs of his victory and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end of the Gospel*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The Procession*

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

*During the procession the congregation follow after the servers, holding their palms in their hands and singing the following hymn:*

***Refrain:***  
***All glory, laud, and honour***  
***To thee, Redeemer, King!***  
***To whom the lips of children***  
***Made sweet hosannas ring.***

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>1. Thou art the King of Israel,<br/>Thou David's royal Son,<br/>Who in the Lord's Name comest,<br/>The King and Blessed One. <i>Refrain</i></b>          | <b>2. The company of angels<br/>Are praising thee on high;<br/>And mortal men and all things<br/>Created make reply. <i>Refrain</i></b>          |
| <b>3. The people of the Hebrews<br/>With palms before thee went;<br/>Our praise and prayer and anthems<br/>Before thee we present. <i>Refrain</i></b>       | <b>4. To thee before thy passion<br/>They sang their hymns of praise;<br/>To thee, now high exalted,<br/>Our melody we raise. <i>Refrain</i></b> |
| <b>5. Thou didst accept their praises;<br/>Accept the prayers we bring,<br/>Who in all good delightest,<br/>Thou good and gracious King. <i>Refrain</i></b> |  |

*As we enter the Church the following hymn is sung:*

- 1. Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry;  
Thy humble beast pursues his road  
With palms and scattered garments strowed.**

- 2. Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin  
O'er captive death and conquered sin.**
- 3. Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
The winged-squadrons of the sky  
Look down with sad and wondering eyes  
To see the approaching sacrifice.**
- 4. Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;  
The Father on his sapphire throne  
Awaits his own anointed Son.**
- 5. Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
Bow thy meek head to mortal pain,  
Then take, O God, thy power, and reign.**

***The Collect (Remain Standing)***

*After the procession, when all are in their places, the President introduces a period of silent prayer with these words*

Let us pray for a closer union with Christ in his suffering and in his glory.

*Silence is kept*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who in your tender love towards the human race  
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh  
and to suffer death upon the cross:  
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

***The Liturgy of the Word***

***Readings (Sit)***

*At the end of each reading the reader says:*

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

## **Gradual Hymn (Stand)**

*Hymn numbers are displayed on hymn boards or found on the notice sheet*

### **The Passion Reading (Remain Standing)**

*When the Passion is announced the reader says:*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew

*(Note: The congregation will take the role of the "Assembly" - a conflation of the priests, the crowd and the soldiers, who often speak with one voice.)*

Narrator: One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said,

Judas: What will you give me if I betray him to you?

Narrator: They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying,

Disciples: Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?

Narrator: Jesus said,

Jesus: Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'

Narrator: So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said,

Jesus: Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.

Narrator: And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another,

Disciples: Surely not I, Lord?  
(severally)

Narrator: Jesus answered,

Jesus: The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.

Narrator: Judas, who betrayed him, said,

Judas: Surely not I, Rabbi?

Narrator: Jesus replied,

Jesus: You have said so.

Narrator: While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said,

Jesus: Take, eat; this is my body.

Narrator: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying,  
Jesus: Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

Narrator: When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them,  
Jesus: You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.

Narrator: Peter said to him,  
Peter: Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.

Narrator: Jesus said to him,  
Jesus: Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.

Narrator: Peter said to him,  
Peter: Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.

Narrator: And so said all the disciples.  
Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,  
Jesus: Sit here while I go over there and pray.

Narrator: He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them,  
Jesus: I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.

Narrator: And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed,  
Jesus: My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.

Narrator: Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,  
Jesus: So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Narrator: Again he went away for the second time and prayed,  
Jesus: My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.

Narrator: Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them,

Jesus: Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.

Narrator: While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

Judas: The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.

Narrator: At once he came up to Jesus and said,

Judas: Greetings, Rabbi!

Narrator: and kissed him. Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Friend, do what you are here to do.

Narrator: Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?

Narrator: At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,

Jesus: Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.

Narrator: Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said,

Witnesses: This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'

Narrator: The high priest stood up and said,

High Priest: Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?

Narrator: But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him,

High Priest: I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.

Narrator: Jesus said to him,

Jesus: You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.

Narrator: Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

High Priest: He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?

Narrator: They answered,

**Assembly: He deserves death.**

Narrator: Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying,

**Assembly: Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?**

Narrator: Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said,

Servant Girl 1: You also were with Jesus the Galilean.

Narrator: But he denied it before all of them, saying,

Peter: I do not know what you are talking about.

Narrator: When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders,

Servant Girl 2: This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.

Narrator: Again he denied it with an oath,

Peter: I do not know the man.

Narrator: After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter,

**Assembly: Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.**

Narrator: Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

Peter: I do not know the man!

Narrator: At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: 'Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said,

Judas: I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.

Narrator: But they said,

**Assembly: What is that to us? See to it yourself.**

Narrator: Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said,

**Assembly: It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.**

Narrator: After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, 'And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me.'

Narrator: Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him,

Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?

Narrator: Jesus said,

Jesus: You say so.

Narrator: But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

Pilate: Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?

Narrator: But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?

Narrator: For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him,

Pilate's wife: Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.

Narrator: Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them,

Pilate: Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

Narrator: And they said,

**Assembly: Barabbas.**

Narrator: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?

Narrator: All of them said,

**Assembly: Let him be crucified!**

Narrator: Then he asked,

Pilate: Why, what evil has he done?

Narrator: But they shouted all the more,

**Assembly: Let him be crucified!**

Narrator: So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying,

Pilate: I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.

Narrator: Then the people as a whole answered,

**Assembly: His blood be on us and on our children!**

Narrator: So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying,

**Assembly: Hail, King of the Jews!**

Narrator: They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

**Assembly: You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.**

Narrator: In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

**Assembly: He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'**

Narrator: The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice,

Jesus: Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?

Narrator: that is,

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

Narrator: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

**Assembly: This man is calling for Elijah.**

Narrator: At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said,

**Assembly: Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.**

Narrator: Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said,

Centurion: Truly this man was God's Son!

*At the end of the Passion the reader says:*

This is the Passion of the Lord.

*No response is made.*

***The Sermon (Sit)***

***The Intercessions (Sit or kneel)***

We stand with Christ in his suffering.

For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For grace to seek out those habits of sin which mean spiritual death,  
and by prayer and self-discipline to overcome them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Christian people, that through the suffering of disunity there may grow a rich  
union in Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who make laws, interpret them, and administer them, that our common  
life may be ordered in justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who still make Jerusalem a battleground, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have the courage and honesty to work openly for justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those in the darkness and agony of isolation, that they may find support and encouragement, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those, weighed down with hardship, failure, or sorrow, feel that God is far from them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are tempted to give up the way of the cross, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

That we, with those who have died in faith, may find mercy in the day of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy upon us.**

### ***Liturgy of the Sacrament***

### ***The Peace (Stand)***

Once we were far off,  
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near  
through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.  
*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

### ***The Preparation of the Gifts (Remain standing)***

*During the offertory hymn, the bread and wine, and our own offerings are collected and presented at the altar.*

*The president takes the gifts of bread and wine and may say the following*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness  
we have this bread to set before you,  
which earth has given and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the bread of life.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness  
we have this wine to set before you,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

***The Eucharistic Prayer (Remain Standing)***

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father,  
almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near  
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.  
The power of the life-giving cross reveals the judgement  
that has come upon the world and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more,  
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,  
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,  
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,  
for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection  
you have set us free.  
You are the Saviour of the world.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.  
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of The Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

***The Lord's Prayer (Sit or kneel)***

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us.

**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.**

***Breaking of the Bread***

Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.**

***Agnus Dei***

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

***Invitation to Communion***

This is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you  
But only say the word and I shall be healed.**

## ***The Distribution of Communion***

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table: please come forward and if you do not usually receive the Bread and Wine please bring this booklet with you and bow your head for a prayer of blessing.*

*The following or other authorized words of distribution are used:*

The body of Christ, broken for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

*During the distribution of Communion, an anthem and hymn may be sung.*

### ***Prayer after Communion***

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,  
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:  
give us the mind to follow you  
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,  
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

*All may say*

**Faithful God,  
may we who share this banquet  
glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
our salvation, life, and hope,  
who reigns as Lord now and for ever.  
Amen.**

***Banns & Notices (Sit)***

***Final Hymn (Stand)***

***The Blessing (Remain Standing)***

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

May the Father,  
who so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
bring you by faith to his eternal life.  
**Amen.**

May Christ,  
who accepted the cup of sacrifice  
in obedience to the Father's will,  
keep you steadfast as you walk with him the way of his cross.  
**Amen.**

May the Spirit,  
who strengthens us to suffer with Christ  
That we may share his glory,  
set your minds on life and peace.

**Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
Amen.

### ***The Dismissal***

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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