

FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD [GOOD FRIDAY]

SOLEMN LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION



THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

APRIL 19, 2019

The order of Mass can be found on page 3 in the Sunday's Word booklets found in the pew. Please follow this order of worship for today's music. Today's readings are found on page 78 of Sunday's Word.

In the presence of the Bishop, the priests and deacons go to the altar in silence and then prostrate themselves; all others kneel. After praying in silence, all rise as the priest and deacon go to the chair and sing or say the Collect (Opening Prayer).

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 52:13–53:12

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25



Fa - ther, in-to your hands I com - mend my spi-rit.

Music: Fr. Samuel F. Weber, OSB © St. Meinrad Archabbey ; Text: © 1998, USCCB

SECOND READING

HEBREWS 4:14-16; 5:7-9

GRADUAL *Christus factus est*

PHILIPPIANS 2:8-9

Christus factus est pro nobis obediens usque ad mortem, mortem autem crucis.

✠ Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum et dedit illi nomen, quod est super omne nomen.

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.

*A note about the Gradual: this gradual, one of the most famous in the repertoire, was traditionally the Holy Thursday gradual. However, after the 1969 liturgical changes, it was assigned to Palm Sunday and Good Friday, not as a chant between first and second readings, as is usually the case, but in the place of the "Verse before the Gospel". This unique situation helps prepare us for the proclamation of the Passion. Today, we hear the Gregorian chant original of this text.

GOSPEL

JOHN 18:1–19:42

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John

HOMILY

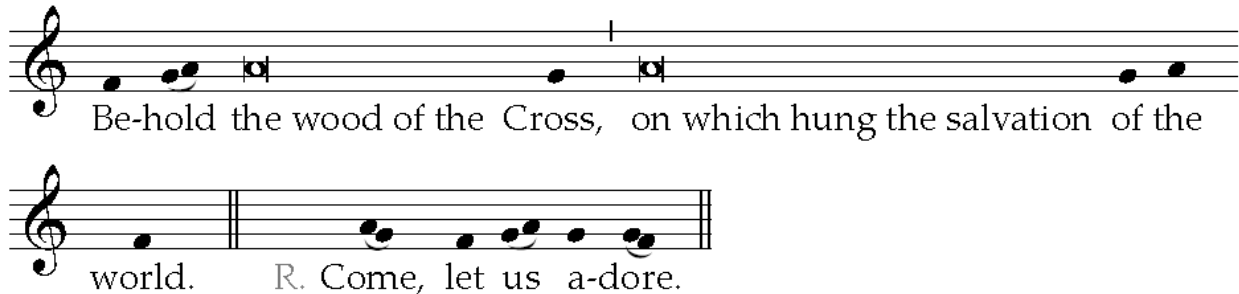
THE MOST REV. ROBERT J. BAKER, STD

THE ADORATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

THE SOLEMN INTERCESSIONS

I. FOR HOLY CHURCH II. FOR THE POPE III. FOR ALL ORDERS AND DEGREES OF THE FAITHFUL IV. FOR CATECHUMENS V. FOR THE UNITY OF CHRISTIANS VI. FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE VII. FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE IN CHRIST VIII. FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE IN GOD IX. FOR THOSE IN PUBLIC OFFICE X. FOR THOSE IN TRIBULATION

INVITATION (SUNG)



Be-hold the wood of the Cross, on which hung the salvation of the world. R. Come, let us a-dore.

ANTIPHON

Crucem Tuam

We adore your Cross, O Lord, we praise and glorify your holy Resurrection, for behold, because of the wood of a tree joy has come to the whole world. *May God have mercy on us and bless us; may he let his face shed its light upon us and have mercy on us.* We adore your Cross...

THE REPROACHES

Popule Meus

My people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me! I led you out of Egypt, from slavery to freedom, but you led your Savior to the cross. **My people...** *Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us!* For forty years I led you safely through the desert. I fed you with manna from heaven and brought you to a land of plenty; but you led your Savior to the cross. *Holy is God!...* What more could I have done for you? I planted you as my fairest vine, but you yielded only bitterness: when I was thirsty you gave me vinegar to drink, and you pierced your Savior with a lance. *Holy is God!...* I scourged Egypt for your sake with its firstborn sons, and you scourged me and handed me over. **My people...** I led you out from Egypt as Pharaoh lay sunk in the Red Sea, and you handed me over to the chief priests. **My people...** I opened the sea before you, and you opened my side with a lance. **My people...** I went before you in a pillar of cloud, and you led me into Pilate's palace. **My people...** I fed you with manna in the desert, and on me you rained blows and lashes. **My people...** I gave you saving water from the rock to drink, and for drink you gave me gall and vinegar. **My people...** I struck down for you the kings of the Canaanites, and you struck my head with a reed. **My people...** I put in your hand a royal scepter, and you put on my head a crown of thorns. **My people...** I exalted you with great power, and you hung me on the scaffold of the Cross. **My people...**

(refrains in Latin; setting by T.L. de Victoria, English plainchant verses by Fr. Samuel F. Weber, OSB)

Faithful Cross the Saints rely on, Noble tree beyond compare! Never was there such a scion, Never leaf or flower so rare. Sweet the timber, sweet the iron, Sweet the burden that they bear!

Sing, my tongue, in exultation Of our banner and device! Make a solemn proclamation Of a triumph and its price: How the Savior of creation Conquered by his sacrifice!

Faithful Cross...

For, when Adam first offended, Eating that forbidden fruit, Not all hopes of glory ended With the serpent at the root: Broken nature would be mended By a second tree and shoot.

Sweet the timber, sweet the iron, Sweet the burden that they bear!

Thus the tempter was outwitted By a wisdom deeper still: Remedy and ailment fitted, Means to cure and means to kill; That the world might be acquitted, Christ would do his Father's will.

Faithful Cross...

So the Father, out of pity For our self-inflicted doom, Sent him from the heavenly city When the holy time had come: He, the Son and the Almighty, Took our flesh in Mary's womb.

Sweet the timber...

Hear a tiny baby crying, Founder of the seas and strands; See his virgin Mother tying Cloth around his feet and hands; Find him in a manger lying Tightly wrapped in swaddling-bands!

Faithful Cross...

So he came, the long-expected, Not in glory, not to reign; Only born to be rejected, Choosing hunger, toil and pain, Till the scaffold was erected And the Paschal Lamb was slain.

Sweet the timber...

No disgrace was too abhorrent: Nailed and mocked and parched he died; Blood and water, double warrant, Issue from his wounded side, Washing in a mighty torrent Earth and stars and oceantide.

Faithful Cross...

Lofty timber, smooth your roughness, Flex your boughs for blossoming; Let your fibers lose their toughness, Gently let your tendrils cling; Lay aside your native gruffness, Clasp the body of your King!

Sweet the timber...

Noblest tree of all created, Richly jeweled and embossed: Post by Lamb's blood consecrated; Spar that saves the tempest-tossed; Scaffold-beam which, elevated, Carries what the world has cost!

Faithful Cross... Wisdom, power, and adoration To the blessed Trinity For redemption and salvation Through the Paschal Mystery, Now, in every generation, And for all eternity. **Amen.**

—Adapted from the traditional chant setting in English plainchant by Fr. Samuel F. Weber, OSB



HOLY COMMUNION

Because Mass is not celebrated today, Holy Communion is from the hosts consecrated yesterday, at the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, and begins with the prayer of the Our Father.

Again, today, we see the use of the ombrellino (liturgical umbrella or canopy) during Holy Communion: because the Blessed Sacrament is brought from outside the sanctuary, this is a fitting sign of reverence as the deacon carries the ciborium from the place of repose.

HOLY COMMUNION

We invite all Catholics who are properly disposed (i.e., in the state of grace and having fasted for one hour before communion) to come forward in the usual way to receive Holy Communion.

All others, including our non-Catholic guests, may remain in their pews and join us in prayer. Alternatively, to participate in the communion procession and receive a blessing, come forward in the line and cross your arms over your chest as you approach the minister. Thank you.

MOTET

O VOS OMNES

PABLO CASALS

O vos omnes qui transitis per viam: attendite et videte si est dolor sicut dolor meus. / *Is it nothing to you, all you that pass by? Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow.*

–Lamentations 1:12

HYMN

Vexilla Regis prodeunt

Please join in the hymn on the following page.



MOTET

VERE LANGUORES NOSTROS

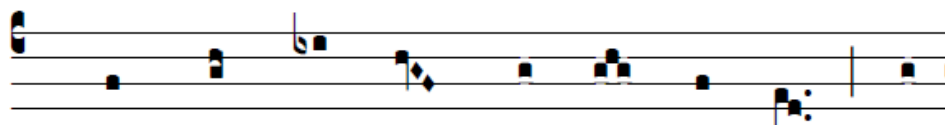
TOMAS LUIS DE VICTORIA

Vere languores nostros ipse tulit et dolores nostros ipse portavit cujus livore sanati sumus. Dulce lignum, dulce clavos, dulcia ferens pondera quae sola fuistis digna sustinere regem coelorum et Dominum.

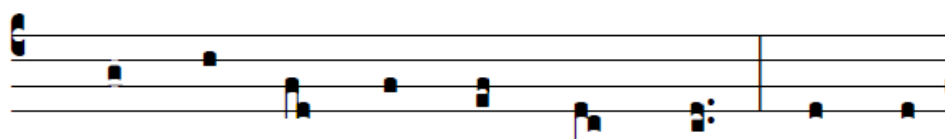
Truly, our failings he has taken upon himself, and he has borne our sorrows: by his stripes we have been healed. Sweet the wood, sweet the nails, dear the burden they have borne. You alone have been found worthy to bear the King and Lord of Heaven.

–Isaiah 53:4-5; cf. Hymn: Crux Fidelis

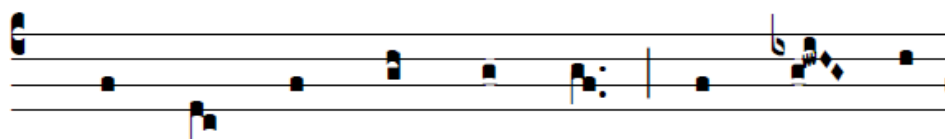
Please join in the hymn below.



1. The roy- al ban- ners for- ward go, The
2. Where deep for us the spear was dyed, Life's
3. Ful- filled is all that Da- vid told In
4. O Tree of beau- ty! Tree of light! O
5. On whose dear arms, so wide- ly flung, The
6. O Cross, our one re- li- ance, hail! This
7. To thee, e- ter- nal Three in One, Let



1. Cross shines forth in mys- tic glow, Where he
2. tor- rent rush- ing from his side, To wash
3. true pro- phe- tic song of old: A- midst
4. Tree, with roy- al pur- ple dight! E- lect
5. weight of this world's ran- som hung; The price
6. ho- ly Pas- sion- tide a- vail To give
7. hom- age meet by all be done: Whom by



1. in flesh, our flesh who made, Our sen- tence
2. us in that pre- cious flood Where min- gled
3. the na- tions, God, saith he, Hath reigned and
4. on whose tri- um- phal breast Those ho- ly
5. of hu- man- kind to pay, And spoil the
6. fresh mer- it to the saint And par- don
7. the Cross thou dost re- store, Pre- serve and



1. bore, our ran- som paid.
2. Wa- ter flowed, and Blood.
3. tri- umphed from the Tree.
4. limbs should find their rest.
5. Spoil- er of his prey.
6. to the pen- i- tent.
7. gov- ern ev- er- more. A- men.

After the postcommunion prayer and prayer over the people, all genuflect to the Cross and depart in silence.

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

In keeping with the somber, desolate nature of this liturgy, all music is sung without accompaniment. This tradition of the Church reflects Christ's emptying of himself on the Cross. This unbelievable sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross has inspired some of the most beautiful sacred music ever composed. Today, Cathedral Choir sings the Reproaches, or *Improperia*, set to the music of Tomas Luis de Victoria, a Spanish Renaissance priest-composer. This text has been part of the Good Friday liturgy since at least the 9th Century and highlights the suffering Jesus Christ experienced at our hands in the Crucifixion. A sign of the venerability of these texts is that the refrains are sung in Latin and Greek, in spite of the fact that Greek has not been a large part of the Roman liturgy for well over a millennium. Victoria's choral arrangement of the refrains of the Reproaches is one of his most brilliant achievements: the text is clothed in a beauty that soothes the painful words. The Good Friday hymn *Crux Fidelis*, composed in the 7th Century by the poet Venantius Fortunatus, is sung to the Gregorian melody with translation by Fr. Samuel F. Weber, OSB. The Gradual today is the Gregorian chant *Christus factus est*; traditionally appointed to Holy Thursday, in the 1969 changes to the order of Mass, it was moved to Palm Sunday and Good Friday in place of the tract. While not heard often today (to our great impoverishment), the hymn *Vexilla Regis* has been a part of the liturgy since the 6th Century, serving most often as the hymn of Vespers in Holy Week and for feasts of the Holy Cross. The "vexilla" or "signs" are variously interpreted as military banners or signs of battle, which would be contrasted with Christ's "vexilla"—the cross, the spear, the scourge, and so on. The hymn was originally written for a Christian procession in France, though, so the literal meaning of the signs of Christian royalty is likely an acceptable interpretation as well. The motets sung by Cathedral Choir are Pablo Casals' *O vos omnes* and Victoria's *Vere languores nostros*. *O vos omnes* is one of the most commonly-set Tenebrae responsories. Known as one of the great cellists in history, Casals also maintained an interest in composition. His motets are especially gorgeous. This is one of the more austere, making use of homophony to symbolize penitence, and register change and chromaticism to invoke the suffering of Jesus on the Cross. Victoria's *Vere languores nostros* quotes a prophecy from Isaiah 53 that is most familiar to English speakers through its use in the libretto of Händel's *Messiah*. Here, though, it takes on a special urgency as it is combined with a paraphrased verse of the *Crux Fidelis*, sung earlier in today's liturgy. The highlight of this motet is a dramatic musical-rhetorical gesture by Victoria: on the text "*sustinere regem caelorum/bear the King of Heaven*", he uses the dramatic section from his Christmas motet, *O magnum mysterium* which sets the text "O beata Virgine/O blessed Virgin". What first seems like a very self-referential musical gesture is revealed to be a profound statement of faith in the Mother of God, who first bore the King of Heaven in the womb, and also a sign of devotion to the Holy Cross, which bore Christ on Good Friday. To make this even more explicit, the dramatic upturn on "*caelorum/heaven*" is immediately tempered by a veritable funeral procession of voices down the vocal register...except for the sopranos who, representing the weeping of the Blessed Virgin Mary, begin at the previous high pitch level, singing down chromatically to further intensify the feeling of mourning. In this way, Victoria shows the hope of the coming Easter day, but also truth that Our Lord Jesus Christ was born to die for our sins, even from his infancy. What a gift to ponder!

Please feel free to take this order of worship with you. Please pray for our catechumens and candidates as they prepare to share in the Easter sacraments!

THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL

2120 3RD AVENUE NORTH

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35203

WWW.STPAULSBHM.ORG 205.251.1279

THE MOST REVEREND ROBERT J. BAKER, STD
BISHOP OF BIRMINGHAM IN ALABAMA

THE VERY REVEREND BRYAN W. JERABEK, JCL, RECTOR

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASSES

SATURDAY 5:00PM (ANTICIPATED), SUNDAY 8:30 & 11:00AM

WEEKDAY MASSES

MONDAY-FRIDAY, 6:30AM & 12:10PM; SATURDAY, 8:30AM

CONFESSIONS

MONDAY-FRIDAY, 11:30AM-12:00PM; SATURDAY, 3:00-4:00PM OR BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASE JOIN US IN WORSHIP DURING EASTER

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 20: THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT, 8:00PM*

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21: MASS DURING THE DAY AT 8:30AM AND 11:00AM*

WEEKDAYS IN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER: MASS AT 6:30AM AND 12:10PM

*INDICATES CHORAL SERVICES

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