Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul and the Shrine of Saint Katharine Drexel

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

GOOD FRIDAY 2025

Three Hours of Prayer

in preparation for the Solemn Celebration of the Passion of the Lord



- † Confessions will be heard from 12:30 until 2:30 PM, in English and Spanish, in the confessionals on both sides of the Basilica
- † A Collection will follow the conclusion of the prayers at each hour:

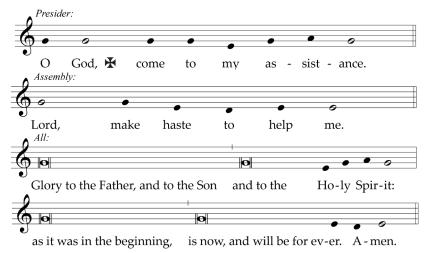
Offering for the Preservation of the Sacred Places in the Holy Land

- Please silence your cell phone before the Sacred Liturgy begins.
- Keep your personal belongings with you when you leave your pew.
- If someone approaches you for money or assistance, please direct him/her to any of the parish priests.

12:00 Noon

Office of Readings

Introduction



Hymn Picardy



PSALMODY

Antiphon 1 Earthly kings rise up, *in* revolt; * princes conspire together against the Lord and *his* Anointed.



Psalm 2

The Messiah, king and conqueror

The rulers of the earth joined forces to overthrow Jesus, your anointed Son (Acts 4:27).

Why this tumult among the nations, * among peoples this useless murmuring? They arise, the kings of the earth, * princes plot against the Lord and his Anointed.

"Come let us *break* their fetters, * come, let us cast *off* their yoke."

He who sits in the *hea*vens laughs; *
the Lord is laughing *them* to scorn.
Then he will speak *in* his anger, *
his rage will strike *them* with terror.
"It is I who have set up my *king* on Zion, *
my *ho*ly mountain."

I will announce the decree *of* the Lord: *
The Lord said to me: "You are my Son. †
It is I who have begotten *you* this day.
Ask and I shall bequeath *you* the nations, *
put the ends of the earth in *your*possession.

With a rod of iron *you* will break them, * shatter them like a *pot*ter's jar."

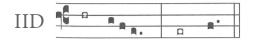
Now, O kings, understand, † take warning, rulers *of* the earth; * serve the Lord with *awe* and trembling, pay him your homage lest he be angry *and* you perish; * for suddenly his an*ger* will blaze.

Blessed are they * who put their *trust* in God.

Glory to the Father, and *to* the Son * and to the *Ho*ly Spirit: as it was in the begin*ning*, is now, * and will be fore*ver*. Amen.

Antiphon Earthly kings rise up, *in* revolt; * princes conspire together against the Lord and *his* Anointed.

Antiphon 2 They divided my garments among them; * they cast lots for my clothing.



Psalm 22:2-23
God hears the suffering of his Holy One

Jesus cried with a loud voice: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? (Matthew 27:46).

My God, my God, why have *you* forsaken me: *

You are far from my plea and the cry of my dis*tress*.

O my God, I call by day and you give *no* reply; *

I call by night and I find no peace.

Yet you, O *God*, are holy, *
enthroned on the praises of *Israel*.

In you our fathers *put* their trust; *
they trusted and you set them *free*.

When they cried to you, *they* escaped. *
In you they trusted and never in *vain*.

But I am a worm *and* no man, *
scorned by men, despised by the *people*.
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*."

Yes, it was you who took me *from* the womb, *
entrusted me to my mother's *breast*.
To you I was committed *from* my birth, *
from my mother's womb you have been my *God*.

Do not leave me alone in *my* distress; * come close, there is none else to *help*.

Many bulls *have* surrounded me, * fierce bulls of Bashan close me *in*. Against me they open *wide* their jaws, * like lions, rending and *roaring*.

Like water I *am* poured out, * disjointed are all my *bones*. My heart has be*come* like wax, * it is melted within my *breast*.

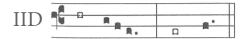
Parched as burnt clay *is* my throat, * my tongue cleaves to my *jaw*.

Many dogs *have* surrounded me, *
 a band of the wicked be*set* me.

They tear holes in my hands *and* my feet *
 and lay me in the dust of *death*.

I can count every one *of* my bones. *
These people stare at me and *gloat*;
they divide my clo*thing* among them. *
They cast lots for my *robe*.

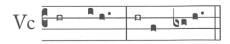
I will tell of your name *to* my brethren * and praise you where they are assembled.



Glory to the Father, and *to* the Son, * and to the Holy *Spirit*: as it was in the begin*ning*, is now, * and will be forever. A*men*.

Antiphon They divided my garments among them; * they cast lots for my clothing.

Antiphon 3 They sought to take * my life by violence.



Psalm 38 A sinner in extreme danger prays earnestly to God All his friends were standing at a distance (Luke 23:49).

O Lord, do not rebuke me in *your* anger; * do not punish me, Lord *in* your rage. Your arrows have sunk deep *in* me; * your hand has come *down* upon me.

Through your anger all my body *is* sick: * through my sin, there is no health *in* my limbs.

My guilt towers higher than *my* head; * it is a weight too hea*vy* to bear.

My wounds are foul *and* festering, * the result of *my* own folly.

I am bowed and brought to *my* knees. * I go mourning all *the* day long.

All my frame burns *with* fever; * all my bo*dy* is sick.

Spent and utter*ly* crushed, *
I cry aloud in an*guish* of heart.

O Lord, you know all *my* longing: * my groans are not hid*den* from you. My heart throbs, my strength *is* spent; * the very light has gone *from* my eyes.

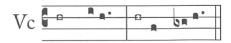
My friends avoid me like *a* leper; *
those closest to me stand *a*far off.

Those who plot against my life *lay* snares;*
those who seek my ruin speak of harm, †
planning treachery all *the* day long.

But I am like the deaf who can*not* hear, *
like the dumb una*ble* to speak.

I am like a man who *hears* nothing, *
in whose mouth is *no* defense.

I count on you, O Lord: *
it is you, Lord God, who will answer.
I pray: "Do not let them mock me, *
those who triumph if my foot should slip."



For I am on the point *of* falling * and my pain is always before me. I confess that I *am* guilty * and my sin fills me *with* dismay.

My wanton enemies *are* numberless * and my lying *foes* are many.

They repay me evil *for* good * and attack me for seeking *what* is right.

O Lord, do not *for*sake me! * My God, do not stay *a*far off! Make haste and come to *my* help, * O Lord, my *God*, my savior!

Glory to the Father, and to *the* Son * and to the *Ho*ly Spirit: as it was in the beginning, *is* now, * and will be fore*ver*. Amen.

Antiphon They sought *to* take * my *life* by violence.

Verse

Cantor: They brought false evidence against me.

All: They were breathing out fury.

READINGS

First Reading

Hebrews 9:11-28

By shedding of his own blood, Christ, the high priest, entered the sanctuary once and for all.



Responsory

See Isaiah 53:7, 12

Cantor: He was led like a lamb to the slaughter; *

no complaint from his lips against the evil done to him.

He was given up to death, *

All: to give his people life.

Cantor: He surrendered himself to death and was counted among the wicked.

All: To give his people life.

Second Reading

From the Catecheses by Saint John Chrysostom, bishop

(Cat. 3, 13-19:SC 50, 174-177)

The power of Christ's blood



Responsory

1 Peter 1:18-19; Ephesians 2:18; 1 John 1:7

Cantor: The price of your redemption was not something of fleeting value like *gold* or silver, *

but the costly shedding of the blood of Christ, the lamb without blemish.

All: Through him, in the one Spirit, we can approach the Father.

Cantor: The blood of Jesus Christ washes away all our sins. *

All: Through him, in the one Spirit, we can approach the Father.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Priest: Let us pray God for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Priest: Let us praise the Lord. All: And give him thanks.

1:00 PM

Stations of the Cross

AT THE CROSS HER STATION KEEPING

Stabat Mater



- 1. At the cross her sta-tion keep-ing, Mar y stood in
- 2. While she wait ed in her an-guish, See ing Christ in
- 3. With what pain and des o la tion, With what no ble
- 4. Ev er pa tient in her yearn-ing, Though her tear filled



- 5. Who, that sorrow contemplating, On that passion meditating, Would not share the Virgin's grief?
- Christ she saw, for our salvation, Scourged with cruel acclamation, Bruised and beaten by the rod.
- 7. Christ she saw with life-blood failing, All her anguish unavailing, Saw him breathe his very last.
- Mary, fount of love's devotion, Let me share with true emotion All the sorrow you endured.
- Virgin, ever interceding,
 Hear me in my fervent pleading:
 Fire me with your love of Christ.

- 10. Mother, may this prayer be granted: That Christ's love may be implanted In the depths of my poor soul.
- At the cross, your sorrow sharing,
 All your grief and torment bearing,
 Let me stand and mourn with you.
- Fairest maid of all creation,
 Queen of hope and consolation,
 Let me feel your grief sublime.
- Virgin, in your love befriend me,
 At the Judgment day defend me.
 Help me by your constant prayer.
- 14. Savior, when my life shall leave me, Through your mother's prayers receive me With the fruits of victory.
- 15. Let me to your love be taken, Let my soul in death awaken To the joys of Paradise.

Text: Stabat mater dolorosa; Jacopone da Todi, 1230-1306; trans. by Anthony G. Petti, 1932-1985, © 1971, Faber Music, Ltd. Tune: STABAT MATER, 88 7: Mainz Gesanebuch, 1661; harm, by Richard Proulx, b,1937

2:00 PM Meditation on the Seven Last Words

Les Sept Paroles de Notre Seigneur Jésus-Christ sur la croix Charles Gounod (1818-1893)

Cathedral Basilica Schola

Prologue

LUKE 23:34

1. Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. *Pater dimitte illis, non enim sciunt quid faciunt.*

Luke 23:43

2. Today you will be with me in paradise. *Hodie, mecum eris in Paradiso.*

JOHN 19:26-27

3. Woman, behold, thy son! Behold, thy mother! *Mulier, ecce filius tuus. Deinde dicit discipulo: Ecce mater tua.*

MATTHEW 27:46, MARK 15:34

4. My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? *Deus meus, ut quid dereliquisti me?*

JOHN 19:28

5. I thirst. *Sitio.*

IOHN 19:30

6. It is finished. *Comsummatum est.*

Luke 23:46

7. Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.

Pater in manus tuas.

THE ORDER FOR RECONCILING INDIVIDUAL PENITENTS

The Sacrament typically takes place in a confessional. When a confessional is not available, arrangements should provide for the penitent to remain anonymous. The penitent prepares for the Sacrament with prayer and a thorough examination of conscience.

THE RECEPTION OF THE PENITENT

When the penitent comes to confess his or her sins, the priest welcomes the penitent with kindness and greets him or her with friendly words. Then the penitent makes the sign of the cross, which the priest may make also, saying.

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

The priest invites the penitent to have trust in God, in these or similar words:

May God, who has shone his light in our hearts grant that you may truly know your sins and his mercy.

The penitent replies: Amen.

Other forms of the invitation to trust in God may be chosen from the ritual book.

THE READING OF THE WORD OF GOD (Optional)

Then the priest or penitent reads or recites from memory a text of Sacred Scripture in which God's mercy is announced and people are called to conversion. Texts for this purpose can be found in the ritual book.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS AND THE ACCEPTANCE OF SATISFACTION

Next, the penitent confesses his or her sins, after first saying a general formula such as, I confess to Almighty God, or Forgive me, Father, or Bless me, Father. The penitent should also say how long it has been since the last confession and may mention his or her state in life. If necessary, the priest assists the penitent to make an integral confession, offers suitable counsel, and urges contrition for faults, reminding the penitent that through the Sacrament of Penance a Christian, by dying and rising with Christ, is renewed in the Paschal Mystery. Then the priest proposes a work of penance that the penitent accepts to make satisfaction for sin and to amend his or her life. The priest should also adapt to the penitent's circumstances in every way. It is helpful for the penitent to conclude the confession of sins by saying, I am sorry for these and all my sins.

From the Order of Penance, 2023/Office for Divine Worship/Archdiocese of Philadelphia

THE PRAYER OF THE PENITENT AND THE ABSOLUTION

The priest then invites the penitent to express his or her contrition, which the penitent may do in these or similar words:

O my God,

I am heartily sorry for having offended you,
and I detest all my sins because of your just punishments,
but most of all because they offend you, my God,
who are all good and deserving of all my love.
I firmly resolve, with the help of your grace,
to sin no more
and to avoid the near occasions of sin. Amen.

This is the preferred form of the Act of Contrition for schools and parish religious education programs in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The Act of Contrition must be prayed in the context of the Sacrament. Other prayers of the penitent may be chosen from the ritual book.

Then the priest, extending his hands over the penitent's head (or at least extending his right hand) says:

God, the Father of mercies, through the Death and Resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and poured out the Holy Spirit for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God grant you pardon and peace, AND I ABSOLVE YOU FROM YOUR SINS IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, + AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The penitent replies: Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF PRAISE OF GOD AND THE DISMISSAL OF THE PENITENT

After the absolution, the priest continues:

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

The penitent concludes: His mercy endures for ever.

Then the priest dismisses the penitent who has been reconciled, saying:

The Lord has forgiven your sins. Go in peace.

Other dismissals may be chosen from the ritual book.

Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul and the Shrine of Saint Katharine Drexel Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Reverend Gerald Dennis Gill, Rector

