

CONCERNING GOOD FRIDAY

The Good Friday liturgy is the second part of the Triduum (the sacred three days). This most somber of all days is appropriately marked by fasting, abstinence, and penitence, leading us to focus on Jesus and the meaning of his Cross. Some churches do not use musical instruments or bells on this day. The church is often darkened. The bare, stark appearance of the church serves as a reminder of the solemnity and the sorrow of the day. The Lord of Life was rejected, mocked, scourged, and then put to death on the Cross. The faithful are reminded of the role which their own sin played in this suffering and agony, as Christ took all sin upon himself, in obedience to his Father's will. By the Cross we are redeemed, set free from bondage to sin and death. The Cross is a sign of God's never-ending love for us. It is a sign of life, in the midst of death.

In addition to the liturgies for the Triduum, there are many other edifying devotions appropriate for this day, including The Way of the Cross, Tenebrae, and The Seven Last Words.

GOOD FRIDAY

On this day the ministers enter in silence.

All then kneel for silent prayer.

The Officiant rises and may say

All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned every one to his own way,

People **And the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

The Officiant says

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we beseech you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the Cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

GENESIS 22:1-18 OR ISAIAH 52:13—53:12
PSALM 22:1-11 (12-21)^v OR 40:1-16^v OR 69:1-22^v
HEBREWS 10:1-25

The Passion Gospel is announced in the following manner

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted.

JOHN 18:1—19:37 OR 19:1-37

The Passion Gospel may be read or chanted by clergy and lay persons. Specific roles may be assigned to different persons, the choir or Congregation taking the part of the crowd.

The Congregation may be seated for the first part of the Passion. All stand at the verse that mentions the arrival at Golgotha (John 19:17). All may kneel in silence after the verse that mentions Christ's death (John 19:30).

THE SERMON

A hymn may be sung.

THE SOLEMN COLLECTS

All standing, the Officiant says

Dear People of God: Our heavenly Father sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved; that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death, and become heirs with him of everlasting life.

We pray, therefore, for people everywhere according to their needs.

The biddings may be read by a Deacon or other person appointed. The Officiant says the Collects. The People may be directed to stand or kneel.

Let us pray for the holy Church throughout the world: that the Lord our God may preserve her in unity, peace, and safety, bringing into divine subjection all powers and principalities; and that he may grant us to dwell in such peace and tranquility that we may show forth the glory of God.

Silence

Almighty Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth, with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son our Savior. **Amen.**

Let us pray for *N.* our Bishop and for *N.* our Archbishop: that the Lord our God, who has appointed them to this office, may preserve them in health and safety for the governance of God's holy people.

Silence

Almighty and everlasting God, whose judgment upholds all things both in heaven and on earth: as you have appointed these your servants to be our Bishops, so also defend them by your mercy against all adversities; that we, acknowledging you as the great Shepherd and Overseer of our souls, may so prosper by their care that we may bring forth the fruit of righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons; and for all God's holy People.

Silence

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray for *N.* our *President/Sovereign/Prime Minister*, and for all in Civil Authority; that they, knowing whose ministers they are, may above all things seek God's honor and glory: and that we, remembering whose authority they bear, may faithfully and obediently honor them in accordance with God's holy Word.

Silence

Almighty God, whose kingdom is everlasting and whose power is infinite: We commend our nation to your merciful care, that being guided by your Providence, we may dwell secure in your peace. Grant to our *President/Sovereign/Prime Minister*, and to all in authority, wisdom and strength to know and to do your will. Fill them with the love of truth and righteousness; and make them ever mindful of their calling to serve this people in your fear; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who are preparing for Holy Baptism [especially _____]: that the Lord our God may open their hearts to his grace and mercy; that by the washing of regeneration they may obtain the remission of all their sins, and be found faithful servants of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Silence

Almighty and everlasting God, you multiply your Church in every generation: Grant the gifts of faith and understanding to those being instructed in your holy Word; that being washed in the waters of Baptism, they may be born again and numbered among your adopted children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray to God the Father Almighty, that he would cleanse the world from all evil; deliver it from pestilence and famine; set free those who are in captivity; restore the sick to health; and bring those who travel to a haven of safety.

Silence

Gracious God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: Let the cry of those in misery and need come to you, that they may find your mercy present with them in all their afflictions; and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them for the sake of him who suffered for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord **Amen.**

Let us pray for all who are in heresy or schism: that the Lord our God may deliver them from all false doctrine, and restore them to the faith and unity of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

Silence

O God of truth and love, who desires not the death of sinners but rather that they should turn from their wickedness and live: Look with mercy on those who are deceived by the lies of the world, the flesh, and the devil; that the hearts of those who have gone astray may be restored to wisdom and return to the way of truth in the unity of your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the Jewish people: that the Lord our God may look graciously upon them, and that they may come to know Jesus as the Messiah, and as the Lord of all.

Silence

Almighty and everlasting God, you established your covenant with Abraham and his seed: Hear the prayers of your Church, that the people through whom you brought blessing to the world may also receive the blessing of salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all those who do not believe in Christ, that the Holy Spirit may enlighten them through the Gospel and bring them into the way of salvation.

Silence

Merciful God, creator of all the peoples of the earth and lover of souls: Have compassion on all who do not know you as you are revealed in your Son Jesus Christ; let your Gospel be preached with grace and power to those who have not heard it; turn the hearts of those who resist it; and bring home to your fold those who have gone astray; that there may be one flock under one Shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us commit ourselves to our God, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that, with all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone, we may be accounted worthy to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord, and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection.

Silence

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Appropriate devotions may follow, which may include any or all of the following. If desired, the liturgy may end here with the singing of a hymn or anthem, the Lord's Prayer, and the Concluding Prayer.

DEVOTION BEFORE THE CROSS

A wooden cross may now be brought into the church and placed in the sight of the people. The following antiphon may be said or sung three times as the cross is being uncovered.

Behold the wood of the Cross, on which was hung the world's Salvation.

People **O come, let us adore him.**

The following or other suitable anthems may be said or sung.

THE REPROACHES

O my people, what have I done to you?
How have I wearied you? Testify against me.
I brought you forth from the land of bondage,
and led you through the waters of salvation,
and you have prepared a Cross for your Savior.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,**

**Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

I led you through the desert forty years,
and fed you with the bread of heaven;
I brought you into the land of promise,
and you have prepared a Cross for your Savior.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

What could I have done for you that I have not done?
I planted you, my vineyard, to bear sweet fruit;
but you have become very bitter to me,
and gave me vinegar for my thirst.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

I passed over your first-born and delivered them from death,
and you have delivered me into the hands of my enemies;
I led you in the pillar of cloud,
and you have led me into the judgment hall of Pilate.
O my people, what have I done to you?
How have I wearied you? Testify against me.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

I struck down the kings of the Canaanites for your sake,
and you struck my head with a reed;
I gave you a royal inheritance,
and you have crowned my head with thorns.
O my people, what have I done to you?
How have I wearied you? Testify against me.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

I opened the rock and gave you to drink from the water of life,
and you have opened my side with a spear.
I raised you on high with great power,
and you have hanged me high upon the Cross.
O my church, what have I done to you?
How have I wearied you? Testify against me.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,**

**Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

A N T H E M 1

We glory in your Cross, O Lord,
and praise and glorify your holy resurrection;
for by virtue of your Cross
joy has come to the whole world.

May God be merciful to us and bless us,
show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

We glory in your Cross, O Lord,
and praise and glorify your holy resurrection;
for by virtue of your Cross
joy has come to the whole world.

A N T H E M 2

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

If we have died with him, we shall also live with him;
if we endure, we shall also reign with him.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

The hymn "Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle," or some other hymn extolling the glory of the Cross, may then be sung.

In the absence of a Bishop or Priest, all that precedes may be led by a Deacon or lay reader.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

The rite of Holy Eucharist is not celebrated on this day.

If there is no Communion, the liturgy continues with the Concluding Prayer.

If Communion is to be administered from previously consecrated elements, the following order is observed.

The Deacon or other person appointed says the following

All who truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and seek to be reconciled with your neighbors, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking in his holy ways: draw near with faith and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

Silence

The Deacon and People kneel as able and pray

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker and judge of us all:
We acknowledge and lament our many sins and offenses,
which we have committed by thought, word, and deed
against your divine majesty,**

provoking most justly your righteous anger against us.
We are deeply sorry for these our transgressions;
the burden of them is more than we can bear.
Have mercy upon us,
Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may evermore serve and please you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bishop or Priest stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Officiant then says

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

The Officiant and People together pray the Lord's Prayer. The concluding doxology is customarily omitted.

**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.
Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
Amen.**

Facing the People, the Officiant may say the following invitation

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.

JOHN 1:29^r

The Ministers receive the Sacrament, and then immediately deliver it to the People.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

If the Lord's Prayer has not already been said, it is said here. The concluding doxology is customarily omitted.

The service always concludes with the following prayer. No blessing or dismissal is added.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray you to set your passion, Cross, and death between your judgment and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the living; peace and rest to the dead; to your holy Church unity and concord; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Ministers and People depart in silence.