



“

The Lord GOD has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them.

(Is 50:4)

”



March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Is 50:4-7 | Phil 2:6-11 | Mk 14:1-15:47

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

“The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them.” This sentence from our first reading is taken from one of the four “Songs of the Suffering Servant” in Isaiah. The New Testament identifies this Servant as Jesus, and we know that Jesus accepted the suffering that was foretold in the verses that follow this one: “I gave my back to those who beat me ... my face I did not hide from insults and spitting.” As aspiring servants of God on this Palm Sunday, the most holy of days when we hear Mark’s account of Jesus’ passion, how does this sentence speak to us? What does it mean to have a well-trained tongue? To me it is a call to speak to the Lord in prayer as well as to speak the Good News of the Gospel whenever and wherever we can.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

How can we gain the confidence to believe that our tongue is “well-trained”? We know we are all given the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and we must trust in that promise and invoke his presence often. Who knows? A kind word or gesture from us may just “speak” to a weary person who is struggling. Paul writes that in his passion, Jesus “emptied himself” in the hours before his death and “[became] obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.” Paul’s next words give us the answer to our question above: “Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend ... and every tongue confess [emphasis added] that Jesus Christ is Lord.” The fullness of the kingdom will be realized only when Jesus comes again. But in the meantime, we have the Eucharist that Jesus instituted at the Last Supper to sustain us and give us strength for our task to confess Jesus Christ as Lord and spread the kingdom of God one day at a time.

PRAY “Abba, Father, all things are possible to you. Take this cup away from me, but not what I will but what you will.” These words from today’s passion narrative demonstrate Jesus’ complete, obedient surrender of his will to his Father’s divine will. As flawed human beings, we will never be able to perfectly emulate our Savior’s actions, but what better way to begin Holy Week than to try? Through prayer, strive to surrender yourself to God this week by trusting him completely, and striving to do his will with humility and Christ-like obedience.

Church of the Ascension

Saratoga, California

www.ascensionsaratoga.org

408-725-3939

Mass Schedule

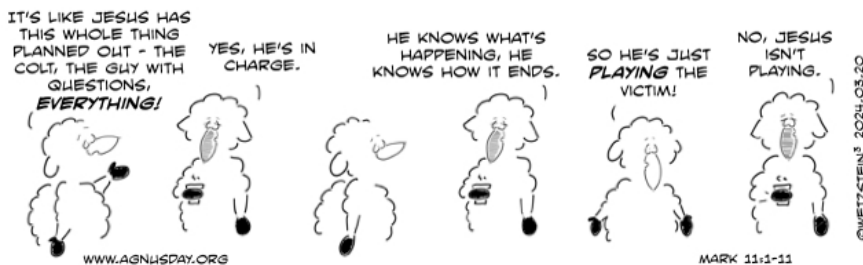
(Sat) 5p; (Sun) 7a, 9a, 11a, 5p

(Mon-Fri) 8a; (Sat) 9a

The Path of Redemption

It is easy to look around and conclude that one of the things human beings do best is inflict suffering on one another. In ways big and small, people look to their own interests at the expense of others. Yet Christ, in obedient love, gathers up all suffering in his Passion and death, and offers us redemption through his ultimate sacrifice and Resurrection. - *Preparetheword.com*

Mark 11:1-11 With the permission of www.agnusday.org



Holy Week Special Schedule

- Holy Thursday:** 7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
- Good Friday:**
 - 12pm Passion Liturgy
 - 1:30pm Stations of the Cross (outdoors) followed by Divine Mercy (details on parish website)
 - 7:30pm Passion Liturgy
- Holy Saturday:**
 - 8:00pm Easter Vigil
 - No 8am Mass on the Sacred Triduum.
- Easter Sunday:** Regular schedule
7:00am; 9:00am; 11:00am; 5:00pm.

Special Collection for Holy Land

Good Friday

The Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land have the unique responsibility to care for the Holy Places as well for the "Living Stones," the Christians living there. It is vital that we support Christians living in the Holy Land, in order to maintain a Christian presence in the very land made holy by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Good Friday - Soup Supper

Clam Chowder and Vegetable Minestrone
Worner Hall Classrooms 6:00 –7:00 p.m.

Bring a loaf of bread to share.

Free-will donations will be given to a local chapter of the St Vincent de Paul Society serving those who are in need.

Novena before Divine Mercy Sunday

From Good Friday to April 6

- Day 1 - Good Friday 3/29
(after 1:30 pm Stations of the Cross)
- Day 2 - Saturday, 3/30: 9am
(Worner Hall Classrooms)
- Day 3 - Easter Sunday, 3/31
(after 11am Mass), Chapel.



(Complete schedule on ascensionsaratoga.org)

Parish Office Closed - Easter Monday

Our Parish Office will be closed on Easter Monday.

Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations

Will you spend an hour with the Eucharistic Jesus?
It's on April 19-21, 24 at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church
1385 Michigan Ave, Alviso, CA.
Opening Mass on Friday, April 19 at 7:00 pm.
Closing Mass on Sunday, April 21 at 8:30 am.

Easter Eggs

The Ascension Fil-Am will hold an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, March 31, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass for children up to 12 years old. Bring your own basket to join in the fun.

Quotes

"The washing of the feet and the sacrament of the Eucharist: two expressions of one and the same mystery of love entrusted to the disciples, so that, Jesus says, "as I have done, so also must you do" (Jn 13: 15) –*St. John Paul II*

"We give glory to you, Lord, who raised up your cross to span the jaws of death like a bridge by which souls might pass from the region of the dead to the land of the living. We give glory to you who put on the body of a single mortal man and made it the source of life for every other mortal man.

– *St. Ephrem of Edessa (died 373)*

"Ultimately, in the battle against lies and violence, truth and love have no other weapon than the witness of suffering.

– *Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI*

"No pain, no palm; no thorns, no throne; no gall, no glory; no cross, no crown."

– *William Penn (1644-1718)*



ADA Week 7 Report

Number of pledges to date: **107**

Amount pledged: **\$78,590**

Percent of goal: **105%**

We did it! Thank you. Any surplus funds now go back to Ascension.

WEEKLY OFFERING - MAR 17

-\$5,315 (baskets: \$3,701; online: \$1,614).

-YTD: \$232,124. Budget: \$247,000.

Thank you for your generous support.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mar 23	Sat	05 pm	Rose & Alex Lenarduzzi +
Mar 24	Sun	09 am	Renato Quiogue +
Mar 26	Tue	08 am	Marietta Gloria R. Martinez +
Mar 27	Wed	08 am	Vicente Santiago, Jr. +