

# Prayers on Good Friday

April 14, 2017

## A Prayer to Open Your Time of Prayer

Almighty God, look with mercy on your family for whom our Savior Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross. Be with me this day as I lift my prayers to you in wonder at Christ's willingness to give, and give, and give again for me, for us, and for all people. Amen.

## The Seven Last Words of Jesus

*The pastor will come to the pulpit at the times below to read these passages from the Gospels.*

Noon: Luke 23:26-32

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

12:30 pm: Matthew 27:33, 34, 37

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. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

1:00 pm: Luke 23:35, 36; 23:34, 39-43

And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And

they cast lots to divide his clothing. One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

### 1:30 pm: John 19:25-27

And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

### 2:00 pm: Luke 23:44-45

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

### 2:30 pm: Matthew 27:46

And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

### 2:45 pm: John 19:28-30

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

### 3:00 pm: Luke 23:46

Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last.

## In Your Prayers, Please Remember:

- The Church of Jesus Christ throughout the world,
- Pastors and other ministers of the Church,
- Those preparing to accept baptism into the Church,
- Those who do not believe in the love of God,
- Those in authority in public life,
- The sick,
- The dying,
- Those in need,
- The travelers,
- Those unjustly deprived of liberty, and
- Those who have lost heart.

### **Good Friday**

*Christina Rossetti*

Am I a stone, and not a sheep,  
That I can stand, O Christ, beneath Thy cross,  
To number drop by drop Thy blood's slow loss,  
And yet not weep?

Not so those women loved  
Who with exceeding grief lamented Thee;  
Not so fallen Peter weeping bitterly;  
Not so the thief was moved;

Not so the Sun and Moon  
Which hid their faces in a starless sky,  
A horror of great darkness at broad noon –  
I, only I.

Yet give not o'er,  
But seek Thy sheep, true Shepherd of the flock;  
Greater than Moses, turn and look once more  
And smite a rock.