

“The Cross is the way of Paradise, but only when it’s borne willingly.”

St. Paul of the Cross



SCRIPTURE
of the DAY

Isaiah 50: 4-7

Psalms 21: 8-9, 17-20,
23-24

Philippians 2:6-11

Mark 14: 1-15, 47

All the five weeks of Lenten preparation has led to this moment where we learn from St Paul: that our Lord Jesus, though he was in the form of God, emptied himself, taking the form of slave, and humbling himself and becoming obedient to the point of death on a cross. This is the key to get to the heart of the matter, the depth of Christ’s love for us.

In Mark’s narration of the Passion, Jesus knows his death is pre-ordained and obedience to His Father’s will takes him to the Cross. Before him are his disciples and the Lord knows their hearts. Peter is going to deny him three times, and Judas is going to betray him.

Do we feel challenged? Will we look at Jesus as he turns his gaze on each one of us? The Holy Father, Pope Francis teaches us a new catechesis by first talking about the gaze of Jesus. The gaze that sees the other, whoever he may be, as a recipient of love. Everything starts from this gaze. The Holy Father invites us to realise that ‘Jesus does not look for adjectives, he looks for nouns.’ The Lord is not stuck with our sins, he sees us as persons, individuals - made in love and for love.

This week, as we contemplate the Lord’s Passion, let us proclaim the Gospel with our lives, and **as Jesus looks at us with mercy and predilection, let us also look at others with the eyes of Jesus, one of love and compassion.** Be renewed in zeal for God.

Blessed Holy Week. ✚

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

newbee ✚

24 March 2024
Palm Sunday of the
Lord’s Passion

**SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD:
CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF COMMUNION
PARTICIPATION AND MISSION. (MATTHEW 5: 13-16)**

MONTHLY FOCUS
LIVING THE PASCHAL MYSTERY

Be Renewed **In Zeal For God**



The liturgy this Sunday begins with the re-enacting of the Triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. We wave our palms and sing joyful hymns. But as we hear the 1st reading about the Suffering Servant in Isaiah 50, followed by Paul’s letter to the Philippians, the tone becomes sober. By the time the Gospel is proclaimed, we know the holiest week has begun.