

**Christ Child Catholic Church**  
*Dedicated to Growth in Christ and to the  
Challenges of Loving Service*

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**PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S  
PASSION**  
**April 5, 2020**

**1<sup>st</sup> reading, Isaiah 50: 4-7**

**The Servant, Israel's Hope**

In this third Servant, the Lord's special Servant affirms His faith in the Lord. He has carried out the Lord's commission in the face of ridicule and opposition, confident that the Lord will sustain and vindicate Him. This song gives insight into the Suffering Servant's commitment to carry out God's will.

**Jesus the Suffering Servant** has endured hardship and encountered resistance. There is no beauty in him or comeliness. He embodies the mystery of human suffering. In him we can see the suffering people of the world: the victims of war, disease, violence, abuse. **We can see our own sorrows in the Man of Sorrows.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Philippians 2: 6-11**

**The Humbled and Exalted Christ**

These verses are very likely a hymn or poem that Paul wrote or borrowed as an illustration. They offer Jesus as the perfect role model for Christian unity. While the story of the cross is recorded in the gospels and explained in the epistles, only this passage views the Crucifixion through the eyes of the Lord Himself. It presents a glimpse of His perspective so that His followers might see the price of unity: His death.

**Jesus Christ emptied himself and took the form of a slave. He became obedient even unto death**

on a cross. The emptying was total. Jesus took upon himself all the trials of our human condition. When his emptying became total, exaltation happened. He rose from the dead and received the name above all others, "Lord."

**The Gospel Matthew 26: 14 – 27: 66**

**The Plot to Kill Jesus**

Jesus had told His disciples several times that He would be arrested, tortured, and crucified. Here, He specifies the time it would happen. He probably spoke these words on Tuesday; the **Passover** lamb would be killed Thursday afternoon. The disciples did not at first understand that Jesus himself is the Passover Lamb, but later, they and their fellow believers would grasp this enormous truth.

**The passion narrative has a human fascination; we sympathize with the suffering victim; we recoil at the cruelty which human beings can inflict on one another. But for believing Christians, the story tells much more. It tells the story of salvation. It shows the Way of the Cross each of us is called to walk on our way to exaltation.**

Jesus was crucified around 9 am. Or the third hour. Approximately three hours later, a strange **darkness** covered the land of Judea and lasted for another three hours. Clearly, this was a sign both of divine judgment and mourning. Not only would judgment fall on Israel for rejecting her Messiah, but even a greater judgment fell on her Messiah when Jesus became the divine sacrifice for sin.

**A few words from the crucifixion of Jesus to pray with them:**

**"Barabbas!"**

**"Let him be crucified!"**

**"His blood be upon us and upon our children."**

**"Truly, this was the Son of God!"**

**Sacrament of reconciliation**

By request or by appointment

**BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS**

Call the office for an appointment.

**Anointing of the Sick**

Celebrated biannually at Mass or individually by appointment.

**For Pregnancy Support:**

Birthright 241-8444 or 800-550-4900

**MASS INTENTIONS April 4 – 10, 2020**

Saturday	+ Frances L. Acosta
Sunday	+ Leslie Richard Olsen
Monday	Doctors and people of hospitals
Tuesday	Parishioners
Wednesday	All the Sick
Thursday	All the Families

**Hello,**

**This is CPL Mitchel, Rashad from A/2-44**

**ADA.** I was just emailing to inform you that we all have received your care packages and appreciate them very much. I can assure you that nothing goes to waste, our unit shares everything because we get to help boost morale around here. I just want you all to know that you're really making a difference in our everyday lives by providing us with these packages and it feels good knowing that there are people who care enough to take time out their day to make sure we all have the necessities that we so desperately need.

**Once again thanks you for your effort and thanks for your support!**

**My heart is sad for not being with all of you this Holy Week and Easter. But it is for helping our Nation because of the pandemic and soon we will be embracing the Risen Christ. Let's unite by electronic media and live the great love of Jesus Christ. With love, Fr. Eugenio**

**Statement of U.S. Bishops' president on Pope Francis' *Urbi et Orbi* Message March 27, 2020**

I think we all understand that we took part today in something historic, as the whole world was gathered together through communication media by the successor of St. Peter, united in one prayer before the living presence of Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Eucharist... In his message, the Pope reminds us that this time of the coronavirus is a call to courage, a call to faith.

Archbishop José H. Gomez

**HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2020**

**Holy Thursday**

The feast of Passover begins its important "remembering," with a "why" as well: "Why is this night different from other nights? asks the youngest child. Repeatedly, the father responds with the meaning of the important symbols like the bitter herbs or unleavened bread or paschal lamb.

In the original Passover some might have asked: "Why are we doing this? And the answer could well have come back: "You'll understand later." In fact, Jesus uses just such a reply for his disciples: "What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand later." Little did they know that God, through Jesus, was saving them that night. This new ritual would no longer be the "Passover" of the Old Testament but a whole new "Passover": Jesus' death and resurrection.

**Good Friday**

**What happened to Jesus?** John's Gospel tells us that Jesus' free attitude towards religious codes and laws, and his criticism of the Jerusalem establishment and temple practices upset the powerful in Jerusalem: both the religious leader and the head of the Roman occupation, Pontius Pilate. In a typically brutal way, with the cooperation of the local Jewish leaders, the Roman authorities seized Jesus, tortured him and executed him. **In Jesus' suffering and death there is an outpouring of grace!**