

## **Palm Sunday Year A**

First Reading: Is 50: 4 -7;

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22: 8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24;

Second Reading: Phil 2: 6-11;

Gospel Reading: Mt 26: 14 -27, 66.

**Theme:** Jesus's Passion and Death

The long Gospel reading of this special Sunday is the foundation of our salvation. This Gospel reading entails all the mysteries of the Holy Week. These readings prompt us to reflect on the sufferings and humble acceptance of the death of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ chose the Way of the Cross; the Way of innocent suffering. We see the loneliness of Jesus Christ before Pilate; He was betrayed and abandoned by even friends. We encounter an individual and solitary encounter with God on the Cross. These events should provoke us to reflect on why the mission of Jesus Christ had to pass through the passion. Could God not have saved us differently? He died for our sakes. He suffered and died for us who are guilty.

Dear Christians, these readings encourage us to spend the Holy Week in thankfulness for the death of Jesus Christ to set us free from attachment to sin. We are invited to stay close with Jesus Christ in his lonely experiences and saving acts. Jesus invites us to open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts so that like the nails of the Holy Cross , He will drive deep into our souls during the Holy Week.

--Fr. Sev Kupo