

Holy Week Readings

Good Friday

Below you will find the readings for Friday, April 10. On Good Friday all the readings reflect upon the agony and the challenge of the cross. They speak about what Christ went through so that we might have new life with him. Good Friday is a very significant day of the Christian story. Good Friday is "good" not because of the death of Jesus, but because this story reminds us that death is never the end. Therefore, I hope you enjoy these readings and allow yourself to be mindful of what Christ has done for us.

First Reading: Isaiah 52: 13-53:12

This is one of the great passages in the book of the prophet Isaiah. It speaks about the suffering servant - the Messiah who is yet to come. It uses some of the words and the metaphors that are played out in the actual persecution and death of Christ. Words like "despised and rejected", "wounded and crushed" all speak about what Jesus encountered.

Second Reading: Psalm 22

This is the Psalm; many scholars believe Jesus was reciting as he hung on the cross. The words "My God, my God why have you forsaken me?" hit home to our ears as the words that Jesus uttered from the cross. Everything within this Psalm speaks about the suffering and agony that Christ endured on the cross.

Third Reading: Hebrews 10: 16-25

This passage starts with the words that come from the prophet Jerimiah. The words speak of the new covenant that will be written on the hearts and the minds of the faithful. The final part of this passage speaks about persevering and holding onto the faith and hope that we have in God.

Fourth Reading: John 18: 1-19:42

This is one of the longest readings encompassing two chapters from John's gospel. Chapter 18 begins in the garden of Gethsemane with the betrayal of Jesus by Judas. Then moves through the timeline of all the events that took place to the crucifixion and burial of Jesus' body.