

# ParishNews



**Blessed Sacrament Parish** Heavitree Exeter  
31 March 2019. *Fourth Sunday of Lent. Laetare Sunday. Year C*

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## **Parish Priest**

Fr Jonathan Stewart

## **Priest in retirement**

Fr John Watkins

## **PARISH OFFICE**

The Presbytery,  
29 Fore Street, Heavitree  
Exeter EX1 2QJ

## **Telephone**

01392 274724

**Email** [exeter-heavitree](mailto:exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk)

@prcdtr.org.uk

## **Parish Office hours**

Tuesday, Wednesday and  
Thursday 10.00am–4.00pm

## **Parish Secretary**

Lesley Hooper

## **Safeguarding Reps**

Vince Clark &

Lesley Hooper

## **PARISH SCHOOL**

### **St Nicholas Catholic Primary School**

Ringswell Avenue,  
Exeter EX1 3EG

## **Telephone**

01392 445403

**Email** [admin@stncls.uk](mailto:admin@stncls.uk)

[www.st-nicholas-  
exeter.devon.sch.uk](http://www.st-nicholas-exeter.devon.sch.uk)

## **Head Teacher**

Angela Folland

## **CONVENT**

### **Mount St Mary Convent,**

Wonford Road,  
Exeter EX2 4PF

**Telephone** 01392 433301

*Blessed Sacrament Parish is  
part of the Roman Catholic  
Diocese of Plymouth.*



## **Your brother was dead and has come back to life.**

Today we hear the familiar parable of the Prodigal Son (or the Forgiving Father), and the message is Reconciliation – the making new of relationships, the healing of past wrongs and the opening of ourselves to the ‘new creation’. This is just as the Israelites opened themselves to the new creation of the promised land, when under Joshua they ended their sojourn in the wilderness after forty years of hardship, and began to eat of the produce of the country. It is all God’s work: it is God who calls us back, and God who welcomes us into the promised land of his mercy when we return.

So today, let us think not so much of sin and offences, as the new creation God offers us, if we but turn back to him and embrace him as our Father.

# Welcome

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We hope you have a happy and peaceful time with us here in Exeter. Please ask one of the Welcomers or contact the parish office if we can help in any way.

## Liturgy of the Word for children

During the 10.30am Mass most Sundays.

## Refreshments

Sundays after 10.30am Mass and Wednesdays after 9.30am Mass.

## Parents and Toddlers

Monday mornings 9.30–11.30am in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. All welcome especially new faces.

## Getting married?

Congratulations! Please give us six months' notice if you are planning to marry in the Church.

## Sick parishioners

Please inform one of the priests or the parish office if you know someone who is in need of a visit.

## Newsletter

Deadline for newsletter items 4.00pm Wednesday. By phone or email.

## Many thanks

Sunday Collections  
17 March **£1214.45**  
24 March **£1283.58**

# Calendar of Events

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Mon 1 Apr	<b>Live simply sewing group</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Tues 2 Apr	<b>Lenten Penitential Service</b> <i>Sacred Heart Church 7.00pm</i>
Wed 3 Apr	<b>Lent prayer and lunch</b> <i>Wonford Methodist Church 12.00noon</i>
Wed 3 Apr	<b>1115 Youth Group</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Fri 5 April	<b>Stations of the Cross (TLC)</b> <i>Blessed Sacrament Church 7.00pm</i>
Sat 6 April	<b>First Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <i>Sacred Heart Church 11.00am</i>
Mon 8 Apr	<b>Live simply sewing group</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Wed 10 Apr	<b>Lent prayer and lunch</b> <i>United Reformed Church 12.00noon</i>
Thurs 11 Apr	<b>Thursday Lunch Club</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 12.00noon</i>
Thurs 11 Apr	<b>Prayer Group</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 7.15pm</i>
Fri 12 April	<b>Stations of the Cross</b> <i>Blessed Sacrament Church 7.00pm</i>
Sat 13 Apr	<b>Catholic Women's League Mass</b> <i>Sacred Heart Church 10.00am</i>
Mon 15 Apr	<b>Live simply sewing group</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Wed 17 Apr	<b>Chrism Mass</b> <i>Plymouth Cathedral 12.00noon</i>
Wed 17 Apr	<b>1115 Youth Group</b> <i>St Richard Reynolds Centre 6.30pm</i>
Thurs 18 Apr	<b>Mass of the Lord's Supper</b> <i>Blessed Sacrament church 7.00pm</i>
Thurs 18 Apr	<b>Watching at the altar of repose</b> <i>Blessed Sacrament church 8.30-10.30pm</i>
Fri 19 Apr	<b>Good Friday Morning Prayer</b> <i>Blessed Sacrament church 9.30am</i>
Fri 19 Apr	<b>Altar Servers Practice</b> <i>Blessed Sacrament church 10.30am</i>
Fri 19 Apr	<b>Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion</b> <i>Blessed Sacrament church 3.00pm</i>
Fri 19 Apr	<b>Good Friday Watching at the Cross</b> <i>Blessed Sacrament church 8.00-9.00pm</i>
Sat 20 Apr	<b>Morning Prayer</b> <i>Blessed Sacrament church 9.30am</i>
Sat 20 Apr	<b>Blessing of food 11.00am</b>

# Mothering Sunday

Today, the fourth Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday, is traditionally celebrated as Mothering Sunday. In an old tradition, those who were in service were allowed to return home for this Sunday, returning to their 'mother' church or parish. We give thanks today for all mothers, wherever they may be, and especially for those who would love to be a mother, for mothers who have lost children and for our own mothers who have died. Thank you to our flower ladies who have prepared the posies which will be distributed at all Masses this weekend. And to all Mums: have a wonderful day. Thanks be to God.

## *livesimply*

### **Plastic Free Lent Challenge**

To encourage you to make a positive change during Lent (and beyond), you are invited to take part in our Plastic Free Lent Challenge. If you haven't already do so, please pick up the leaflet with different ideas for meeting this challenge. If you are going to join us, please sign up on one of the posters in the church to pledge your support. This will show how we as a community can take practical steps together and will demonstrate your support when the parish applies for the *livesimply* award.

If you are planning a spring clean at home and want to get rid of old pens (that can no longer be used!) and other writing instruments, you can drop them off during Lent in a box at the back of the church (next to the Foodbank collection basket). They will then be taken to a recycling point. Any brand of pen, felt tip, highlighter, marker, correction fluid pot, correction tape, mechanical pencil and eraser pen are acceptable. No wooden pencils, glue sticks or erasers, please!

### **Sewing & Knitting Group**

If you would like to meet up with other parish members and sew or knit (or to learn how to do it), you are welcome to join this group at the St Richard Reynolds Centre on Monday evenings (see dates in the newsletter calendar).

### **Exeter Foodbank Collection**

During Lent, we are asked to think of people in need and share what we can. The **Foodbank collections** are continuing each Sunday. The current priority items are fruit juice (1L long-life), milk (1L UHT semi-skimmed), rice, pasta sauce, noodle/pasta snack, custard (tins/cartons).

Exeter Foodbank is organising a sponsored walk around the city on 29 June. Email [walk@exeterfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:walk@exeterfoodbank.org.uk) for more information.

## **Cyclone Idai Appeal**

A devastating cyclone swept through Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi a few days ago which has killed hundreds of people and affected an estimated 2.6 million people. Cafod are already working round the clock in the most affected areas and have joined with the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) to launch an appeal. The communities in these areas were already struggling day-to-day and this cyclone will be crushing. With the support and generosity of the Catholic community Cafod can reach the people who really need urgent emergency aid. We will take up a retiring collection at all Masses today to send to Cafod to help those affected.

## **Please Park Pretty**

Please think of others when using the church car park. Please consider those less able and use the lower car park if you can. Especially do not block the disabled spaces or the church entrances which must be clear for emergencies.

# Big Diocesan Quiz

On Friday May 17 at 6.30pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre we will compete against other teams across the diocese all answering the same questions devised by the Catholic Childrens' Society (Plymouth). Tickets are £10 per person to include a fish & chip supper – please bring a pudding and a bottle. There will be a raffle and all proceeds will go to the Children's Society. Come as a team of six or join others on the night. Only 40 places so get your ticket early! Last time we held this quiz our winning team here came second in the diocese – this time we want to be overall winners!! Tickets available from Jane Martin, Lesley Hooper or Parish Office.

# The Gift

How can we encounter the Holy Spirit & share our faith? This course from CaFE (Catholic Faith Exploration) carries the Apostolic Blessing of Pope Francis. See [www.thegiftofthespirit.org](http://www.thegiftofthespirit.org) for a clip. All are welcome - There will be prayer, DVD talks & discussion (plus lovely refreshments) over six Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm beginning on 30 April to be held at Cardinal Newman House, Wonford Road, Exeter EX2 4PF. There is no charge for this event, but please book your place in advance. Contact: Chris & Sue on 01392 432929 or email [smyl\\_lee@hotmail.com](mailto:smyl_lee@hotmail.com)

## Plymouth Diocese

### Catechetical Summer Camps

Applications are now being taken for places at the Plymouth Diocese Catechetical Summer Camps, to be held at Grangehurst, Buckfast Abbey. Camp details and application forms can be obtained from the porch or on-line from the camp website: [www.pdsummercamps.org.uk](http://www.pdsummercamps.org.uk) Prompt applications are advisable. These are brilliant weeks of catechesis, fun and friendship for our youngsters.

## 1115 Youth Group

The next meeting of the 1115 youth group will be on Wednesday 3 April at 6.30pm in the St Richard Reynolds Centre.

### Adoration at the Convent

Will not take place on Tuesday 2 April because of the Parishes' Reconciliation service that evening at the Sacred Heart

## Chrism Mass at Plymouth Cathedral

If you have put your name down to go on the coach please note that the cost will be £10 each and the coach will leave Blessed Sacrament at 9.40am and leave the Cathedral to return at 3.00pm.

## Dowry Tour of Our Lady of Walsingham

The statue of Our Lady of Walsingham is touring the country and will be at our own Cathedral in Plymouth from 16-18 May. Together with Sacred Heart Parish we are hoping to visit the Cathedral on Friday 17 May. If enough people are interested in this unique event, a coach will leave Sacred Heart Church at 10.00am and Blessed Sacrament a few minutes later. The return will be in the early evening. Please sign the list at the back of the church if you wish to come. The cost will be about £10. Please sign up by 10 April. For info see [dowrytour.org.uk](http://dowrytour.org.uk)

## Catholic Women's League

On Saturdays (except Holy Saturday) after the morning Mass at the Sacred Heart Church in South Street **coffee and cake** is served by the Catholic Women's League in the Lower room. Please come along.

### Lenten Lunch

A frugal lunch of soup, bread & cheese will be served every Friday during Lent – from Noon - in the Lower Room. All proceeds from these lunches are for Exeter's Day Centre for the homeless at St Petrock's.

**The next Mass** for the work of the League is on Saturday 13 April at the Sacred Heart Church, South St. at 10.00am. Coffee & cakes served in the Lower Room after Mass.

## **Pope's Intention for April**

For doctors and their humanitarian collaborators in war-torn areas, who risk their lives to save the lives of others. Pope Francis also adds a second, more urgent intention each month, which is published on the Apostleship of Prayer website [www.apostleshipofprayer.org](http://www.apostleshipofprayer.org) His monthly video on the prayer intention can be viewed online at <http://apostleshipofprayer.org/the-pope-video>

## **Book of Intentions**

This book is brought to the altar at each Mass and contains the things we offer to God in prayer; the name of someone who is sick or who has died; a personal situation which needs resolution; a private intention, anything you would like to bring to the Lord. The book can be found on the offertory table with the bread and wine.

## **Stations of the Cross**

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated each Friday in Lent at 7.00pm in the church. This Friday Stations will be led by members of the Thursday Luncheon Club. Walking in the footsteps of Jesus on his final journey is a wonderful Lenten devotion and would make a good resolution to do something, rather than always giving something up.

## **New parishioners**

New to Blessed Sacrament parish? If so, you are most welcome and we hope you will be very happy here. If you haven't already done so, please provide us with your contact details. Forms are available in the church porch and from the parish office (electronically) and should be returned to the office once completed. Thank you.

## **Praying for survivors**

At the request of Pope Francis, Friday 12 April has been designated a special day of prayer for victims and survivors of abuse.

## **Thank you**

A very big thank you to the person who left an envelope in the church porch with a donation for Lourdes in it. You will be remembered in prayers at the grotto and candles will be lit for you and your family.

## **Diocesan vacancy**

### **Diocesan Schools' Commissioner**

Based at St Boniface House Ashburton. For details of the post see the notice in the church porch or a copy of the job description and person specification are obtainable from the Human Resources Department – email [recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk) Applications are by application form and covering letter and the last date for applications is Monday 1 April. Interviews will be held at St Boniface House on Thursday 25 April.

## **Pray as You Go**

Pray as You Go have produced an Examen on the theme of Significance, following on from the Flame Congress, which some young people in the parish may find useful. It can be found at: [www.pathways togod.org/my-prayer-life/examen/significance2019](http://www.pathways togod.org/my-prayer-life/examen/significance2019)

## **Mass intentions**

If you would like a Mass said for a particular intention, for someone who is ill or a loved one who has died, in thanksgiving for an answer to prayer or perhaps something personal please see Lesley in the parish office who will be able to help you find a date and time which suits you. It is traditional to make an offering at the same time. This is simply what you can afford and would like to give.

## **Devon County Show**

Help is needed by Churches at the Devon County Show on Thursday Friday and Saturday 16, 17, and 18 May. This is an opportunity for witness, worship and hospitality. Bishop Mark is coming to preach at the early service on the 16 May. Volunteers are needed on that day to help man the tea bar, serving tea, coffee and cake throughout the day in shifts giving time to enjoy the show. We also need homemade cake, biscuits or scones, it does not matter if you are not coming to the show. A drop off point for cake will be the Palace Gate Centre 3 Palace Gate behind the Baptist Church between the hours of 9.00am and 12noon and 5.00pm - 9.00pm when the reception is manned, by Tuesday evening 14 May or brought to the churches stand at the Show. To about helping in any way please contact Frances Canning on francesandedward@blueyonder.co.uk or phone 01392 209542

## **Collection for Easter flowers**

Our team of flower arrangers will be very grateful for anything you can give to the collection at all Masses next weekend. Many thanks.

## **Lent Penitential Service**

7.00pm Tuesday 2 April at Sacred Heart Church South Street Exeter. The sacrament of penance or reconciliation is the most wonderful opportunity to receive God's forgiveness and the grace we need to change our lives. There will be a number of priests available for individual confession.

## **Washing of the Feet**

We need 12 people – men, women and children – to have their feet washed at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday evening at 7.00pm. Please sign the sheet in the church if you would be willing to take part.

## **Altar Servers Practice**

All altar servers are asked to come to a practice for Easter in the church on Good Friday 19 April at 10.30am.

## **Walk of Witness**

Organised by Christians Together across Exeter - CTaX on Good Friday 19 April at 10.00am United Service at Exeter Cathedral. Passion for Exeter 11.00am in Bedford Square, 11.30am on Cathedral Green - hymns and messages for Good Friday & Easter. All welcome.

## **Easter Blessing of Food**

Błogosławieństwo pokarmów wielkanocnych w Kościele Blessed Sacrament odbędzie się w Wielką Sobotę, 20 kwietnia o godz. 11.00. Bardzo serdecznie wszystkich zapraszamy. There will be a blessing of food on Holy Saturday 20 April at 11.00am in the Church. This is not only a Polish tradition, everybody is welcome to come to this service.

## **Divine Mercy Service**

A Divine Mercy service will be celebrated at Blessed Sacrament Church on Sunday 28 April at 3.00pm. Fr John Watkins will be the celebrant and it will be preceded by confessions at 2.30pm. Refreshments will be served in the St Richard Reynolds Centre afterwards and all are welcome.

## **Resurrection Rock**

Please come along to Blessed Sacrament Church on 2 May at 7.00pm to enjoy a musical evening using songs from Jesus Christ Superstar and Resurrection Rock to tell the wonderful Easter story all performed by the children of St Nicholas School choir.

## **Mass in the Extraordinary Form**

The next Mass at Blessed Sacrament on Sunday 20 April has been cancelled. The next Mass will therefore be celebrated on Sunday 19 May at 3.00pm.

# Celebrating Easter

## HOLY WEEK

### PALM SUNDAY

Sunday 14 April

9.00am

10.30am

6.00pm

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Wednesday 17 April

No 9.30am Mass

12.00 Chrism Mass Plymouth Cathedral

*Coach will leave from Blessed Sacrament at 9.40am*

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## THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday 18 April

7.00pm EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

8.30pm Watching at the Altar of repose

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### GOOD FRIDAY

*Day of fasting and abstinence*

Friday 19 April

9.30am Morning Prayer

10.30am Altar Servers practice

3.00pm SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION.

*NB Confessions will be available afterwards.*

8.00pm Watching at the Cross

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### HOLY SATURDAY

Saturday 20 April

9.30am Morning Prayer

11.00am Blessing of Food. All welcome.

8.00pm THE EASTER VIGIL

*followed by Resurrection Party in the St Richard Reynolds Centre.*

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### EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday 21 April

9.00am

10.30am

NO evening Mass

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## THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

The three days (Triduum) of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday night mark the solemn celebration of the Passion, death and Resurrection of Jesus. It is the most solemn celebration in the Church's year and culminates in the lighting and blessing of the Easter fire, the new fire which brightens the darkness of the night and brings hope to the whole world. Please do try to come to the liturgy on all of the days; they form one great liturgy in which we remember the gift of the Eucharist, the commandment to serve one another in the washing of feet, Christ's sacrifice on the cross which we adore, and the Resurrection which brings us hope of eternal life.

### *The altar of repose*

On Holy Thursday evening at the end of Mass we process the Blessed Sacrament to the altar of repose in commemoration of Jesus' journey from the Upper Room to the Garden of Gethsemane. We will stay with Jesus and watch with him until 10.30pm. Please come and join us.

### *The foot of the Cross*

On Good Friday evening we will watch in silence at the cross at 8.00pm in the church just for one hour. If you can come you would be most welcome.

### *Resurrexit!*

After the Easter Vigil we will celebrate with a party in the St Richard Reynolds Centre. We'll provide a cake, but if you can bring a bottle (Prosecco is always nice!) it would be welcome.

### **The Pope Tweets...**

Where should we fix our gaze along the journey of Lent? On the Crucifix. Jesus on the Cross is the compass of life that points us to Heaven.

# Mass Times

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## Sunday 31 March

*Fourth Sunday of Lent*

*Laetare Sunday*

9.00am

10.30am

6.00pm *People of the parish*

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## Monday 1 April

7.30am Convent Mass

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## Tuesday 2 April

No Mass

7.00pm Lent Penitential

Service Sacred Heart

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## Wednesday 3 April

9.30am

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

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## Thursday 4 April

9.30am

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## Friday 5 April

7.30am Convent

9.30am

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## Saturday 6 April

9.30am

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## Sunday 7 April

*Fifth Sunday of Lent*

9.00am

10.30am *People of the Parish*

6.00pm

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## Monday 8 April

7.30am Convent Mass

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## Tuesday 9 April

6.30pm

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## Wednesday 10 April

9.30am

4.00pm RD&E Hospital

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## Thursday 11 April

9.30am *Thanksgiving*

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## Friday 12 April

Survivors of sexual abuse

7.30am Convent

9.30am

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## Saturday 13 April

9.30am

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## Sunday 14 April

*Palm Sunday of the*

*Passion of the Lord*

9.00am *People of the parish*

10.30am *Special Intention*

6.00pm

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## Confessions

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Saturday 10.00am Church

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## Adoration

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Tuesdays 8.00pm Convent

First Wednesday each

month Lady chapel at

Sacred Heart 7.00pm

Some Thursdays 10.00am

(after Mass) Blessed

Sacrament Church.

*Please refer to the notice board on the church door for any alterations.*

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## The Word

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### Sunday 31 March

**First Reading**

Joshua 5:9-12

*The People of God keep the Passover on their entry into the promised land.*

**Psalm Response**

*Taste and see that the Lord is good.*

**Second Reading**

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

*God reconciled us to himself through Christ.*

**Gospel**

Luke 15:1-3.11-32

*Your brother here was dead and has come to life.*

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## Sunday 7 April

**First Reading**

Isaiah 43:16-21

*See, I am doing a new deed, and I will give my chosen people drink.*

**Psalm Response**

*What marvels the Lord worked for us!*

*Indeed we are glad.*

**Second Reading**

Philippians 3:8-14

*Reproducing the pattern of his death, I have accepted the loss of everything for Christ.*

**Gospel**

John 8:1-11

*If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.*

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## Sunday 14 April

**First Reading**

Isaiah 50:4-7

*I did not cover my face against insult – I know I shall not be shamed.*

**Psalm Response**

*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

**Second Reading**

Philippians 2:6-11

*He humbled himself, but God raised him high*

**Gospel**

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 22:14-23:56

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*He was lost  
and is  
found.*