

- C:** Still, You insist on sincerity of heart; in my inmost being teach me wisdom.
- R:** Cleanse me with hyssop, that I may be pure; wash me, make me whiter than snow.
- C:** Let me hear sounds of joy and gladness; let the bones You have crushed rejoice.
- R:** Turn away Your face from my sins; blot out all my guilt.
- C:** A clean heart create for me, God; renew in me a steadfast spirit.
- R:** Do not drive me from Your presence, nor take from me Your Holy Spirit.
- C:** Restore my joy in Your salvation; sustain in me a willing spirit.
- R:** I will teach the wicked Your ways, that sinners may return to You.
- C:** Rescue me from death, God, my saving God, that my tongue may praise Your healing power.
- R:** Lord, open my lips; my mouth will proclaim Your praise.
- C:** For You do not desire sacrifice; a burnt offering You would not accept.
- R:** My sacrifice, God, is a broken spirit; God, do not spurn a broken, humbled heart.

Antiphon: [Christ] humbled Himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

Stand

- C.** Let us pray.  
 Lord, we ask You to look upon the family of Your faithful people, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ did not resist betrayal into the hands of evil men or the torments of the cross, in order to show us the way to salvation. Grant us faith in Your infinite mercy, a love for truth, and the hope of eternal happiness. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
- R.** Amen.

# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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PASTOR - Rev. Dr. Adam Piekarczywski



April 3, 2026

# BEHOLD

PARISH BULLETIN

GOOD FRIDAY

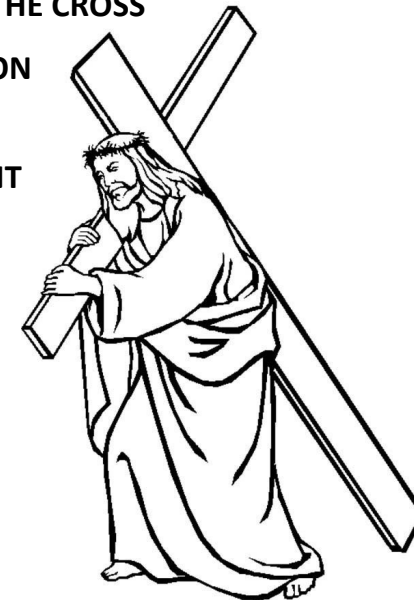
PART 1 - LITURGY OF THE WORD

PART 2 - GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

PART 3 - VENERATION OF THE CROSS

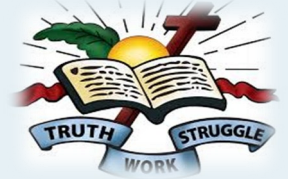
PART 4 - HOLY COMMUNION

PART 5 - VESPERS  
 & SYMBOLIC ENTOMBMENT



LITURGY

5.00 pm



MASS  
 INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass said for a particular intention, you must stop by the Parish Office or the sacristy in the Church before/after Sunday mass. Masses can be said for a deceased person or as a special intention for the living. You may reserve a Sunday of your choice, and your intention will be published in the parish bulletin.

We encourage you to offer a Mass on the occasion of a birthday, anniversary or special personal (family) need.

## READING 1

See, my servant shall prosper, he shall be raised high and greatly exalted. Even as many were amazed at him -- so marred was his look beyond human semblance and his appearance beyond that of the sons of man -- so shall he startle many nations, because of him kings shall stand speechless; for those who have not been told shall see, those who have not heard shall ponder it.

Who would believe what we have heard? To whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? He grew up like a sapling before him, like a shoot from the parched earth; there was in him no stately bearing to make us look at him, nor appearance that would attract us to him. He was spurned and avoided by people, a man of suffering, accustomed to infirmity, one of those from whom people hide their faces, spurned, and we held him in no esteem.

Yet it was our infirmities that he bore, our sufferings that he endured, while we thought of him as stricken, as one smitten by God and afflicted. But he was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins; upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole, by his stripes we were healed. We had all gone astray like sheep, each following his own way; but the LORD laid upon him the guilt of us all.

## IS 52:13-53:12

Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth; like a lamb led to the slaughter or a sheep before the shearers, he was silent and opened not his mouth. Oppressed and condemned, he was taken away, and who would have thought any more of his destiny? When he was cut off from the land of the living, and smitten for the sin of his people, a grave was assigned him among the wicked and a burial place with evildoers, though he had done no wrong nor spoken any falsehood. But the LORD was pleased to crush him in infirmity.

If he gives his life as an offering for sin, he shall see his descendants in a long life, and the will of the LORD shall be accomplished through him. Because of his affliction he shall see the light in fullness of days; through his suffering, my servant shall justify many, and their guilt he shall bear. Therefore I will give him his portion among the great, and he shall divide the spoils with the mighty, because he surrendered himself to death and was counted among the wicked; and he shall take away the sins of many, and win pardon for their offenses.

**The Word of the Lord.**  
*Thanks be to God.*

## MAGNIFICAT - Cantic of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Stand

Antiphon: When Jesus had taken the wine, He said "It is finished." And bowing His head, He handed over the spirit. (*John 19:30*)

**C: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for He has looked with favor on His lowly servant.**

R: From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name.

**C: He has mercy on those who fear Him in every generation.**

R: He has shown the strength of His arm, He has scattered the proud in their conceit.

**C: He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.**

R: He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty.

**C: He has come to the help of His servant Israel for He has remembered His promise of mercy,**

R: the promise He made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

Antiphon: When Jesus had taken the wine, He said "It is finished." And bowing His head, He handed over the spirit.

## PSALM 51:3-19

Kneel

Antiphon: [Christ] humbled Himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. (*Philippians 2:8*)

**C: Have mercy on me, God, in Your goodness; in Your abundant compassion blot out my offense.**

R: Wash away all my guilt; from my sin cleanse me.

**C: For I know my offense; my sin is always before me.**

R: Against You alone have I sinned; I have done such evil in your sight

**C: That You are just in Your sentence, blameless when You condemn.**

R: True, I was born guilty, a sinner, even as my mother conceived me.

Antiphon: From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.

**PSALM 140:2-14**

Antiphon: And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi lema sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" (*Mark 15:34a*)

**C: Deliver me, Lord, from the wicked; preserve me from the violent,**

R: From those who plan evil in their hearts, who stir up conflicts every day,

**C: Who sharpen their tongues like serpents, venom of asps upon their lips.  
Selah**

R: Keep me, Lord, from the clutches of the wicked; preserve me from the violent, who plot to trip me up.

**C: The arrogant have set a trap for me; villains have spread a net, laid snares for me by the wayside. Selah**

R: I say to the Lord: You are my God; listen, Lord, to the words of my prayer.

**C: My revered Lord, my strong helper, my helmet on the day of battle.**

R: Lord, do not grant the desires of the wicked; do not let their plots succeed.  
Selah

**C: Around me they raise their proud heads; may the mischief they threaten overwhelm them.**

R: May God rain burning coals upon them, cast them into the grave never more to rise.

**C: Slanderers will not survive on earth; evil will quickly entrap the violent.**

R: For I know the Lord will secure justice for the needy, their rights for the poor.

**C: Then the just will give thanks to Your name;**

R: the upright will dwell in Your presence.

Antiphon: And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi lema sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**PS 31**

„Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”

**READING 2**

**HEB 4:14-16; 5:7-9**

Brothers and sisters:

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin.

So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.

In the days when Christ was in the flesh, he offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

**The Word of the Lord.**



**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

Good Friday brings us to the heart of the Paschal Mystery - the solemn remembrance of the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. Today, the Church stands in silence and awe before the cross. There is no Mass celebrated; instead, we gather to contemplate the depth of Christ's sacrifice, to listen again to the Passion, and to venerate the wood of the cross upon which hung the Savior of the world.

On this day, we see love revealed in its most radical form. Jesus freely embraces the cross, not as a defeat, but as the ultimate act of obedience and self-giving. He carries the weight of human sin, betrayal, suffering, and death, and transforms it into the path of redemption. What appears to the world as weakness is, in truth, the power of God's love - a love that does not turn away, even in the face of rejection and pain.

The Passion narrative invites us to recognize ourselves within it. At times we are like Peter, who denies; like the crowd, which turns quickly; like Pilate, who hesitates in truth. Yet Good Friday is not meant to condemn us, but to awaken us. Christ goes to the cross for each of us personally. His sacrifice is not distant or abstract - it is offered out of love for you, for me, for all.

As we venerate the cross today, we do not honor suffering for its own sake, but the love that was poured out through it. The cross becomes the sign of our salvation, the place where sin is defeated and mercy is revealed. It calls us to trust that even in our own suffering, God is at work, bringing life out of death and hope out of despair.

Good Friday is a day of quiet reflection, reverence, and gratitude. We are invited to remain close to Christ, to stand with Mary at the foot of the cross, and to enter into the mystery of His love. In this silence, we begin to understand that the cross is not the end - but the doorway to resurrection.

**The personal question/action for today:**

When I look at the cross, do I see only suffering, or do I recognize the depth of Christ's love for me? How can I unite my own struggles with His sacrifice and trust more fully in God's saving plan?



All: Our Father..... Hail Mary.....

**PSALM 116: 11-19**

Antiphon: It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified Him.  
(Mark 15:25)

**C: I said in my alarm, "No one can be trusted!"**

R: How can I repay the Lord for all the good done for me?

**C: I will raise the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.**

R: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people.

**C: Too costly in the eyes of the Lord is the death of His faithful.**

R: Lord, I am Your servant, Your servant, the child of Your maidservant; You have loosed my bonds.

**C: I will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord.**

R: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people,

**C: In the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

Antiphon: It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified Him.

**PSALM 120:2-7**

Antiphon: From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. (Matthew 27:45)

**C: The Lord answered me when I called in my distress:**

R: Lord, deliver me from lying lips, from treacherous tongues.

**C: What will the Lord inflict on you, O treacherous tongue, and what more besides?**

R: A warrior's sharpened arrows and fiery coals of brush wood!

**C: Alas, I was an alien in Meshech, I lived near the tents of Kedar!**

R: Too long did I live among those who hated peace. When I spoke of peace, they were for war.