

ST GEORGE, BICKLEY

***THE ORDER OF MASS ON
PALM SUNDAY***

13th APRIL 2025



PARISH PRIEST

FR HENRY EVERETT SSC

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Welcome to St George's! This booklet contains all the material you will need for today's celebration of Mass. We hope you will find this service easy to follow, but please also do not be afraid to ask if you are unsure what to do at any point. The building is fitted with an Induction Loop - sit away from the pillars for best results!

Families with small children are very welcome to make use of the carpeted area at the back of church, where you will find books, crayons and soft toys. There are two further play stations in the side aisles.

A toilet is at the back of church behind the screen. After Mass, refreshments will be served in the Hall. Please join us! Before Mass, please try to maintain an atmosphere of quiet prayer.

Please gather inside the Hall before Mass, for the Blessing of Palms and the Procession.

After the altar party arrives and instructions have been given, the choir sings the antiphon,

Hosanna to the Son of David.

Then the priest sings,

Priest In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

Priest The Lord be with you

People **And also with you.**

Priest Dear brothers and sisters, since the beginning of Lent until now we have prepared our hearts by penance and charitable works. Today we gather together to herald with the whole Church the beginning of the celebration of our Lord's Paschal Mystery, that is to say, of his Passion and Resurrection. For it was to accomplish this mystery that he entered his own city of Jerusalem. Therefore, with all faith and devotion, let us commemorate the Lord's entry into the city for our salvation, following in his footsteps, so that, being made by his grace partakers of

the Cross, we may have a share also in his Resurrection and in his life.

The people hold their palms aloft to be blessed, as the priest prays,

Priest Almighty, ever-living God, sanctify these branches with your blessing, that we, who follow Christ the King in exultation, may reach the eternal Jerusalem through him. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

The Gospel according to St Luke is read, detailing the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem.

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

People **Glory to you O Lord.**

At that time: Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" you shall say this: "The Lord has need of it."' So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' And they said, 'The Lord has need of it.' And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. As he was drawing near — already on the way down the Mount of Olives — the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, 'Blessed is the King who comes in

the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!' And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, rebuke your disciples.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.' This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

As the procession is marshalled, the choir sings the antiphon
The children of the Hebrews.

Priest Let us go forth in peace.

People **In the name of Christ, Amen**

Please keep close together in the procession, following the altar party.
All then join in singing the processional hymn (NEH 509)

All glory, laud and honour
To thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.

Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest,
The King and blessèd One.

The company of angels
Are praising thee on high,
And mortal men and all things
Created make reply.

The people of the Hebrews
With palms before thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems
Before thee we present.

To thee before thy passion
They sang their hymns of praise;

**To thee, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise.**

**Thou didst accept their praises,
Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King.**

**Do thou direct our footsteps
Upon our earthly way,
And bring us by thy mercy
To heaven's eternal day.**

**Within that blessed City
Thy praises may we sing,
And ever raise hosannas
To our most loving King.**

St Theodulph of Orleans (760-821) tr John Mason Neale (1818-66) altd.

*As the altar party arrives at the sanctuary, the choir sings the antiphon,
O Jerusalem, look toward the East.*

All then continue with hymn 648:

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hark, all the tribes hosanna cry,
Thy humble beast pursues his road
With palms and scattered garments strowed.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die:
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin
O'er captive death and conquered sin.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The wingèd squadrons of the sky
Look down with sad and wondering eyes
To see the approaching sacrifice.**

Ride on, ride on in majesty!

**The last and fiercest strife is nigh;
The Father on his sapphire throne
Awaits his own anointed Son.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
Bow thy meek head to mortal pain,
Then take, O God, thy power, and reign.** *HH Milman (1791-1868)*

Then the Priest prays the Collect

Priest Almighty ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Now sit to listen to the First Reading. *(ISAIAH 50.4-7)*

Reader A reading from the prophet Isaiah.
The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backwards. I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. But the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm (22) follows the reading. Remain seated to sing,

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

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

Choir All who see me deride me.
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;
let him release him if this is his friend.'

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

Choir Many dogs have surrounded me,
a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet
I can count every one of my bones.

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

Choir They divide my clothing among them.
They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help me!

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

Choir I will tell of your name to my people
and praise you where they are assembled.
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;
all children of Jacob, give him glory.
Revere him, children of Israel.

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

Remain seated for the Second Reading. (PHILIPPIANS 2.6-11)

Reader A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians.
Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not
count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but
emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being
born in the likeness of men. And being found in human
form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the
point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has

highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

We pause for reflection. Then stand for the Gospel Acclamation,

Choir Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

People **Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Choir Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names.

People **Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

The Passion Gospel (according to St Luke) is solemnly proclaimed: Please remain standing if you are able and listen prayerfully and carefully. At the announcement of the death of Christ, all kneel for a moment.

Cantor The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke.
N Jesus came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. And when he came to the place, he said to them, ✠ Pray that you may not enter into temptation. **N** And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, saying, ✠ Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done. **N** And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, and he said to them, ✠ Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation. **N** While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus said to him, ✠ Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss? **N** And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, **S** Lord, shall we strike with the sword? **N** And one of them struck the

servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, ✠No more of this! **N**And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him, ✠Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness. **N**Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance. And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, **S**This man also was with him. **N**But he denied it, saying, **S**Woman, I do not know him. **N**And a little later someone else saw him and said, **S**You also are one of them. **N**But Peter said, **S**Man, I am not. **N**And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, **S**Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean. **N**But Peter said, **S**Man, I do not know what you are talking about. **N**And immediately, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly. Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking him as they beat him. They also blindfolded him and kept asking him, **S**Prophecy! Who is it that struck you? **N** And they said many other things against him, blaspheming him. When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes. And they led him away to their council, and they said, **S**If you are the Christ, tell us. **N**But he said to them, ✠If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God. **N**So they all said, **S**Are you the Son of God, then? **N**And he said to them, ✠You say that I am. **N**Then they said, **S** What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips. **N**Then the whole company of them arose and brought him before Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying, **S**We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king. **N**And Pilate asked him, **S**Are you the King of the Jews? **N**And he answered him, ✠You have said so. **N**Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, **S**I find no guilt in this man. **N**But they

were urgent, saying, **S** He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place. **N**When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other. Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them, **S**You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore punish and release him. **N**But they all cried out together, **S**Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas. **N**A man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, but they kept shouting, **S**Crucify, crucify him! **N**A third time he said to them, **S**Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him. **N**But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will. And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. But turning to them Jesus said, **✠**Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us', and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will

happen when it is dry? **N**Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, **✠**Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do. **N**And they cast lots to divide his garments. And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, **S**He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One! **N**The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, **S**If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself! **N**There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals who were hanged there railed at Jesus, saying, **S**Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us! **N**But the other rebuked him, saying, **S**Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong. **N**And he said, **S**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. **N**And he said to him, **✠** Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise. **N**It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, **✠**Father, into your hands I commit my spirit! **N** And having said this he breathed his last. *All kneel for a period of silence.* **N**Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, **S**Certainly this man was innocent! **N**And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things. Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, and wrapped it in a linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Silence is kept.

Please sit for the Homily.

Then stand to recite the Apostles' Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.**

Please remain standing for the Prayers of Intercession.

Priest Let us follow in the way of Christ, and pray through him to
the Father.

Reader Lord, in your mercy or *Reader* Lord, hear us

People **hear our prayer** or *People* **Lord, graciously hear us**

At the prayer for the departed,

Reader Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,

People **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

When the prayers of the saints are asked for,

**Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed
art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy
womb, Jesus: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us
sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

In conclusion to the prayers,

Priest Casting our cares and our sins before the feet of Christ,
may we have grace to follow him to the end. Merciful
Father,

People **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our
Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Please sit, as bread and wine are brought to the altar.

*Then stand to sing hymn 121, while the collection is taken. There is a
contactless machine at the back of church for card donations.*

**My song is love unknown,
My Saviour's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown,
That they might lovely be.
O, who am I, that for my sake
My Lord should take frail flesh, and die?**

**He came from his blest throne,
Salvation to bestow:
But men made strange, and none
The longed-for Christ would know.
But O, my friend, my friend indeed,
Who at my need His life did spend!**

**Sometimes they strew his way,
And his sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King.
Then 'Crucify!' is all their breath,
And for his death they thirst and cry.**

**Why, what hath my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
He gave the blind their sight.**

Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
Themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise.

They rise, and needs will have
My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save,
The prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suffering goes,
That he his foes from thence might free.

In life no house, no home,
My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb,
But what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home;
But mine the tomb wherein he lay.

Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like thine!
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend.

Samuel Crossman (c.1625-83)

Then the Priest says

Priest Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

People **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for
the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and
the good of all his holy Church.**

Priest Through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son, O Lord,
may our reconciliation with you be near at hand, so that,
though we do not merit it by our own deeds, yet by this
sacrifice made once for all, we may feel already the
effects of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Priest The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Priest Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The priest prays the Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer, and then all sing the Sanctus and Benedictus, from "A Short Mass for Advent and Lent" by Stephen Dean,

Cantor Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might.
People **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might.**
Cantor Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
People **Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**
Cantor Hosanna in the highest.
People **Hosanna in the highest.**
Cantor Blessed is he who comes, he who comes in the name of the Lord.
People **Blessed is he who comes, he who comes in the name of the Lord.**
Cantor Hosanna in the highest.
People **Hosanna in the highest.**
(repeat final two lines)

Please kneel. The Eucharistic Prayer continues, until the Memorial Acclamation,

Priest Great is the mystery of Faith.
Cantor Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.
People **Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.**
Cantor Lord Jesus, come in glory!
People **Lord Jesus, come in glory!**
Cantor Lord Jesus, come!
People **Lord Jesus, come!**

The Eucharistic Prayer concludes, and all sing,
People **Amen! Amen! Amen!**

Please stand for the Lord's Prayer,

Priest At the Saviour's command, and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say,

People **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come;
thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.**

Priest Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our day,
that by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

People **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Priest Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you;
look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Now sing the Agnus Dei

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us. (repeated)**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

Then kneel.

Priest Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

People **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

Priest Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

*The people come forward to receive communion. If you have **not** been baptised and confirmed, please come forward for a blessing instead of communion, carrying this Order of Service.*

During communion hymn 124 is sung, for which all remain seated or kneeling,

**O sacred head, sore wounded,
Defiled and put to scorn;
O kingly head, surrounded
With mocking crown of thorn:
What sorrow mars thy grandeur?
Can death thy bloom deflower?
O countenance whose splendour
The hosts of heaven adore.**

**Thy beauty, long-desirèd,
Hath vanished from our sight;
Thy power is all expired,
And quenched the light of light.
Ah me! for whom thou diest,
Hide not so far thy grace:
Show me, O Love most highest,
The brightness of thy face.**

**I pray thee, Jesus, own me,
Me, shepherd good, for thine;
Who to thy fold hast won me,
And fed with truth divine.**

Me guilty, me refuse not,
Incline thy face to me,
This comfort that I lose not,
On earth to comfort thee.

In thy most bitter passion
My heart to share doth cry,
With thee for my salvation
Upon the Cross to die.
Ah, keep my heart thus movèd
To stand thy Cross beneath,
To mourn thee, well-belovèd,
Yet thank thee for thy death.

My days are few, O fail not,
With thine immortal power,
To hold me that I quail not
In death's most fearful hour:
That I may fight befriended,
And see in my last strife
To me thine arms extended
Upon the Cross of life.

Paul Gerhardt (1607-76) tr Robert Bridges (1844-1930)

Please then stand as the Priest prays the Prayer after Communion,

Priest Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly beseech
you, O Lord, that, just as through the death of your Son
you have brought us to hope for what we believe, so by
his Resurrection you may lead us to where you call.
Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Please sit for the Notices.

Then stand for the Blessing & Dismissal,

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Look, we pray, O Lord, on this your family, for whom our
Lord Jesus Christ did not hesitate to be delivered into the

hands of the wicked and submit to the agony of the Cross.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Priest May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son,
and the Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

Priest Go forth, the Mass is ended.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The ministers go to the shrine of Our Lady for the Angelus

Priest The angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary,

People **and she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

Priest Behold the handmaid of the Lord,

People **be it unto me according to thy word.** Hail Mary...

Priest And the Word was made flesh,

People **and dwelt among us.** Hail Mary...

Priest Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,

People **that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Priest Let us pray. We beseech you, O Lord, pour your grace into
our hearts, so that as we have known the incarnation of
your Son Jesus Christ through the message of an angel,
so, by his cross and passion, we may be brought to the
glory of his resurrection. Through the same Jesus Christ
our Lord.

People **Amen**

Remain standing to sing hymn 128, as the clergy and servers depart:

**We sing the praise of him who died,
Of him who died upon the Cross;
The sinner's hope let men deride,
For this we count the world but loss.**

**Inscribed upon the cross we see
In shining letters, 'God is love';
He bears our sins upon the Tree;
He brings us mercy from above.**

**The cross! it takes our guilt away;
It holds the fainting spirit up;
It cheers with hope the gloomy day,
And sweetens ev'ry bitter cup.**

**It makes the coward spirit brave,
And nerves the feeble arm for fight;
It takes its terror from the grave,
And gilds the bed of death with light;**

**The balm of life, the cure of woe,
The measure and the pledge of love,
The sinner's refuge here below,
The angels' theme in heaven above.**

Thomas Kelly (1769-1855)

The organist plays Herzlich tut mich verlangen, BWV727, JS Bach (1685-1750).

Scripture readings taken from the English Standard Version, Catholic Edition.

