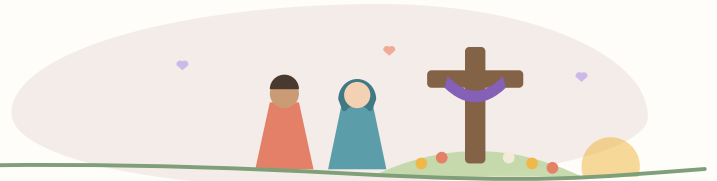


My Holy Day Prayer Page

Friday, 26 March 2027 · John 18:1–19:42



1 Today's Gospel

The Passion: Jesus, the King Who Gave His Life

In a **garden**, Judas came with soldiers carrying lanterns and torches. Jesus stepped forward and said, **"I am He,"** and asked them to let His friends go. Later that night Peter, afraid, said three times that he did not know Jesus. Pilate asked if Jesus was a king. Jesus said, **"My kingdom does not belong to this world."** Soldiers mocked Him with a crown of thorns, and Jesus carried His own **cross** to Golgotha. Near the cross stood His mother **Mary** and the disciple Jesus loved. Jesus said to Mary, **"Woman, this is your son,"** and to the disciple, **"This is your mother."** Then He said, **"It is finished,"** bowed His head and gave up His spirit. His friends laid Him in a new tomb in a garden.

No one took Jesus' life from Him: He gave it freely, out of **love**, to save us from sin. The cross became the throne of a King who serves. Today we honour the cross and wait in **hope**: the story does not end in the tomb.

Big idea! On the cross, Jesus our King gave His life **freely, out of love**, and His love is **stronger than death**.

Listen in church: In the Psalm we pray *"Father, into your hands I commend my spirit,"* words Jesus prayed on the cross. Isaiah describes a servant who suffers to carry our sins.

Go deeper: Look up John 10:17–18, where Jesus says no one takes His life from Him: He lays it down on His own. The Catechism says Jesus freely offered His life out of love for the Father and for us (CCC 609).

2 Think It Through

Answer in a sentence or two.

1. What did Jesus say to Mary and His disciple from the cross?

2. Why do you think Jesus did not run away?

3. Like Peter, when do you find it hard to stand up for Jesus?

3 My Prayer

Thank Jesus for His love on the cross, or pray for someone who is suffering.

Dear Lord Jesus,

4 Sign on the Cross

Pilate put a sign on the cross. Draw the cross with your own sign saying who Jesus is to you.

Ideas: Jesus, King of Love · Jesus, my Saviour · write it in two languages · flowers ready for Easter

"This is your mother." John 19:27