

Palm Sunday 2023

Dear Brother and sister in Christ,

Today is Palm Sunday, and we begin Holy Week with the whole Church. Holy Week is an important week in the calendar of the Catholic Church, which has many liturgy rites to express the passion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In this Holy Week, the Church invites us to participate in Masses in the Church, especially with three sacred days called Tridium: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil (Saturday night).



In this Holy Week, we are called to listen to the Word of God and meditate on the love of God who is ready to die to save humanity. Jesus is the true God and true man who obeys His Father to come to the earth and dwell with us, “Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness,” (Philippians 2:6-7). Each of us is invited to open our hearts to receive Holy Communion in Holy Week and the Easter season.

The death of Jesus is completely voluntary for all people, and He gives Himself for humanity. This is unconditional love. He is a good shepherd and does God’s will as Saint Paul said, “Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God” (Ephesians 5:2). Moreover, through the Passion and resurrection of Jesus Christ, He brings us the hope in our faith that we will be raised to live with Christ. As Saint Paul said, “If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith” (1 Cor 15: 13-14).

The Passion and resurrection of Jesus Christ bring the love of Christ to those who are still suffering, hopeless, and sick. As Pope Francis states, that “it is the victory of love over the root of evil, a victory that does not ‘by-pass’ suffering and death, but passes through them, opening a path in the abyss, transforming evil into good: this is the unique hallmark of the power of God” (Urbi et Orbi Message of His Holiness Pope Francis, Easter 2020).

May the resurrection of Jesus Christ always be with you, your family, and our parish.

Happy Easter 2023 to everyone

Phong Quang Le