

LIVING LENT

THE SCOURGING AT THE PILLAR



**Since every sinner deserves many blows,
Christ, the Bearer of all our sins,
must have received an uncountable number of stripes.
Saint Augustine**

**Leader: God is not far from any of us,
since we do not have life or movement or being
except in God. (Acts 17:28)**

**All: Lord, by Your passion, cross and resurrection,
You have set us free.
You are the Redeemer of the world.**

MARK 15: 1-15

As soon as morning came, the chief priests with the elders and the scribes, that is, the whole Sanhedrin, held a council. They bound Jesus, led Him away, and handed Him over to Pilate.

Pilate questioned Him, "Are You the king of the Jews?" He said to him in reply, "You say so."

The chief priests accused Him of many things.

Again Pilate questioned Him, "Have you no answer? See how many things they accuse You of."

Jesus gave him no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now on the occasion of the feast he used to release to them one prisoner whom they requested.

A man called Barabbas was then in prison along with the rebels who had committed murder in a rebellion.

The crowd came forward and began to ask him to do for them as he was accustomed.

Pilate answered, "Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?"

For he knew that it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed Him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate again said to them in reply, "Then what do you want me to do with the Man you call the King of the Jews?"

They shouted again, "Crucify Him." Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has He done?" They only shouted the louder, "Crucify Him." So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas to them and, after he had Jesus scourged, handed Him over to be crucified.

OUR PRAYER: PSALM 22

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Why so far from my call for help, from my cries of anguish?

**My God, I call by day, but You do not answer;
by night, but I have no relief.**

**Yet You are enthroned as the Holy One; You are the glory of Israel.
In You our ancestors trusted; they trusted and You rescued them.**

**To You they cried out and they escaped;
in You they trusted and were not disappointed.**

**But I am a worm, hardly human, scorned by everyone,
despised by the people.**

**All who see me mock me; they curl their lips and jeer; they shake their
heads at me:**

**"You relied on the Lord--let Him deliver you;
if He loves you, let Him rescue you."**

**Do not stay far from me, for trouble is near,
and there is no one to help.**

REFLECTION

In a stunningly craven political move, Pilate orders Jesus scourged, in the hope of placating a crowd who wanted nothing more than to see the legions march out of Judea, preferably at the point of Israelite swords. From time to time, as we go on about our lives, as we live out our vocations, we get the short end of the stick, or in the case of Our Lord, the hook end of the whip. When we meet setbacks or roadblocks on our v journey, we must not be like Jonah, cursing the dead plant, but like Jesus, Who didn't open His mouth once. Let us ask God to give us the patience to deal with obstacles in our lives with grace. But let us also unite our sufferings to His and remember that "by His stripes, we are healed."

How has the Lord Jesus healed you???

OUR RESPONSE

**Leader: Eternal Father, we offer You the Body, Blood, Soul and
Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus the
Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole
world.**

**All: For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us
and on the whole world.**

A LITANY

**Blood of Christ, only-begotten Son of the eternal Father, save us.
Blood of Christ, Incarnate Word or God, save us.
Blood of Christ, of the New and Eternal Testament, save us.
Blood of Christ, falling upon the earth in Agony, save us.
Blood of Christ, shed profusely in the Scourging, save us.
Blood of Christ, flowing forth in the Crowning with Thorns, save us.
Blood of Christ, poured out on the Cross, save us.
Blood of Christ, Price of our salvation, save us.
Blood of Christ, without which there is no forgiveness, save us.
Blood of Christ, Eucharistic drink and refreshment of souls, save us.
Blood of Christ, stream of mercy, save us.
Blood of Christ, victor over demons, save us.
Blood of Christ, help of those in peril, save us.
Blood of Christ, relief of the burdened, save us.
Blood of Christ, solace in sorrow, save us.
Blood of Christ, hope of the penitent, save us.
Blood of Christ, consolation of the dying, save us.
Blood of Christ, peace and tenderness of hearts, save us.
Blood of Christ, pledge of eternal life, save us.
Blood of Christ, freeing souls from purgatory, save us.
Blood of Christ, most worthy of all glory and honor, save us.**

OUR APPEAL

Accept, O Lord, this appeal for pardon wrung from our afflicted and repentant souls, and in true sorrow for our sins and the sins of our relatives and friends.

**We ask pardon, O Lord,
for public scandals and evil living,
for all who try to stir up disorder,
for all who corrupt the innocent,
for those who spend their lives and money in sensuous living,
for crimes in families.**

**We ask pardon, O Suffering Christ,
for those who traffic in drugs, alcohol and public crime,
for those who lead and lure souls to eternal damnation,
for those who excite evil passions by immodest fashions, corrupt plays and degenerate art.**

**We ask pardon, O Wounded Healer,
for all attacks against our Holy Father the Pope,
for all disobedience against the Church,
for all weak and straying souls,
for sinners who resist grace,
for all abuse of the Sacraments,
for all who have left the faith,
and for our own disinterest in Godly things. Amen.**

HYMN: SAVE US, O LORD

by: Bob Dufford

Refrain:

Save us, O Lord; carry us back.

Rouse Your power and come.

Rescue Your people; show us Your face.

Bring us back.

1. O Shepherd of Israel, hear us. Return and we shall be saved.

Arise, O Lord; hear our cries, O Lord: bring us back!

2. How long will you hide from your people?

We long to see your face. Give ear to us.

Draw near to us, Lord God of hosts!

3. Turn again; care for Your vine;

protect what Your right hand has planted.

Your vineyards are trampled, uprooted, and burned.

Come to us, Father of might!



Saint John Baptist de La Salle

and all you holy Brothers who have gone before us,

intercede with the Lord

**that we may lift up the downtrodden, the poor, and the most vulnerable
of our brothers and sisters.**

Live Jesus in our hearts.

Forever!