

VENERATION OF THE HOLY SHROUD

Archdiocese of Turin

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Since 1578, the city of Turin has carefully preserved the exceptional relic which has been traditionally considered to be the burial shroud of Christ mentioned in the Gospels. In that year Duke Emmanuel Philbert of Savoy had the shroud transferred from Chambery, and shortly afterwards a special chapel adjacent to the cathedral was built to house it. Scientific study, even recent research, has never weakened the data of shroud's story as handed down by tradition. Research and photographic detail have, in fact, unveiled in the imprints the figure of a man with all the signs of the crucifixion. The cult and devotion to the Holy Shroud, as that of every other "relic", or representation of the passion, to the divine person of the Redeemer. They call us to meditate on the love of Christ, crucified and risen for our salvation: we have the example of men the calibre of Saint Charles Borromeo, Saint Francis de Sales, and Blessed Sebastian Valfré.

"Reflecting on such a precious and pious relic, the mysterious fascination of (Christ) will grow in all of us, believers and non-believers alike. The call the Gospel will echo in the depths of our hearts, and we will hear his voice inviting us to search for him wherever he still is hidden, to love and serve in human form" (Paul VI, November 23, 1973).

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

1 Cor

1:23-24

We preach Christ crucified, a scandal for man,
but for those who are called: the wisdom of God.

OPENING PRAVER

Father,
you glorified your Son, Jesus Christ, in his blessed passion
and made him Lord
through his resurrection from the dead.
We venerate his image,
represented in the holy Shroud:
give us the gift one day to behold his face in glory,
he who is God and lives and reigns with you,
Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord,
accept these gifts,
and help us to bear witness
to the life, death and resurrection of your Son
which we now celebrate in the sacred mysteries.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

PREFACE

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.
The suffering and death of your Son
brought life to the whole world,
moving our hearts to praise your glory.
The power of the cross reveals your judgement of this world
and the kingship of Christ crucified.
We praise you, Lord,
with all the angels and saints in their song of joy.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II

Lord, you are holy indeed,
the fountain of all holiness.
Let your Spirit come upon these gifts to make them holy,
so that they may become for us
the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Before he was given up to death, a death he freely accepted,
he took bread and gave you thanks. He broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT IT:
THIS IS MY BODY WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.**

When supper was ended, he took the cup.
Again he gave you thanks and praise,
gave the cup to his disciples, and said:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU,
AND DRINK FROM IT THIS IS THE CUP OF MY BLOOD,
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND EVERLASTING COVENANT.
IT WILL BE SHED FOR YOU AND FOR ALL MEN
SO THAT SINS MAY BE FORGIVEN.
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.**

In memory of his death and resurrection,
we offer you, Father, this life-giving bread, this saving cup.
We thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.
May all of us who share in the body and blood of Christ
be brought together in unity by the Holy Spirit.

Lord, remember your Church throughout the world; make us grow in love,
together with N. our Pope,
N. our bishop, and all the clergy.
Remember our brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest

in the hope of rising again;
bring them and all the departed into the light of your presence.

Have mercy on us all;
make us worthy to share eternal life
with Mary, the virgin Mother of God,
with the apostles, and with all the saints
who have done your will throughout the ages.
May we praise you in union with them,
and give you glory
through your Son, Jesus Christ.
Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Our Father ...

Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day.
In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety
as we wait in joyful hope
for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles:
I leave you peace, my peace I give you.
Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of
your kingdom where you live for ever and ever.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps

27,9a

Your face, o Lord, I seek;
Hide not your face from me!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord our God,
in the bread of the eucharist
we have recognized Jesus who gave his life for us.
Help us, too, to love and serve our brothers who suffer
as we wait for the revealing of the new and perfect humanity -
the glorious body of Christ your Son
who lives and reigns with you for ever and ever.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

I. FIRST READING

Ours were the sufferings he bore

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

52:13-53:5

See, my servant will prosper,
he shall be lifted up, exalted, rise to great heights.
As the crowds were appalled on seeing him
- so disfigured did he look
that he seemed no longer human -
so will the crowds be astonished at him,
and kings stand speechless before him;
for they shall see something never told
and witness something never heard before:
'Who could believe what we have heard,
and to whom has the power of Yahweh been revealed?
Like a sapling he grew up in front of us,
like a root in arid ground.
Without beauty, without majesty (we saw him),
no looks to attract our eyes;
a thing despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering,
a man to make people screen their faces;
he was despised and we took no account of him.
And yet ours were the sufferings he bore,
ours the sorrows he carried.
But we, we thought of him as someone punished,
struck by God, and brought low.
Yet he was pierced through for our faults, crushed for our sins.
On him lies a punishment that brings us peace,
and through his wounds we are healed.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

from Ps 30

R. Let your face shine on us.

In you, o Lord, I take shelter;
let me never be put to shame.
In your righteousness deliver me, rescue me,
turn your ear to me, make haste! R.

Into your hands I commit my spirit,
you have redeemed me, o Lord.
God of truth, you hate
those who serve worthless idols;

but I put my trust in the Lord. R.

I will exult, and rejoice in your love!
You, who have seen my wretchedness,
and known the miseries of my soul, have not handed me over to the enemy,
you have given my feet space and to spare. R.

But I put my trust in you, o Lord,
I say, 'You are my God'.
My days are in your hand, rescue me
from the hands of my enemies and persecutors;
let your face smile on your servant,
save me in your love. R.

Or:

II. FIRST READING

Even those who pierced him will mourn over him

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

1:4-8

Brothers, grace and peace to you from him who is, who was, and who is to come, from the seven spirits in his presence before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the First-born from the dead, the Ruler of the kings of the earth.

He loves us and has washed away our sins with his blood, and made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God and Father; to him, then, be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

It is he who is coming on the clouds; everyone will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the races of the earth will mourn over him. This is the truth. Amen.

'I am the Alpha and the Omega' says the Lord God, who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Phil

2:6-11

R. Glory and honour to you, Lord Jesus!

Christ, though his state was divine,
he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are. R.

Being as all men are,
he 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 other names. R.

So that at the name of Jesus, all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. R.

Or:

III. FIRST READING

I saw the Lamb that had been sacrificed sitting at the right hand of God

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

5:6-14

I, John, saw, standing between the throne with its four animals and the circle of the elders, a Lamb that seemed to have been sacrificed; it had seven horns, and it had seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits God has sent out all over the world.

The Lamb came forward to take the scroll from the right hand of the One sitting on the throne, and when he took it, the four animals prostrated themselves before him and with them the twenty-four elders; each one of them was holding a harp and had a golden bowl full of incense made of the prayers of the saints. They sang a new hymn: 'You are worthy to take the scroll and break the seals of it, because you were sacrificed, and with your blood you bought men for God of every race, language, people and nation and made them a line of kings and priests, to serve our God and to rule the world'.

In my vision, I heard the sound of an immense number of angels gathered round the throne and the animals and the elders; there were ten thousand times ten thousand of them and thousands upon thousands, shouting, 'The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and blessing'.

Then I heard all the living things in creation - everything that lives in the air, and on the ground, and under the ground, and in the sea, crying, 'To the One who is sitting on the throne and to the Lamb, be all praise, honour, glory and power, for ever and ever'.

And the four animals said, 'Amen'; and the elders prostrated themselves to worship.

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
2:25

1 Peter

Alleluia, alleluia.
Through your wounds, o Lord, we have been healed.
Alleluia.

I. GOSPEL

Jesus was wrapped in the shroud and laid in the tomb

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

15:42-16:8

Evening had fallen, and since it was Preparation Day (that is, the vigil of the sabbath), there came Joseph of Arimathaea, a prominent member of the Council, who himself lived in the hope of seeing the kingdom of God, and he boldly went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate, astonished that he should have died so soon, summoned the centurion and enquired if he was already dead. Having been assured of this by the centurion, he granted the corps to Joseph who bought a shroud, took Jesus down from the cross, wrapped him in the shroud and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the entrance to the tomb. Mary of Magdala and Mary the mother of Joses were watching and saw where he was laid.

When the sabbath was over, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome,

bought spices with which to go and anoint him. And very early in the morning on the first day of the week they went to the tomb, just as the sun was rising. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' But when they looked they could see that the stone - which was very big - had already been rolled back. On entering the tomb they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right-hand side, and they were struck with amazement. But he said to them, 'There is no need for alarm. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified: he has risen, he is not here. See, here is the place where they laid him. But you must go and tell his disciples and Peter, "He is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him, just as he told you".' And the women came out and ran away from the tomb because they were frightened out of their wits; and they said nothing to a soul, for they were afraid.

or:

II. GOSPEL

He saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head rolled up by itself

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

19:38-20:9

After the death of Jesus, Joseph of Arimathaea, who was a disciple of Jesus - though a secret one because he was afraid of the Jews - asked Pilate to let him remove the body of Jesus. Pilate gave permission, so they came and took it away. Nicodemus came as well - the same one who had first come to Jesus at night-time - and he brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, following the Jewish burial custom. At the place where he had been crucified there was a garden, and in this garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been buried. Since it was the Jewish Day of Preparation and the tomb was near at hand, they laid Jesus there.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him'. So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.