

Gospel

Mark 15:33–46

*Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.*

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

When the sixth hour came  
there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.  
And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice,  
‘Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?’  
which means, ‘My God, My God, why have you deserted me?’  
When some of those who stood by heard this, they said,  
‘Listen, he is calling on Elijah.’  
Someone ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar  
and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink saying,  
‘Wait and see if Elijah will come to take him down.’

But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.  
And the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom.  
The centurion, who was standing in front of him,  
had seen how he had died and he said,  
‘In truth this man was a son of God.’

There were some women watching from a distance.  
Among them were Mary of Magdala,  
Mary who was the mother of James the younger  
and Joset, and Salome.  
These used to follow him and look after him when he was in Galilee.  
And there were many other women there  
who had come up to Jerusalem with him.

It was now evening, 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 corpse 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 rock.  
He then rolled a stone against the entrance to the tomb.

The Gospel of the Lord.