

Good Friday

Today we gather as family – sorrowing over the death of a most beloved member

- Not at the deathbed
- We are at the viewing
 - o We know He's dead
 - o We hear these readings
 - o We reflect on the life and death of Jesus

As Christians today it's hard to reflect on the life & death of Jesus without resurrection

- We know, in faith, that Jesus rose
- We know the tomb is empty
- We know that Easter is coming – in Victory
 - o But right here – Right now – it's Good Friday
 - Jesus is scourged
 - He wears a crown of thorns
 - He takes up His cross and starts to walk
 - He is driven to Calvary with whips – pushed and prodded
 - He freely lays down His life – FOR YOU – FOR ME
 - He's in the tomb

Isaiah “It was our infirmities He bore, our suffering He endured”

“He was pierced for our offences, crushed for our sin”

“We had gone astray like sheep, each following his own way”

“But the Lord laid upon Him the guilt of us all”

That is what is on the cross

My sin My guilt My Disobedience

Jesus takes it as His own – and suffers the penalty that should be mine

In a moment we are going to venerate the Holy Cross

“Behold the wood of the cross, on which hung the source of our salvation”

- We can look at the cross and see our sin
- We can look at the cross and see our salvation
- We can look at the cross and see victory – knowing it doesn't end there
 - o But today, at this time, in this place, on Good Friday
 - o We look at the cross and see the sacrifice
 - o We see Jesus – the Lamb of God
 - Freely laying down His life
 - For me, and for you