

PALM SUNDAY  
THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE EASTER

THE COLLECT

**ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who, of thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility; Mercifully grant, that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



1. Whom has God out of tender love towards all mankind sent into the world?  
A. His \_\_\_\_\_. (John 3:16)
2. What did Jesus Christ take upon himself?  
A. Our \_\_\_\_\_. (John 1:14)
3. What did He suffer?  
A. \_\_\_\_\_ on a cross. (John 19:16-18)
4. What part of Christ's character ought mankind particularly to follow?  
A. His great \_\_\_\_\_. (I Peter 5:5)
5. For what do we pray in the conclusion of this Collect?  
A. That we may follow the example of Christ's \_\_\_\_\_  
B. That we may be partakers of his \_\_\_\_\_

INTRODUCTION:

What is this week in the Church calendar usually called? Holy Week. What is the chief day in it? Good Friday. What do we think of during the week and especially on Good Friday? Our Lord's sufferings and death. What is one thing we should notice very acutely during Holy Week? Jesus' humility. In Matthew 11:29, Our Lord says, "Learn of me, because I am meek, and humble of heart." No where is Christ's humility more plainly shown than during His Passion, when He endured ridicule, torture, betrayal. and death by the hands of men



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## I. HUMILITY IS THE GREATEST VIRTUE

1. Jesus Christ calls us all into His school to learn, not to work miracles, nor to astonish the world by marvelous enterprises, but to be humble of heart. “Learn of Me, because I am meek and humble of heart.”
2. He has not called everyone to be doctors, preachers or priests, nor has He bestowed on all the gift of restoring sight to the blind, healing the sick, raising the dead or casting out devils, but to all He has said: “Learn of Me, to be humble of heart,” and to all He has given the power to learn humility of Him.
3. Innumerable things are worthy of imitation in the Incarnate Son of God, but He only asks us to imitate His humility. What of the other virtues? All these treasures of Wisdom are rooted in humility. He who lacks humility lacks all virtues.

## II. WHAT HUMILITY IS

1. Humility is a confession of the greatness of God.
2. Humility is the opposite of pride. Pride is the sin for which the Angels were banished from Heaven. If we are not humble, then we are proud. How can we pretend to enter Heaven if we do not keep ourselves in a state of humility?

## III. CHRIST’S HUMILITY

1. Humility is a virtue that belongs essentially to Christ, not only as a man, but more especially as God. God cannot exalt Himself above what He is in His most high Being, nor can he increase His greatness (because He is already the most exalted and has infinite greatness). But, He can humble Himself, as in fact He did humble and lower Himself. “He humbled Himself, He emptied Himself.”

2. No greater example of humility can be given than that of the Only Son of God when “the Word was made Flesh.”



## IV. THE EXAMPLE OUR LORD GIVES US

1. “He was unwilling to command what He Himself did not practice.” (St. Augustine)
2. How shameful it would be for anyone, after studying for many years in a school, under the teaching of excellent masters, if he were still to remain absolutely ignorant! Likewise, it would be shameful to spend years in the school of Jesus Christ, only to learn nothing of humility.

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