



St. Thomas Church: established July 1, 1285 by King Vaclav II



YEAR OF FAITH: oct. 11, 2012-NOV. 24, 2013

"The 'door of faith' (Acts 14:27) is always open for us, ushering us into the life of communion with God and offering entry into his Church."---Pope Benedict XVI, Apostolic Letter Porta Fidei for the Indiction of the Year of Faith.

March 23th and 24th 2013

Palm Sunday -C

St. Thomas Church

Josefska 8, Mala Strana, Prague 1, 118 01

Tel: 257 530 556, 602 643 365

Fax: 257530556

The Reflection of the Gospel

The three-year gospel cycle consists of four evangelists identified as A-Matthew, B-Mark, C-Luke and John (without alphabetical designation) whose gospel is read on feasts and certain times during the Church year. This year we're in cycle C or the "year of Luke", whose account of Jesus' last days, as with the other three evangelists is, despite the same subject matter, unique. For example, Matthew's passion account emphasizes Jesus' royalty that cannot be erased even in the midst of degrading humiliation. Mark's narrative, on the other hand, often characterized as the oldest and shortest of all the passion accounts, is, perhaps, the saddest. In this second gospel, Jesus is starkly portrayed as the misunderstood victim of betrayal, one forsaken by his disciples and left to the murderous intent of the enemy. John, the fourth and the last evangelist to write, takes a different approach. He portrays Jesus as the *judge* even at his own trial. John relates that Pilate nervously shuffles between Christ, who fearlessly challenges him and the excited lynch-mob demanding his death. In relating the tragic events common to all the passion accounts, Luke emphasizes *pathos*. Jesus, indeed, seeks solace from his sleepy disciples in Gethsemani, he comforts the women who weep over him, forgives his murderers and promises paradise to a repentant terrorist. It is in Luke's report that despite his suffering, Jesus still heals, thanks and forgives. It is this *compassionate* master who becomes, even in the frightening ordeal of his own death, a model of love, forbearance and forgiveness for us, his disciples. Luke in passing down his gospel of good news teaches that nothing, not even death, should make us abandon our Christian vocation of loving forgiveness. There is a beautiful hymn sung in the Greek Church which runs:

*O Lord, save us your people and bless us, your inheritance,
Grant victory to the faithful against the surrounding foes,
Through the power of the Cross protect this community.*

Holy Week Schedule

March 24th, PASSION (or PALM) SUNDAY, there will be a joint service with the Czech and Spanish communities beginning at Infant Jesus of Prague Church-Karmelitska street- at 11:00 am.

March 27th Spy Wednesday, in Holy Week, Confessions and Mass at 18:00/06:00 pm in Saint Barbara's Chapel. From 17:00/05:00 pm representation of the Passion of the Lord in the Church

March 28th , HOLY THURSDAY. At 9:00am Mass with the Cardinal in the Cathedral of St. Vitus. At 06:30/18:30 Mass of the Lord's Supper with the Washing of Feet, the Transfer of the Sacrament. At 09:00/21:00 Adoration.

March 29th ,, GOOD FRIDAY. At 06:00/18:00pm the *Stations of the Cross*. At 06:30/18:30 the *Liturgy of the Death and Burial of the Lord*.

March 30th ,, HOLY SATURDAY. From 10:00 – 12:00 Confessions will be heard and Easter food will be blessed. 08:00/20:00 the *VIGIL OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD, MASS followed by the OPENING OF THE TOMB, THEOPHORIC PROCESSION*.

March 31st ,, EASTER SUNDAY. Mass at 11:00am followed by the THEOPHORIC PROCESSION and the ENCUESTRO

Ongoing Activities

*We are looking for a **professional English teacher** to teach English to children from 3 till 7 years old. Please contact Fr. Juan if you are interested

*Please, pray for the **Mission** in our Parish!

*St Thomas' English Speaking Community now has a presence on **facebook**. Please 'like' our page and if you want to get more involved with the community, join our group!

*If you are interested in studying the Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies, a course run by the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales, please see the website <http://brs-ccrs.org.uk> and contact Jim Willetts on jimwill@email.cz

*Looking for an English teacher to teach English every Tuesday from 8 till 9 am.

***DIVE CLUB "BARRACUDA"** Dive club "barracuda", associated to the parish, offers dive courses (system CMAS) and the possibility to dive. If you are interested, please contact Ramón 774 717 049 o Antonio 608 22 76 86

* During **Lent season** every Thursday at 6pm will be a Eucharistic service in Saint Barbara's Chapel, with communion and possibility of confession.

ALL GLORY, LAUD AND HONOR

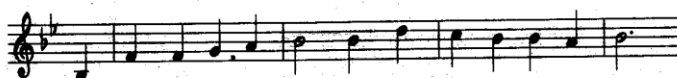
38

Acc #14 / CPC2 #263

ST. THEODULPH



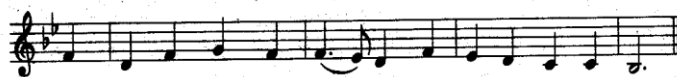
1-5. All glo-ry, laud, and hon-or To you, Re-deem-er King!



1-5. To whom the lips of chil-dren Made sweet ho-san-nas ring.



1. You are the King of Is-ra-el, And Da-vid's roy-al Son,
2. The com-pa-ny of an-gels Are prais-ing you on high;
3. The peo-ple of the He-breus With palms be-fore you went;
4. To you be-fore your pas-sion They sang their hymns of praise:
5. Their prais-es you ac-cept-ed, Ac-cept the prayers we bring,



1. Now in the Lord's Name com-ing, Our King and Bless-ed One.
2. And mor-tals, joined with all things Cre-a-ted, make re-ply.
3. Our praise and prayers and an-thems Be-fore you we pre-sent.
4. To you, now high ex-alt-ed, Our mel-o-dy we raise.
5. Great source of love and good-ness, Our Sav-ior and our King.

Text: 76 76 D; Theodulph of Orleans, ca. 760-821; tr. by John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt., *Hymnal Noted*, 1854.
Music: Melchior Teschner, 1584-1635.

Mission 2013

This reading is in support of the St Thomas mission to support the Year of Faith and the Emeritus Pontiff's call for mission.

My friend told me a story when we were discussing lessons learned in life. He once told me that when he was a kid, his Mom liked to make breakfast food for dinner every now and then.

He remembered one night in particular when she had made a breakfast-dinner after a long, hard day at work. On that evening his Mom placed a plate of eggs, sausage and extremely burned biscuits in front of his father. He mentioned that he waited to see if anyone noticed!

Biscuits in America are warm soft breakfast pastries that when right, are light and fluffy like a croissant. When they go wrong, the results can be pretty bad.

He then said his father reached for his biscuit, smiled at his Mom and ask him how his day was at school. He remembered watching his Dad smear butter and jelly on that ugly burned biscuit. His father ate every bite of that dry charcoal tasting biscuit...never made a face nor uttered a word about it!

When his Dad got up from the table that evening, He said he remembered hearing his Mother apologize to for burning the biscuits. The answer was the lesson. His father replied "Honey, I love burned biscuits every now and then."

Later that night, he and his father were alone and he asked him if he really liked his biscuits burned. His father told him, "Your Mom put in a hard day at work today and she's real tired. And besides--a little burned biscuit never hurt anyone!"

As I've grown older, I've thought about that many times.

God must be pretty tired of my burnt biscuits by now, because I fail him often and fall down on the path of goodness. It is in the getting up and moving forward that we find his grace.

I've learned over the years that learning to accept each other's faults and choosing to celebrate each other's differences is one of the most important keys to creating a healthy, growing, and lasting relationship. That may be within your family, or with your friends and colleagues at work.

And that's my prayer for you today...that you will learn to take the good, the bad, and the ugly parts of your life and lay them at the feet of God. Because in the end, He's the only One who will be able to give you a relationship where a burnt biscuit isn't a deal-breaker!

So, please pass me a biscuit, and yes, the burned one will do just fine.