



# Summer Blockbuster Reading Challenge

3 months—4 Gospels—Go!

## MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2022



### Take your Pulse

What outfit gives you great joy to wear?

What article of clothing do you hate wearing?

### Today's Reading

Matthew Chapter 27

Here are the stories we commonly associate with the day “Good Friday,” with a brief few sentences describing an event on “Holy Saturday.” The public trial with Pilate moves quickly, Pilate is very uninterested in the whole affair. He really just wants to keep the city calm. So, he releases the prisoner of their choice, and makes them happy with a crucifixion to watch. Death was a big spectacle sport in ancient Roman Empire times. So most were not horrified by these events. It was just another day under the rule of a cruel, oppressive empire. Another would be insurrectionist captured and given what the empire says he deserves has met his end.



### Start the Thinking

There is a certain inevitability that the Gospel story sets up as we come to the crucifixion of Jesus. He says he could call on the angels to save him, but he doesn't. He stands silently in the midst of an unfair overnight trial, he refuses to answer the Roman governor. He, who raised even a little girl to life, refused to leave the cross. Why?



### Conversing with God

God of the torturous cross, the reason for Jesus to die remains a mystery, yet through his death and resurrection, you affirm your love for all time and open the way to everlasting life for all. Grant us such faith as to not need answers, but only to trust in the Good News that Jesus who was crucified is now risen, and so shall we. In Jesus' holy name we pray. Amen



### Be blessed

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine brightly upon you that you experience all God's grace. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen