

what is your calling this holy week?

a sermon preached on

Palm Sunday of the Passion of our Lord

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ANGLICAN CHURCH CAMBERWELL

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the lections: Mark 14:1-15:27

As I have been saying this Lent, the passion and death of Christ is not a mere historical token of remembrance. We are not here for historical re-enactment. This is not a history play. Indeed, the only 'remembrance' that matters is the ongoing death and resurrection of Christ in you and me – in all humankind.

This week we are invited again into an initiation into the deepest truth of Being – the deepest truth of our being. "One must become as dead in order to see the heart of things."¹ This is the astonishing Paschal Mystery. Each of us is being called to ever more deeply undergo this Paschal Mystery.

So, what is *your* calling this Holy Week?

What is the particular aspect of Christ crucified, which you are being called to keep your eyes fixed on? What is it for you, at this particular time, that must fall into the ground and die with Christ?² What is the unique suffering of Christ which you alone are able to reproduce in your flesh?³ What is the affliction which Christ invites you and you alone to complete?⁴

What is the 'death of Jesus' which you must carry within you?⁵ What is the cross which *you* are called to bear?⁶ What is the cup that Christ invites you to drink – and which, like him, only you can consent to drink to its last dregs?⁷

What is the dark, silent, emptiness – where there are no words⁸ – which this Holy Week you alone can willingly enter?

What is the betrayal which you must endure,⁹ the abandonment which only you can face and transcend?¹⁰ What part of you is at risk of falling asleep to this call?¹¹

What is the unique daughter or son-ship of God, that can only be enfleshed and made known in you?¹²

So, what is *your* calling this Holy Week?

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¹ Ilia Delio, *The Emergent Christ: Exploring the Meaning of Catholic in an Evolutionary Cosmos*, Maryknoll: Orbis, 2011, p134.
² John 12:24
³ Philippians 3:10
⁴ Colossians 1:24
⁵ 2 Corinthians 4:10
⁶ Luke 9:32
⁷ Mark 14:36
⁸ Mark 14:61, 15:5
⁹ Mark 14:66-72
¹⁰ Mark 15:34
¹¹ Mark 14:38
¹² Mark 15:39