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Today, Good Friday, the organ does not sound. No bells are permitted to peal. Only the human voice can express the lamentations our liturgy demands. Here are some musical traditions to accompany us amid the dread.

From King's College, Palestrina's "Stabat Mater":

Jessye Norman sings "Were You There?"

Also, from King's College, "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" by J.S. Bach:

A blessed triduum to one and all.

[Michael Sean Winters covers the nexus of religion and politics for NCR.]

**Editor's note:** Don't miss out on Michael Sean Winters' latest: [Sign up to receive free newsletters](#), and we'll notify you when he publishes new [Distinctly Catholic](#) columns.

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