

HOLY WEEK LITURGY SCHEDULE 2019

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (April 13th/14th)

Today is the last Sunday of Lent and the beginning of Holy Week, the most solemn week of the Church year. **“On this day the Church celebrates Christ’s entrance into Jerusalem to accomplish his paschal mystery”** (Roman Missal). As the community of believers and followers of the Lord, we enter into Jerusalem with Christ and into our final preparation for the Easter feast in the company of all the faithful throughout the world. The Church continues the ancient custom of remembering this event at every Mass on Palm Sunday with a procession of liturgical ministers carrying palm branches through the church, the blessing of palms, and a blessing of all who keep this solemn day holy. Once the procession is completed, there is a dramatic shift in focus from Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem to his redemptive suffering in his passion and death.

HOLY THURSDAY MASS OF THE LORD’S SUPPER (April 18th, 7:00pm)

The Liturgy of Holy Thursday recalls and remembers the Last Supper and the roots of the Eucharist that form us into the body of Christ. **We are reminded of our baptismal call and commitment to give our hearts to God and our lives to others in loving service through the beautiful and powerful sign of the Washing of Feet. As Jesus, our Lord has done for us, so too must we do for one another.**

Please bring your filled Lenten Rice Bowls to the evening mass. The sacrificial monies that you have saved throughout Lent will be taken up during the collection at the Preparation of the Gifts and sent to Catholic Relief Services to help feed the hungry of the world.

At the conclusion of our liturgy, **the Blessed Sacrament will be carried in procession through the church and to the St. Joseph Chapel for Solemn Adoration until 10:00pm.** Come spend some time in prayer, meditation and quiet watching and waiting with the Lord.

We also invite you to a time of fellowship and light refreshments, sponsored by our Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist community, with your faith family in the social hall immediately following our liturgy.

GOOD FRIDAY DAYTIME OBSERVANCE (April 19th)

The Church will be open during the day for private prayer and meditation. We invite you to prayerfully view the DVD dramatic presentation of **“THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST” at 12:30pm** in the social hall. The **STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be celebrated in the church at 3:00pm.**

GOOD FRIDAY EVENING CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S PASSION (7:00pm)

The Good Friday Liturgy is part of the **“Triduum,”** a unitive feast celebrated over three days. According to the Church’s ancient tradition, the Eucharistic sacrifice (the Mass), is not celebrated today anywhere in the world. **We gather on this evening to remember and commemorate the passion and death of our Lord with a Liturgy of the Word.** In the Gospel of John we hear of Jesus’ triumph on the cross and of his victory over sin and death. **We venerate the Wood of the Cross,** now become for us the **Tree of Life,** and whose saving power is still at work in us and in our lives today.

The Congregation is invited to come forward and make an act of reverence such as a genuflection, a kiss, a bow, or the simple gesture of touching the Cross. We conclude this solemn celebration with the **reception of Holy Communion**. As Jesus poured out his life on the cross, so he calls us to follow in his footsteps by courageously taking up and carrying our own crosses in union with him.

A Collection for the preservation of the Holy Land Shrines and for the support of the poor in the place of Jesus' birth will be taken up at this liturgy.

HOLY SATURDAY DAY (April 20th)

There are no liturgical services celebrated anywhere in the world during the morning or afternoon hours on this day. Holy Communion may be distributed, during those hours, but only as **"Viaticum"** (food for the journey), to the dying.

HOLY SATURDAY NIGHT: THE EASTER VIGIL CELEBRATION (8:00pm)

The Easter Vigil is the culmination of the sacred Paschal Triduum, the holiest and most exalted of all the Church's liturgical celebrations. The Church keeps watch, awaiting the Resurrection of the Lord and celebrating his new and risen life in Word and Sacrament. On this most holy night death was vanquished forever and life became victorious; the world was redeemed and set free by the unconditional love of the Father, in Jesus, for the sake of us all. The Vigil takes place after nightfall beginning with the **SERVICE OF LIGHT**, a special ritual of the blessing the new Easter fire, the lighting of the Paschal (Easter) Candle and the proclamation of Christ as our Light and the Light of the world (the Exultet).

In the readings of the LITURGY OF THE WORD the church meditates on the wonders that God has done for God's people throughout all of salvation history when we were chosen by God to be God's own. The **Gloria is joyously sung once again** and the Resurrection of Christ, the Lord, is proclaimed in the Gospel reading.

The **SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION**, (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist) and the Rite of Reception into the Full Communion of the Church will be celebrated with those who have been preparing for this holiest of nights through the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and Children**.

The Assembly will renew their baptismal promises and be sprinkled with the newly blessed Easter water. Then with the whole Church, our Holy Trinity family gathers with the Church's newest members around the Eucharistic table prepared for them, and for us, by the Lord. The newly baptized are now called **"Neophytes"**, as they begin this first day of the rest of their lives walking with the Lord as Roman Catholic Christians.

EASTER SUNDAY: SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION (April 21st)

Masses will be celebrated at their usual times: 8:00am, 9:45am, 11:30am, and 4:00pm (Spanish).