

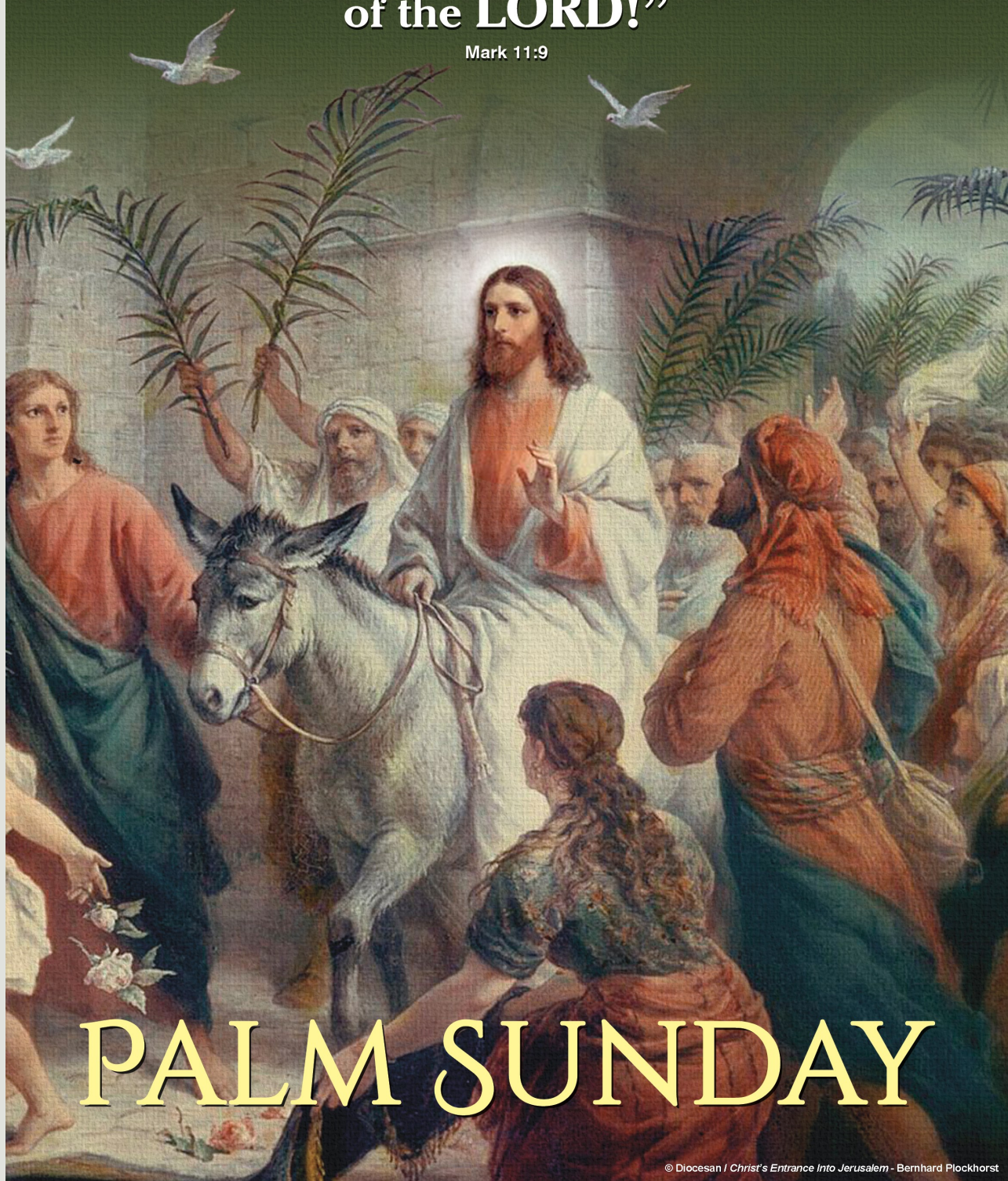
Saint Peter Church

4 South 5th Street • Coplay, Pennsylvania 18037



**“Blessed is He who comes in the name
of the LORD!”**

Mark 11:9



SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024

PALM SUNDAY



PARISH STAFF

PASTOR: Rev. Msgr. David L. James V.G., J.C.L.
PASTORS EMERITI: Rev. Msgr. John J. Martin
Rev. Msgr. William E. Handges
PERMANENT DEACON: Mr. Thomas Reimer
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Mrs. Lina Abi-Samra
FINANCE MANAGER: Mrs. Michelle Ahern
DIRECTOR OF REL. ED.: Mrs. Linda Johnson

MASS SCHEDULE: DAILY: 8 A.M. ~ Chapel (*except Monday & Saturday*)

Saturday Evening: 4:00 P.M. Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Holy Days: 8:00 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.

PENANCE: Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 P.M. and by appointment

During Advent and Lent, Communal Penance Services are celebrated.

BAPTISM: Contact the rectory for an appointment.

Baptism is scheduled on Sunday following the 10:30 A.M. Mass

Parents may be required to attend a preparatory instruction in the rectory.

MARRIAGE: Couples should contact the parish priest at least 1 year but no later than 6 months prior to the intended wedding date. Weddings are on Saturday between 10A.M. and 1P.M.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Notify the rectory when someone becomes seriously ill, or weak due to old age, so that the person might receive this Sacrament.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND: The priest & Deacons perform this service monthly. Notify us when someone wishes to be visited.

HOSPITALIZED: Alert us whenever someone has to be hospitalized, especially when their admission is an emergency. The parish identification number is #171.

PARISH REGISTRATION: New members should make an appointment with the pastor.

HIGH SCHOOL: Allentown Central Catholic, 4th & Chew Sts., Allentown 18102; Phone 610-437-4601

ELEMENTARY: Good Shepherd Catholic School, 1300 Newport Ave., Northampton, PA 18067
phone: 610-262-9171 Mrs. Susan Parker, M.Ed. Principal

CCD PROGRAM: Classes conducted at the Holy Apostles Catholic Education Center,
3008 Ruch St., Whitehall, PA 18052

The program is from September to the end of April.

These classes are necessary for eligibility to receive the Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist and Confirmation.

Contact Mrs. Linda Johnson at 610-261-0144

BEQUESTS: Please remember St. Peter Church in your Last Will & Testament.

IN MEMORIAM FUND: After the death of a family member you are invited to have that person's name commemorated on the Church Plaque by suggesting that memorial offerings be donated to the Church in memory of the deceased person.

DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE Wendy Krisak, Direct Telephone 1-800-791-9209 Email: victimassistance@allentowndioocese.org

DIOCESAN SAFE ENVIRONMENT Pamela Russo, MSW, MS 610-871-5200, Ext. 2204 Email: pruso@allentowndioocese.org

CATHOLIC BISHOP ABUSE REPORTING SERVICE If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.



www.stpeterchurchcoplay.com



info@stpetersrccoplay.com



610.262.2417



610.262.2652

Mission Statement

We, as a Catholic parish under the patronage of Saint Peter, are a Eucharistic family, centered in prayer and worship, dedicated to self-sacrificing stewardship, and journeying together, Spirit-inspired, to the heavenly Kingdom.



Sunday March 24th Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Mk 11:1-10; Is 50:4-7; Phil2:6-11;
Mk 14:1—15:47

8:00 AM Richard Kropf
10:30 AM Holy Name Society

Monday March 25th Monday of Holy Week

Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11

8:00 AM No Morning Mass

Tuesday March 26th Tuesday of Holy Week

Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

8:00 AM Michael Cesanek

Wednesday March 27th Wednesday of Holy Week

Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25

8:00AM Louis Stumpf

Thursday March 28th Holy Thursday

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; 1Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

8:00 AM No Morning Mass
6:30 PM Michael and Helen Honshiko

Friday March 29th Friday of the Passion of the Lord

Is 52:13—53:12; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9;
Jn 15:1—19:42

8:00AM No Morning Mass
12:00PM Stations of the Cross
3:00PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion
7:00PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday March 30th Holy Saturday

Gn 1:1—2:2; 1:1,26-31a; Gn 22:1-18; 22:1-2, 9a,
10-13, 15-18; Ex 14:15—15-1; Is 54:5-14; Is 55:1-
11; Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28;
Rom 6:3-11; Mk 16:1-7

Confessions: No Confessions

Vigil Mass

8:00 PM Theresa Flisak

Sunday March 31st Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

8:00 AM Dorothea Duncan
10:30AM Easter Envelope Remembrances

Stewardship Corner

Sunday Collection Week of Sunday 3/17
Basket collection \$4829.00 plus online \$652.00
Please continue your weekly or monthly giving to our parish. Your contributions are vital in order for us to meet our obligations. If unable to attend Mass, kindly send your envelopes through the mail or drop them in the rectory mail slot.
Your **support** to your parish is critical.
I thank you for your kind and generous response.
Please be assured that you and your family are always in my prayers
Monsignor James



Online Giving

****Start giving online today!****
Visit our parish website at
<https://www.stpeterchurchcoplay.com>
Click on the online giving link
Create an account.
Schedule your recurring gifts



Flame of Love

On Tuesday, March 26th 2024



Holy Hour

Wednesday, March 27th at 6pm



**DEVOTIONAL LAMP
Sanctuary Light**

Will burn in memory of
James Handwerk.
Offered by Evelyn Handwerk



PRAYER GROUP

If you would like your name or the name of a family member to be added to the list please call the office at 610.262.2417

Office Closing

In celebration of the Lord's Resurrection, the office will be closed on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Monday

Happy
Easter !!





Catholic Leadership
INSTITUTE

Please use the link below to complete the survey.

<https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/byt3d5>

If you have any questions please call the rectory at 610.262.2417

Hard copies will be available at the rectory and the Church vestibule.

Please return your hard copies before April 11, 2024.

The online survey is due no later than March 27, 2024

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

During Holy Week, confessions will be heard on Tuesday, March 26, between 8:30 and 9:30AM

And

Wednesday, March 27, beginning at 6:15 during Holy Hour.

This is your last chance before Easter!

CEREAL COLLECTION

It is that time again, we will be collecting boxes of Cereal (hot and cold) in support of Whitehall-Coplay Hunger Initiative. Containers are located in the main vestibule and the elevator vestibule. This collection will take place on the last weekend of each month.



A LENTEN SERIES

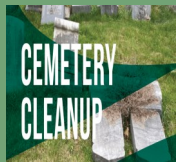
Topic for Wednesday, March 27
Why Did Christ Have to Die, Part 2,
Christ's Death in the Plan of Salvation.

COPLAY FOOD PANTRY

Containers will be in the vestibule until March 26th. Thank you to all who donated. God Bless you all for all the good you do!



CEMETERY SPRING CLEAN UP



To Prepare for Easter please remove the following No later than 3/24

- Out of season, faded, soiled arrangements.
- wires, balloons, glass, plastic objects, knick-knacks.
- Broken, weathered, vigil lamps; Christmas wreaths & arrangements are to be removed as well.
- Those remaining will be removed by the cemetery personnel and discarded.

GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

We invite all families and friends to join us Monday, March 25th at 1pm at Queenship of Mary Church for our 8th Grade Living Stations.

First Grade will present Living Stations on Wednesday, March 27 at 1:30pm at Queenship of Mary Church.

Congratulations to our 5th – 8th Grade students that earned Principals List, 1st Honors & 2nd Honors! GSCS will be closed March 28th – April 2nd. School will reopen April 3rd.

We are selling Family Prayer Cards. Each card is \$5.00. You can enroll deceased family members or friends, or someone for health and blessings. Prayer cards are available for purchase during school hours, and before and after our school Masses. They will be acknowledged in the following ways: A votive candle will be lit in their honor. Their name will be written in our intention book. They will be remembered every day in the prayers of all the children during morning Prayer, and at every School Mass.



Holy Apostles RE

610.261.0144 or holyapostlesre@holyapostlesre.org

Office Fall Hours: M-Th 3-8PM; closed Fridays

March 18 Stations of the Cross at Holy Trinity Church at 6pm All classes attend

3/20 No Classes, Easter Break until 4/01

3/23 First Communion Retreat at St. Peter 9-12

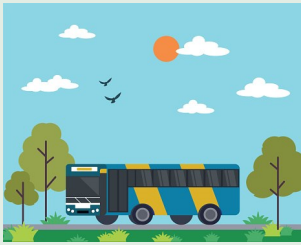


RICE BOWL

The Rice Bowl Collection ends with Good Friday. Please return your Rice Bowl offerings on the weekend of April 6-7.

If you are returning the Rice Bowl box, please remember to write your name and envelope number on it. Rice Bowl boxes should be placed on the table inside the altar rail. Rice Bowl envelopes can be placed in the collection basket. Thank you for your generous support on behalf of the world's poor and hungry.

ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY



will be hosting their annual bus trip to visit the Missionary Sisters in Reading on 4/14. The bus leaves Saint Peter at 12 Noon. This trip is open to all parishioners and the

cost is covered by the Altar and Rosary Society. Collection bins will be in the vestibules beginning March 30th. We are in need of snacks, candies, stationery, stamps, facial tissues, soaps & lotions. Seats are limited, if you are interested please call Debbie at 610.462.4687 or Marie at 267.890.9828 to reserve your seat.

Our next meeting will be held on April 21st following the 8AM Mass.

All are welcome.

BECAUSE WE ARE CATHOLIC

The Because We Are Catholic goal for 2023 for Saint Peter Parish was \$45,867.00. Your generous support raised \$47,895.00 exceeding our goal by \$2,028.00

The parish received a rebate check for \$507.00 or 25% of the amount raised over the goal.

Again thank you for your support. The 2024 BWAC Campaign opens after Easter, our goal remains unchanged for 2024.

Diocesan
ALTAR SERVER
Mass



SATURDAY **13** 11AM
2024

The Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena
Allentown, Pennsylvania

CONVENT UPDATE

As you all know by now, we are in the process of cleaning the convent and getting ready to start the renovation to bring it up to code and ready for the sisters to move in.

Parishioners are welcome to take any of the items on the side porch for free.

Any questions please call the office at 610.262.2417

SPONSORED BY THE NFP TASK FORCE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BISHOP'S COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

mother-daughter TEA



Lillian Fallon

AUTHOR OF "THEOLOGY OF STYLE:
EXPRESSING THE UNIQUE &
UNREPEATABLE YOU"

MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS (AGE 9-13) ARE INVITED
TO SPEND AN AFTERNOON CELEBRATING THE
GIFT OF FEMININITY!

FEATURING PRESENTATIONS ON THE PHYSICAL AND
EMOTIONAL CHANGES GIRLS EXPERIENCE AND
EMPOWERING TIPS ON MODESTY, VIRTUE,
AND PERSONAL STYLE.

DAUGHTERS ARE WELCOME TO INVITE OTHER
SPECIAL WOMEN IN THEIR LIFE.

\$25 PER FAMILY



Kathleen Chovanes

FERTILITY AWARENESS EDUCATOR

RSVP APRIL 7



SUNDAY | 28 APRIL | 1-4PM

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH HALL
1046 W. CEDAR STREET, ALLENTOWN, PA 18102
CONTACT: KOSENBACH@ALLENTOWNDIOCESE.ORG

The Triduum

THE JOURNEY OF OUR REDEMPTION

The Paschal *Triduum*, or “three days” in Latin, holds deep significance for Catholics as it commemorates Christ’s journey through death, burial, and resurrection to new life. This sacred observance is regarded as a single, unified event with three distinct parts, each rich in meaning:

HOLY THURSDAY:

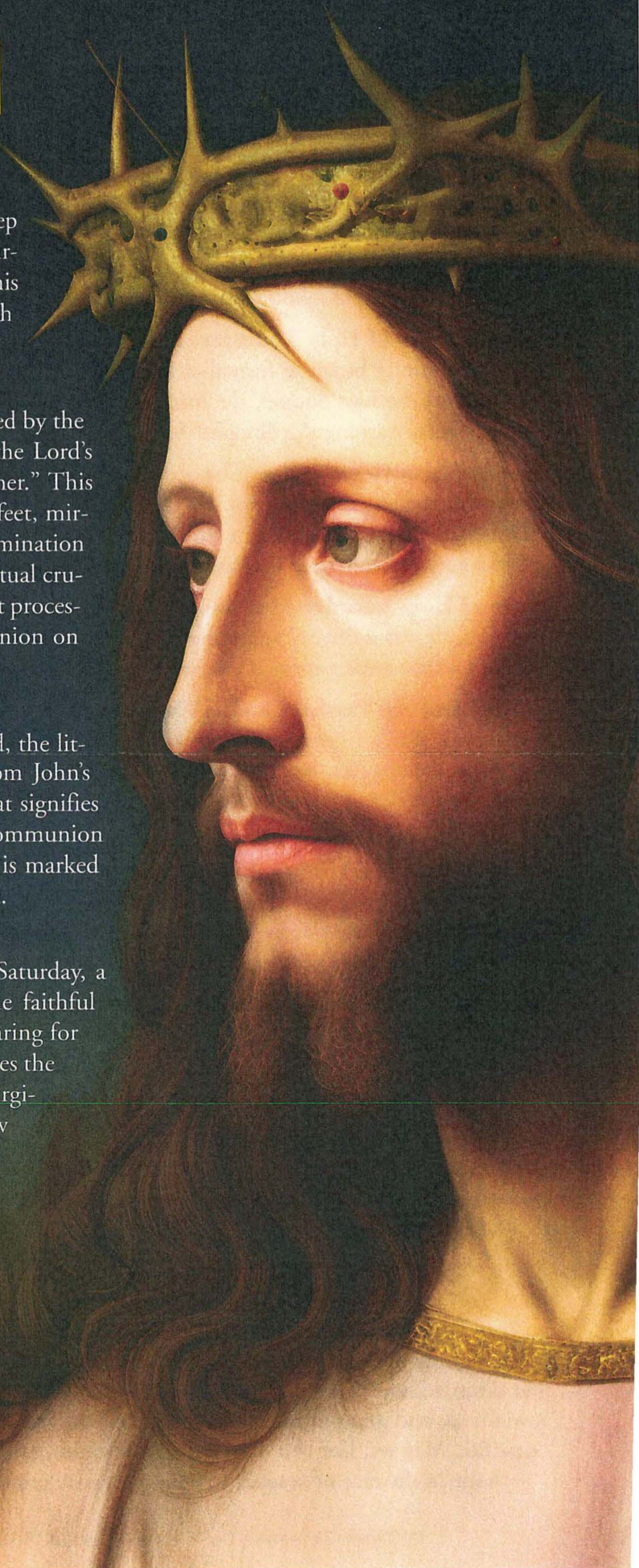
The Triduum commences on Holy Thursday, a day marked by the profound act of Christ’s self-gift. The evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper symbolizes Christ’s command to “love one another.” This divine love is tangibly represented in the washing of the feet, mirroring Jesus’ humility and service to his disciples. The culmination of this love is witnessed in the Eucharist and Christ’s eventual crucifixion on Calvary. The liturgy concludes with a poignant procession as consecrated hosts are reserved for Holy Communion on Good Friday, emphasizing the real presence of Christ.

GOOD FRIDAY:

On Good Friday, there is no celebration of Mass. Instead, the liturgy centers on the reading of the Passion narrative from John’s Gospel. The congregation venerates the Cross, an act that signifies deep reverence for Christ’s sacrifice, and receives Holy Communion from the hosts consecrated on Holy Thursday. This day is marked by introspection and contemplation of the crucified Lord.

EASTER VIGIL:

The anticipation of the Resurrection unfolds on Holy Saturday, a day that reverberates with the silence of the tomb. The faithful meditate on the profound meaning of Jesus’ death, preparing for the climactic Easter Vigil in the evening, which inaugurates the Easter celebration. This vigil is the pinnacle of the liturgical year, characterized by the dramatic lighting of the new fire, the blessing of the Paschal candle, and the *Exsultet* Easter proclamation within the candlelit church. The narrative of salvation is recounted through Scripture readings, culminating in the joyful return of the “Alleluia” in the Gospel. After the homily, the Church celebrates the Sacrament of Baptism and the renewal of baptismal promises, underscoring the theme of rebirth and new life. The Paschal Triduum officially concludes with evening prayer on Easter Sunday, but the Easter Season continues to captivate the faithful for a full 50 days, radiating the profound wonder of the Resurrection.



ORIGINS OF THE TRIDUUM CELEBRATION

The origins of the Triduum celebration have deep historical roots in early Christianity, evolving into the structured observance we know today. Here's a more detailed historical account:

Early Christian Observances (1st-2nd Century): In the early Christian era, there was a continuous tradition of commemorating the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus during Holy Week. The Last Supper, Crucifixion, and Resurrection were central themes in the lives of early believers, and the events of Holy Week were marked by intense prayer and fasting.

The Development of Holy Thursday: By the 3rd and 4th centuries, the Christian community began to formalize its observance of Maundy Thursday, focusing on the Last Supper, the institution of the Eucharist, and the humility of Christ washing the disciples' feet.

The Emergence of Good Friday: The observance of Good Friday as a distinct day of mourning and reflection on the Crucifixion took shape in the early Christian communities. By the 4th and 5th centuries, the veneration of the Cross and the reading of the Passion narrative became central features.

Evolution of Holy Saturday: Holy Saturday developed as a day of expectation and vigil. It was a time of reflecting on Christ's descent into the realm of the dead and the anticipation of the Resurrection.

Easter Vigil and the Paschal Candle: The Easter Vigil, which heralds the Resurrection of Christ, became a more structured celebration by the 4th century. Key elements like the lighting of the Paschal candle, the blessing of water, and the *Exsultet*, a joyful proclamation of Christ's Resurrection, were introduced.

Council of Nicaea and Liturgical Development: The First Council of Nicaea in 325 AD addressed various aspects of Christian practice and worship, but the Triduum itself was not formalized. The development of these liturgical practices occurred over time and through local customs.

Medieval Period and Liturgical Reforms: During the medieval period, the observance of the Triduum became more elaborate and consistent across various Christian communities. Liturgical reforms (Vatican II) and additions in the Middle Ages enhanced the structure and solemnity of the Triduum.

Today, the Triduum stands as the pinnacle of the Christian liturgical year. It remains a powerful expression of faith, hope, and the core beliefs of Christianity, uniting believers in the profound mysteries of Jesus Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

A TRIDUUM PRAYER

Lord Jesus, as we enter into these sacred days of the Triduum, we humbly walk with you on your journey of suffering, death, and ultimate resurrection. Help us to understand the depth of your love for us, and grant us the grace to embrace the cross as a path to new life. May we, like you, find strength in moments of trial and hope in the face of despair. In your name, we pray. Amen.

TRIDUUM CUSTOMS

The Triduum is marked by a variety of customs and rituals observed worldwide. Here are some key customs that may be celebrated in your local parish:

Washing of the Feet (Holy Thursday): Many parishes participate in the tradition of washing the feet, following Jesus' example of humility when he washed the feet of his disciples at the Last Supper.

Stripping of the Altar (Holy Thursday): After Mass on Holy Thursday, the altar is stripped bare, symbolizing the desolation of Christ's impending Passion.

Adoration of the Cross (Good Friday): On Good Friday, the faithful often venerate the Cross, either by kissing or genuflecting. This act of reverence serves as a powerful reminder of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross. **Stations of the Cross** are particularly appropriate on Good Friday by calling to mind the steps in Christ's journey to Calvary.

Easter Fire and Lighting of the Paschal Candle (Easter Vigil): The Easter Vigil begins with the lighting of a new fire, symbolizing the light of Christ overcoming darkness. From this fire, the Paschal Candle is lit, symbolizing the risen Christ. The candle is then processed into the darkened church, and individual candles may be lit from it.

Baptism and Confirmation (Easter Vigil): The Easter Vigil is traditionally a time for the initiation of new members into the Church through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. The baptized often renew their promises during the Easter Vigil, reaffirming their commitment to the faith.

Easter Vigil Readings (Easter Vigil) follow the story of salvation from God's creation of the world, the sparing of Noah and his family from the flood and the deliverance of God's people from Egypt to the Gospel accounts of Jesus rising from the grave.

Easter Sunday Sunrise Services: Many parishes gather for sunrise services on Easter Sunday, celebrating the Resurrection as the sun rises. These services often include joyful hymns and the proclamation of the Resurrection.