

PASCHAL TRIDUUM

Welcome to St. Patrick's Church, and welcome to our celebrations of Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. "Through his Paschal Mystery, the Lord Jesus redeemed the human race and gave perfect glory to the Father. By dying, Christ destroyed our death; by rising, he restored our life. For this reason, the Easter Triduum... is the high point of the Liturgical Year." (ORDO 2021)

This booklet is intended to help you follow along with all of our Masses and Services during this Holy Week - Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday.

Holy Thursday



Tonight, we celebrate the Institution of the Eucharist, the Institution of the Priesthood, and Christ's commandment of love. During the Gloria, the first time it has been sung since the beginning of Lent, the church bells are rung. They will then remain silent until the Easter Vigil on Saturday.

The Washing of the Feet is a representation of the service and charity of Christ.

After Communion and the final prayer, the Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist is carried, accompanied by candles, to the place of reposition. This reminds us of Christ's entrance at the Passover, the time He endures suffering and death.

You are encouraged to continue adoration before the Blessed Sacrament for as long as feels suitable, until midnight. When leaving the church, please do so quietly and in a prayerful manner.

Tomorrow, Good Friday, is a day of fasting and abstinence from eating meat.

Readings:

1st Reading: Exodus 12.1-8, 11-14

These are the instructions for the Passover meal.

Psalm: Ps 116

✠R. Our blessing cup is a communion with the blood of Christ; and the bread we break, it is a sharing in the body of the Lord.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 11.23-26

As often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Gospel: John 13.1-15

Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.



"Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body.' And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.'" (Matthew 26.26-28)

Good Friday

Good Friday is the only day of the year on which Mass is not celebrated. The altar is bare, without cloths, candles, or cross. On this and the following day, by a most ancient tradition, the Church does not celebrate the Sacraments at all, except for Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick. Our service this afternoon is composed of three parts: **Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion.**

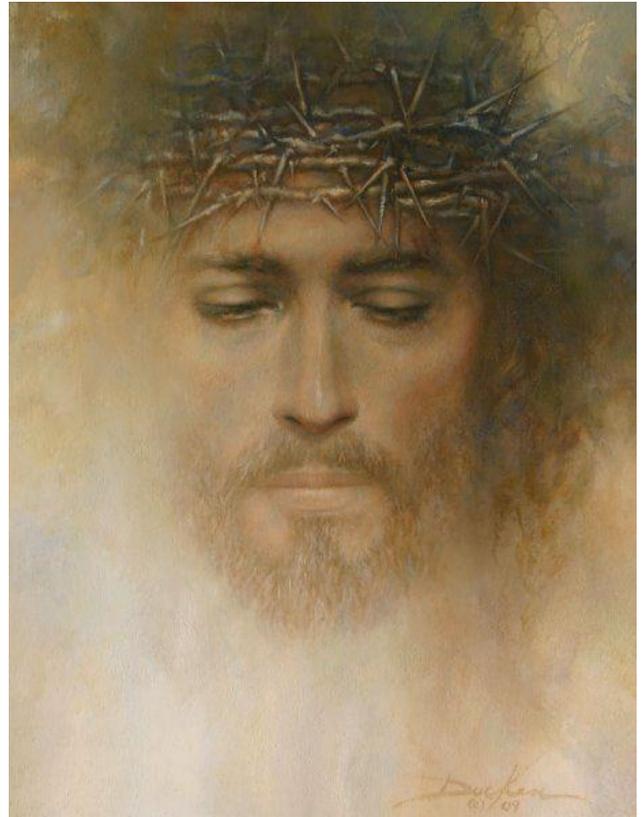
The liturgy of Good Friday recalls graphically the passion and death of Jesus. We will proclaim the account of the Passion of our Lord according to St. John.

The Solemn General Intercessions conclude the Liturgy of the Word.

After the Liturgy of the Word, we venerate the Cross on which Christ died for us. We will remain in our pews and make a solemn bow.

The last part of today's service is receiving Holy Communion. We receive the Eucharist which was consecrated last night at the Mass of the Lord's Supper.

After the prayer over the people for blessing, please depart in silence.



Paschal Fast

The Church of God fasts today and tomorrow to honour the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare to share more deeply in the joy of his resurrection.

Good Friday is a universal day of fasting and abstinence from meat. (ORDO 2021)

Readings:

1st Reading: Isaiah 52.13-53.12

The servant of the Lord was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities.

Psalm: Ps 31

♪R. Father, I put my life in your hands.

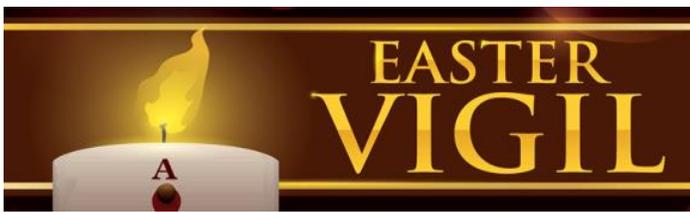
2nd Reading: Hebrews 4.14-16; 5.7-9

Christ learned obedience through what he suffered, and became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

Gospel: John 18.1-19.42

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Good Friday is such a powerful day; we venerate the sign which is central to our faith - the cross, because on it the sinless one experienced the fullest emptying of himself, the fullest sharing in what it is to be human, to enter the darkness of death. It is the ultimate 'submission' (as the second reading says), by which the suffering servant 'is made perfect'. By this death, our high priest feels 'our weaknesses with us', and leads each of us by the hand through our own death to the liberation we shall celebrate tomorrow. The cross is thus triumphant, a victory sign."



St. Augustine said that the Easter Vigil, the night when Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, is to be considered the 'mother of all vigils.' During this night the people of God keep watch as they await the resurrection of the Lord and celebrate it in the sacraments of initiation" (ORDO 2021). The Easter Vigil is the most important celebration of the Church year. This celebration takes place during the dark hours of night, and has four distinct parts:

Part One

Lucernarium, or the Service of Light! The paschal candle is lit from a new fire and carried into the darkened church, as "the light of Christ" is proclaimed three times. The ancient chant, the Exsultet, rejoices at the present reality of God's deliverance and the blessings of salvation through the Passover of Christ.

Part Two

The Liturgy of the Word! The sequence of Old Testament readings and psalms recalls the history of the Jewish covenant leading up to Christ.

These readings cover the time from creation to the promise of the final gathering of God's people, interpreted through the central experience of the Exodus.

Part Three

Christian Initiation! Our baptism into the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus is the centre of tonight's celebration. In each parish, water for baptism is solemnly blessed. Catechumens who have been preparing over a long period of time now reject Satan, profess their faith in Christ, and are baptized, confirmed, and nourished with the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Christ. The rest of the people renew their baptismal promises and are sprinkled with the blessed water in memory of their baptism. This night is celebrated as the baptismal anniversary of the whole Christian community.

Part Four

The Eucharist! Tonight, the first Mass of Easter is celebrated with great splendour. We rejoice because Christ has risen from the dead and because we are renewed with Him. We will share Jesus' victory over death and live with Him forever in God.

Holy Saturday

Readings:

1st Reading: Genesis 1.1-2.2

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

Psalm: Ps 104

℟. Lord, send out your spirit and renew the face of the earth.

2nd Reading: Exodus 14.15-31; 15.20, 1

The children of Israel went forth into the sea on dry ground.

Psalm: Psalm 96 (Exodus 15)

℟. Let us sing to the Lord, he has covered himself in glory.

3rd Reading: Ezekiel 36.16-17a, 18-28

I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and a new heart I will give you.

Psalm: Ps 42

℟. Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul is longing for you; thirsting for you, my God.

Epistle: Romans 6.3-11

Christ, raised from the dead, will never die again.

Gospel: Mark 16. 1-8

Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified; he has been raised up.

"Easter is the original feast, and this vigil is 'the mother of all vigils'. It is thus the most solemn, special, and sacred celebration of the whole liturgical year. Tonight we welcome the risen Christ by using symbols of fire, light, water, bread and wine, and we know that he is with us. More than ever he is present in his celebrated word, as in the light of his rising we review God's eternal plan of salvation, prefigured in the history of ancient Israel, achieved in the rising of the eternal Word, and present in the Sacraments of the Church. Our preparation for this feast must be sincere and faithfully done - because this is the feast which most clearly celebrates who we are as the holy people of God, gathered in the light of Christ by the power of the Spirit." (www.salfordliturgy.org.uk/holysaturday)





Easter Sunday



Readings:

1st Reading: Acts 10.34a, 37-43

We ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

Psalm: Ps 118

℟. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad!

2nd Reading: Colossians 3.1-4

Seek the things that are above, where Christ is.

Gospel: John 20.1-18

According to the Scripture: Jesus must rise from the dead.



Today we celebrate the highest point of our Church's year - the Resurrection of our Lord! As our psalm today suggests, "Let us rejoice and be glad!"

The Easter Candle is a reminder of the presence of the risen Christ among the people of God, and remains in the sanctuary near the altar or ambo until Pentecost Sunday. It is lit during baptisms and funerals throughout the year.

The seven weeks from Easter to Pentecost are celebrated as one great Feast Day. St. Athanasius called them "the great Sunday". (ORDO 2021)

"In the resurrection, Christ rolled back the stone of the tomb, but he wants also to break down all the walls that keep us locked in our sterile pessimism, in our carefully constructed ivory towers that isolate us from life, in our compulsive need for security and in boundless ambition that can make us compromise the dignity of others.

When the High Priest and the religious leaders, in collusion with the Romans, believed that they could calculate everything, that the final word had been spoken and that it was up to them to apply it, God suddenly breaks in, upsets all the rules and offers new possibilities. God once more comes to meet us, to create and consolidate a new age, the age of mercy. This is the promise present from the beginning. This is God's surprise for his faithful people. Rejoice! Hidden within your life is a seed of resurrection, an offer of life ready to be awakened.

Let us go... to proclaim, to share, to reveal that it is true: the Lord is alive! He is living and he wants to rise again in all those faces that have buried hope, buried dreams, buried dignity.

Let us go, then. Let us allow ourselves to be surprised by this new dawn and by the newness that Christ alone can give. May we allow his tenderness and his love to guide our steps. May we allow the beating of his heart to quicken our faintness of heart."

-Pope Francis, Easter Vigil 2017

A Special Thanks...

To the many volunteers who contributed their time and talent during this Easter Season. Thank you to our Music Ministry, Decorators, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Sacristans, Ushers, and all of our Safety Volunteers that assisted with the celebration of Holy Mass.

Your dedication is so greatly appreciated. Thank you to all our parishioners and visitors for celebrating with us! Thank you to everyone who donated flowers to decorate our church!

Easter Blessings to All!

*He is not here;
he has
Risen!*

Luke 24:6