
LENT — TRIDUUM 2023

LITURGICAL REMINDERS



FUNERALS DURING THE TRIDUUM

Funeral Masses are not permitted on Holy Thursday morning or during the days of the Easter Triduum. On these days, the body of the deceased may be brought to the church and the Funeral Liturgy Outside of Mass may be celebrated (OCF, 177-203). A memorial Mass should be celebrated on a convenient date/time after Easter Sunday.

REMOVING HOLY WATER FROM THE FONTS DURING THE SEASON OF LENT

The removal of holy water from the fountains during the season of Lent is not permitted. Fountains are however, only emptied of holy water on the days of the Sacred Triduum, in preparation of the blessing of the water at the Easter Vigil.

CHRISM MASS TUESDAY, APRIL 4^m 2023

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated by our diocese's Bishop Golka at 12:10 p.m. in the St. Mary Cathedral, in Colorado Springs. The Holy Oils to be used in the sacraments during the remainder of 2023-2024 (until the next Chrism Mass) will be distributed after the Mass to parish ordained ministers.

These oils will then be transported and placed in secure storage at the individual parish and formally processed and received into the local parish for sacramental use during its Holy Thursday liturgy.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK DURING THE TRIDUUM

According to the Church's ancient tradition, the sacraments are not celebrated on Good Friday or during the day on Holy Saturday. The norms of the *Missale Romanum* indicate that only the sacraments of the Anointing of the Sick and Penance are celebrated on Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Holy Communion may be brought at any hour of the day to the sick or homebound; who cannot take part in the service on Good Friday. On Holy Saturday, Holy Communion may be given only as Viaticum by priest(s) to the actively dying during the Last Rites.

HOLY THURSDAY April 6, 2023

According to the Church's ancient tradition, all Masses without a congregation are prohibited on this day. The Mass of the Lord's Supper is celebrated in the evening (Circular Letter Concerning the Preparation and Celebration of the Paschal Feasts, 47). Additional Masses on Holy Thursday are to be permitted by the Ordinary (bishop) only for those in no way able to participate in the evening Mass and not solely for the convenience of individuals or special small groups (*Missale Romanum*, "Rubrics for the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper" (EM, 3) Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy Newsletter, March/April 2003).

FOOT WASHING RITE

Twelve is the preferred number for the washing of feet (men, women or children); however, the number may differ, if a pastoral necessity dictates.

Note: The practice of washing hands in place of the washing of the feet is not permitted. The rite clearly calls for an imitation of Christ, who humbled himself to serve and wash the feet of His apostles at the Last Supper.

ANY type of substitution for the ritual of washing of feet is not permissible.

LENT and TRIDUUM 2023

LITURGICAL REMINDERS

GOOD FRIDAY ***APRIL 7, 2023***

The celebration of the Lord's Passion is to take place in the afternoon, at about or after three o'clock. For pastoral reasons, an appropriate time may be chosen in order to allow the people to assemble more easily, for example, shortly after midday or in the late evening, however, not later than nine o'clock (Circular Letter Concerning the Preparation and Celebration of the Paschal Feasts, 63). Although Stations of the Cross are permitted, they are never to replace nor be given greater prominence than the Celebration of the Lord's Passion. Good Friday, and, if possible, on Holy Saturday until the Easter Vigil, the paschal fast is observed everywhere to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more deeply in his resurrection.

BAPTISMAL GARMENT

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) describes the optional clothing of the neophyte with the baptismal garment immediately following baptism. The most appropriate vesture for neophytes would be a white garment, best in the shape of an alb or choir robe, if possible.



HOLY WEEK

EASTER VIGIL ***APRIL 8, 2023***

"The rubrics of the new Missale Romanum remind us that this 'mother of all vigils' is the 'greatest and most noble of all solemnities and it is to be unique in every single Church' (Missale Romanum, "Rubrics for the Easter Vigil (EV, 2)). Therefore, the Easter Vigil does not correspond to the usual weekend Saturday evening vigil Mass and its character is unique in the cycle of the liturgical year" (Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy Newsletter, January 2003).

The Easter Vigil is not an *anticipated* Mass of Easter. It is a true vigil and, therefore, it may not begin until nightfall.

"... there is to be only one celebration in each church." "The entire celebration of the Easter Vigil must take place during the night, so that it begins after nightfall and ends before daybreak on the Sunday" (Roman Missal #2, #3).

Bishop Golka has instructed pastors therefore, that the 2023 Easter Vigil is not to begin before **8:00 p.m.** at the earliest (i.e., after sunset).

If circumstances seem appropriate, following the Easter Vigil, and at the pastor's discretion, churches may remain open and accessible to the faithful throughout the night for extended vigiling and prayer, however, neither the Easter Vigil itself nor any of its rituals or parts, may be repeated.

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