



HOLY THURSDAY



FAMILY CELEBRATION OF HOLY WEEK AND EASTER TRIDUUM AT HOME

1. During Holy Week the Church celebrates the mysteries of salvation accomplished by Christ in the last days of his life on earth, beginning with his messianic entrance into Jerusalem” (Paschalis Solemnitatis, 27).
2. “The greatest mysteries of the redemption are celebrated yearly by the Church beginning with the evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday until Vespers of Easter Sunday. This time is called “the triduum of the crucified, buried and risen”[42]; it is also called the “Easter Triduum” because the Paschal Mystery is celebrated, that is, the passing of the Lord from this world to his Father. The Church by the celebration of this mystery, through liturgical signs and sacramentals, is united to Christ her Spouse in intimate communion” (Paschalis Solemnitatis, 38).
3. Due to the prohibition of public gatherings during this period of social distancing, we will return to the practice of the early Church of celebrating the liturgy in the homes of Christians. These celebrations are based on the church document; *Celebration of Easter Triduum in the Absence of the Priest and the Directory for Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest*.
4. Priests in their parish churches or chapels will celebrate the liturgy of Holy Week and Easter Triduum without a public gathering. The members of the family may be able to participate in the liturgy through live streaming.
[Live Stream Holy Week Liturgies](#)
5. A member of the family will lead the household in prayer for the evening liturgy of Holy Thursday, the afternoon liturgy of the Good Friday, and the liturgy of Easter Vigil.
6. For the washing of the feet on Holy Thursday a member of the family washes the feet of the other family members. Traditionally, gifts for the poor are brought during the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper. Project Compassion donations collected during the season of Lent can be sent to the Church later if contact is currently not possible. [Caritas Australia](#)
7. On Good Friday the members of the family can venerate their crucifix at home.
8. At the Easter Vigil, the Church keeps watch meditating on the wonderful story of God’s work of creation and salvation,
9. On Easter Sunday the assembly in the absence of a priest renew their baptismal promises. The family Easter candle is lit.

FAMILY CELEBRATIONS OF HOLY WEEK AND EASTER TRIDUUM AT HOME

We are presenting for the benefit of our faithful Family Celebrations of the Holy Week and Easter Triduum with two options.

- a. following the live streaming of celebrations from the cathedral with some suggestions of rituals the members of the family can do at home.

St Mary's Cathedral, Perth [Live Stream Link](#)

- b. prayers/celebrations led by a member of the family following the church document, Easter Triduum Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest.

We reflect back to the experience of the early Church when Christians gathered to worship at home. This is an opportune time to encourage families to pray at home.

For families who opt to follow the live streaming of liturgical celebrations, we encourage you to consider the following activities.

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

1. After following the celebration live stream, a family member washes the feet of the other family members. After which, they pray for each other so that the family will be strengthened and united by the spirit of compassion and service.
2. The family members are encouraged to continue supporting Project Compassion and take their donations to the local church when it will be possible or support a local neighbour in need.
3. Share a family meal.

You may wish to use all or part of this ritual for you at home.

Preparation

Table with a white cloth.

Place on the table:

Candle and matches

Bible

Jug of water, bowl and towel.

EVENING CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The commemoration of the Lord's Supper is the first liturgical action of the Easter Triduum. In this Solemn Celebration the Church commemorates the Lord's Supper during which Jesus instituted the Sacraments of the Eucharist and the Ordination, commanding us to love one another as he loves us. This Ritual is celebrated in the evening.

The celebration consists of the following elements:

- Liturgy of the Word, which narrates and explains the events of the Last Supper.
- Washing of the Feet, which reveals the nature of Christ's love expressed in humble service.
- Prayer which spiritually unites us with Christ.
- In response to Christ's command to love and serve the poor, today all are invited to offer gifts which in Australia is contributing to Project Compassion.

PREPARATION

You may wish to use all or part of this ritual for you at home.

Table with a white cloth. Place on the table a:

Candle and matches

Bible

Jug of water, bowl and towel.

Organise readers.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Gathering song:

[We Remember – Marty Haugen](#)
[Lyrics for We Remember](#)

After the song the members of the family make the sign of the cross. A family member introduces the celebration in these words:

This evening we begin the Easter Triduum of Christ's passion, death and resurrection.

Let us unite ourselves with the whole Church and our parish community in thanking God for the gift of the Eucharist.

As we repent sincerely of our sins,
may God find us worthy of his blessings.

The leader recites the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Loving Father,
on the eve of his death,
as a sign of his everlasting love for us, your Son, Jesus Christ,
washed the feet of his disciples
and gave himself as a food and drink.
May we always long for the sacred banquet,
and find sincere joy in humble service.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son, who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

All: Amen



LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night that he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me.'

In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me.' Until the Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming his death.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 116:12-13. 15-16. 17-18

R. Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ.

How can I repay the Lord
for his goodness to me?
The cup of salvation I will raise;
I will call on the Lord's name.

R. Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ.



O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful.
Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.

R. Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ.

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name.
My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people.

R. Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL John 13:34

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL John 13: 1-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

It was before the festival of the Passover, and Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to pass from this world to the Father. He had always loved those who were his in the world, but now he showed how perfect his love was.

They were at supper, and the devil had already put it into the mind of Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray him. Jesus knew the hour that the Father had put everything into his hands, and that he had come from God and was returning to God, and he got up from table, removed his outer garment and, taking a towel, wrapped it round his waist; he then poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel he was wearing.



He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'At the moment you do not know what I am doing, but later you will understand.' 'Never!' said Peter 'You shall never wash my feet.' Jesus replied, 'If I do not wash you, you can have nothing in common with me.' 'Then, Lord,' said Simon Peter 'not only my feet, but my hands and my head as well!' Jesus said, 'No one who has taken a bath needs washing, he is clean all over. You too are clean, though not all of you are.' He knew who was going to betray him, that was why he said, 'though not all of you are.'

When he had washed their feet and put on his clothes again he went back to the table. 'Do you understand' he said 'what I have done to you? You call me Master and Lord, and rightly; so I am. If I, then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet. I have given you an example so that you may copy what I have done to you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SILENT REFLECTION

Invite those present to share some thoughts about the Gospel Reading.



WASHING OF THE FEET

A family member washes the feet of those present by pouring water over each one's feet and dries them with a towel. Meanwhile an appropriate song is sung.

[As I have done for you \(lyrics are on this video link\)](#)

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Leader: At the Last Supper,
the Lord Jesus gave us the Eucharist
as the memorial of his self-offering and suffering.
Let us ask the Father that we may believe in the mystery
that the Eucharist signifies.
Full of faith, we pray:

R. Lord, listen to your people.

A member of the family:

May the Church leaders gather the pains, struggles, and hopes of humanity
and join them to Christ's offering.
We pray.

R. Lord, listen to your people.

May all Christians always remain united to Christ in prayer, sacrifice, and service.
We pray.

R. Lord, listen to your people.

May our government and civil leaders follow the example of Christ who choose to
serve rather than be served.
May they always strive for the common welfare of the people.
We pray.

R. Lord, listen to your people.



R. Lord, listen to your people.

May the sick, the elderly, people who have any disability,
and those burdened with trials and difficulties
be comforted with the hope and presence of Jesus .
We pray.

R. Lord, listen to your people.

May young people unite themselves to God and offer their own lives through
humble service and compassion for one another. We pray.

R. Lord, listen to your people.

May our departed ones, receive heavenly glory.
We pray.

R. Lord, listen to your people.

Leader:

Heavenly Father,
giver of life and of all that is good,
hear our prayers and look upon us with kindness.
As in prayer we celebrate the memorial of Christ's passion and death, bring us to
the glory of his resurrection.
This we ask through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader:

Let us pray together as Jesus taught us:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

After the Lord's Prayer the leader invites the members of the family to offer the sign of peace to each other.

Leader:

Let us Pray

All: Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.

Since I cannot not receive You sacramentally in the fulness of the Eucharist, Your presence in the Gospel and small community gathered fill me with your spirit of hope and love. I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You.

Everyone leaves in silence





Original Ritual produced by
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