

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 with some suggestions of rituals the members of the family can do at home
- b. prayers/celebrations led by the head of the family following the Easter Triduum Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest.

We go back to the experience of the early Church when Christians gather 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:

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

1. During the Blessing of Palms, members of the family hold their palm braches or any branch of leaves. There is no need for the sprinkling of holy water. The prayer and Scripture readings impart the blessing.
2. The heart of the celebration is the Passion Narrative. The members of the family are invited to listen intently to the proclamation and spend time to reflect and even share their reflections to each other.

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

1. After following the celebration live stream, the head of the family washes the feet of the 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 gather the money or goods which were fruits of their Lenten penance. They can send this to their parish, to any charitable institution or a poor family in the community.
3. They can share a family meal.



Good Friday

1. The heart of the celebration is the Passion Narrative. The members of the family are invited to listen intently to the proclamation and spend time to reflect and even share their reflections to each other.
2. Families can venerate the crucifix at home.
3. Anytime during the day, families are encouraged to pray the Stations of the Cross.

Holy Saturday

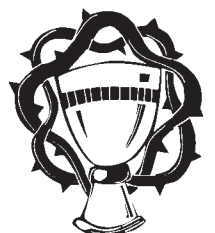
1. Family members gather before or after breakfast to pray the morning prayer with the atmosphere of keeping vigil at the tomb of Christ.
2. They are encouraged to maintain silence and reflection while awaiting the Easter feast.

Easter Vigil

1. Prepare a candle that could serve as the family Easter candle and a reminder of the triumph of the Paschal Mystery in any human struggle of crisis.
2. The family members participate in the Renewal of Baptismal Promises. After the renewal, as a reminder of Baptism, they can trace the sign of the cross at each other's forehead.
3. A family meal is shared after the celebration

Easter Sunday

1. The family Easter candle is lit.
2. The family members participate in the Renewal of Baptismal Promises. After the renewal, as a reminder of Baptism, they can trace the sign of the cross at each other's forehead.



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 during it is celebrated the Paschal Mystery, 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 the period of the enhanced community quarantine, 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 *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 even without a public gathering. The members of the family can participate in the liturgy through live streaming.
5. The head of the family leads the household in prayer during the liturgy of the Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion, 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 the head of the family washes the feet of the members of the family. Traditionally, gifts for the poor are brought during the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper as an explanatory rite of the Eucharist. The family can send to their parish
7. On Good Friday the members of the family can venerate their crucifix at home.
8. On Easter Vigil, which is called the "mother of all vigils," the Church keeps watch meditating on the wonderful story of God's work of creation and salvation,
9. On Easter day at the Sunday assembly in the absence of a priest the renewal of the baptismal promises. The family Easter candle is lighted.



PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

On this day the Church recalls the entrance of Christ the Lord into Jerusalem to accomplish his Paschal Mystery.

At an appropriate hour, the family gathers holding palm branches or any branch of leaves in their hands. The head of the family leads the family in prayer.

**In the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

The members of the family reply:

Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO THE CELEBRATION

The head of the family gives a brief introduction, inviting them to take full part in the celebration.

Dear brothers and sisters,
since the beginning of Lent until now
we have prepared our hearts
by penance and charitable works.
Today we gather to herald with the whole Church
the beginning of the celebration
of our Lord's Paschal Mystery,
that is to say, of his Passion and Resurrection.
For it was to accomplish this mystery
that he entered his own city of Jerusalem.
Therefore, with all faith and devotion,
let us commemorate the Lord's entry into the city
for our salvation, following in his footsteps,
so that, being made, by his grace, partakers of the Cross,
we may have a share also in his Resurrection and in his life.



PRAYER OF BLESSING OF PALM BRANCHES

Afterwards the head of the family, with hands joined, says this prayer:

Let us pray.

Pause for silent prayer.

**Almighty ever-living God,
sanctify + these branches with your blessing,
that we, who follow Christ the King in exultation,
may reach the eternal Jerusalem through him,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.**

The members of the family reply:

Amen.

Or:

**Increase the faith
of those who place their hope in you, O God,
and graciously hear the prayers of those who call on you,
that we, who today hold high these branches
to hail Christ in his triumph,
may bear fruit for you
by good works accomplished in him.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.**

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



OPENING PRAYER

The head of the family leads the opening prayer.

Let us pray.

Pause for silent prayer.

**Almighty, ever-living God,
who as an example of humility for the human race to follow
caused our Savior to take flesh and submit to the Cross,
graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering
and so merit a share in his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.**

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Philippians 2:8-9

Christ became obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.
Because of this, God greatly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.

GOSPEL

Matthew 26:14—27:66

The narrative of the Lord's Passion is proclaimed. Members of the family can be assigned to read the different parts of the narrative.

Head of the Family:

**Brothers and sisters let us now listen
to the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew**

Narrator: One of the Twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot,
went to the chief priests and said,

Judas: “What are you willing to give me
if I hand him over to you?”

Narrator: They paid him thirty pieces of silver,
and from that time on he looked for an opportunity
to hand him over.

On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread,
the disciples approached Jesus and said,

Disciple: “Where do you want us to prepare
for you to eat the Passover?”

Narrator: He said,



Jesus: “Go into the city to a certain man and tell him,
“The teacher says: “My appointed time draws near;
in your house I shall celebrate the Passover
with my disciples.””

Narrator: The disciples then did as Jesus had ordered,
and prepared the Passover.

When it was evening,
he reclined at table with the Twelve.
And while they were eating, he said,

Jesus: “Amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me.”

Narrator: Deeply distressed at this,
they began to say to him one after another,

Disciple: “Surely it is not I, Lord?”

Narrator: He said in reply,

Jesus: “He who has dipped his hand into the dish with me
is the one who will betray me.
The Son of Man indeed goes, as it is written of him,
but woe to that man
by whom the Son of Man is betrayed.
It would be better for that man
if he had never been born.”

Narrator: Then Judas, his betrayer, said in reply,

Judas: “Surely it is not I, Rabbi?”



Narrator: He answered,

Jesus: “You have said so.”

Narrator: While they were eating,
Jesus took bread, said the blessing,
broke it, and giving it to his disciples said,

Jesus: “Take and eat; this is my body.”

Narrator: Then he took a cup, gave thanks,
and gave it to them, saying,

Jesus: “Drink from it, all of you,
for this is my blood of the covenant,
which will be shed on behalf of many
for the forgiveness of sins.
I tell you,
from now on I shall not drink this fruit of the vine
until the day when I drink it with you new
in the kingdom of my Father.”

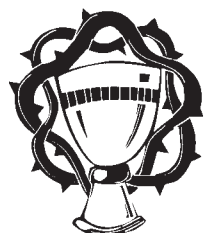
Narrator: Then, after singing a hymn,
they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Then Jesus said to them,

Jesus: This night all of you will have your faith in me shaken,
for it is written:

*I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock will be dispersed;*

but after I have been raised up,
I shall go before you to Galilee.”



Narrator: Peter said to him in reply,

Peter: Though all may have their faith in you shaken,
mine will never be.”

Narrator: Jesus said to him,

Jesus: “Amen, I say to you,
this very night before the cock crows,
you will deny me three times.”

Narrator: Peter said to him,

Peter: “Even though I should have to die with you,
I will not deny you.”

Narrator: And all the disciples spoke likewise.

Then Jesus came with them
to a place called Gethsemane,
and he said to his disciples,

Jesus: “Sit here while I go over there and pray.”

Narrator: He took along Peter and the two sons of Zebedee,
and began to feel sorrow and distress.
Then he said to them,

Jesus: “My soul is sorrowful even to death.
Remain here and keep watch with me.”

Narrator: He advanced a little
and fell prostrate in prayer, saying,

Jesus: “My Father, if it is possible,
let this cup pass from me;
yet, not as I will, but as you will.”



Narrator: When he returned to his disciples
he found them asleep.
He said to Peter,

Jesus: “So you could not keep watch with me for on hour?
Watch and pray that you may not undergo the test.
The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Narrator: Withdrawing a second time, he prayed again,

Jesus: “My Father, if it is not possible that this cup pass
without my drinking it, your will be done!”

Narrator: Then he returned once more and found the asleep,
for they could not keep their eyes open.
He left them and withdrew again
and prayed a third time,
saying the same thing again.
Then he returned to his disciples and said to them,

Jesus: “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest?
Behold, the hour is at hand
when the Son of Man is to be handed over to sinners.
Get up, let us go.
Look, my betrayer is at hand.”

Narrator: While he was still speaking,
Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived,
accompanied by a large crowd,
with swords and clubs,
who had come from the chief priests
and the elders of the people.
His betrayer had arranged a sign with them, saying,

Judas: “The man I shall kiss is the one; arrest him.”



Narrator: Immediately he went over to Jesus and said,

Judas: “Hail, Rabbi!”

Narrator: and he kissed him.
Jesus answered him,

Jesus: “Friend, do what you have come for.”

Narrator: Then stepping forward they laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.
And behold, one of those who accompanied Jesus put his hand to his sword, drew it, and struck the high priest’s servant, cutting off his ear.
Then Jesus said to him,

Jesus: “Put your sword back into its sheath, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot call upon my Father and he will not provide me at this moment with more than twelve legions of angels? But then how would the Scriptures be fulfilled which say that it must come to pass in this way?”

Narrator: At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,

Jesus: “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to seize me? Day after day I sat teaching in the temple area, yet you did not arrest me. But all this has come to pass that the writings of the prophets may be fulfilled.”



Narrator:

Then all the disciples left him and fled.

Those who had arrested Jesus led him away
to Caiaphas the high priest,
where the scribes and the elders were assembled.
Peter was following him at a distance
as far as the high priest's courtyard,
and going inside he sat down with the servants
to see the outcome.

The chief priests and the entire Sanhedrin
kept trying to obtain false testimony against Jesus
in order to put him to death,
but they found none,
though many false witnesses came forward.
Finally two came forward who stated,

Crowd:

"This man said, 'I can destroy the temple of God
and within three days rebuild it.'"

Narrator:

The high priest rose and addressed him,

Pharisee:

"Have you no answer?
What are these men testifying against you?"

Narrator:

But Jesus was silent.
Then the high priest said to him,

Pharisee:

"I order you to tell us under oath
before the living God
whether you are the Christ, the Son of God."

Narrator:

Jesus said to him in reply,

Jesus:

"You have said so.
But I tell you:
From now on you will see 'the Son of Man
seated at the right hand of the Power'
and 'coming on the clouds of heaven.'"



Narrator: Then the high priest tore his robes and said,

Pharisee: “He has blasphemed!
What further need have we of witnesses?
You have now heard the blasphemy;
what is your opinion?”

Narrator: They said in reply,

Crowd: “He deserves to die!”

Narrator: Then they spat in his face and struck him,
while some slapped him, saying,

Crowd: “Prophecy for us, Christ: who is it that struck you?”

Narrator: Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard.
One of the maids came over to him and said,

Crowd: “You too were with Jesus the Galilean.”

Narrator: But he denied it in front of everyone, saying,

Peter: “I do not know what you are talking about!”

Narrator: As he went out to the gate, another girl saw him
and said to those who were there,

Crowd: “This man was with Jesus the Nazorean.”

Narrator: Again he denied it with an oath,

Peter: “I do not know the man!”

Narrator: A little later the bystanders came over
and said to Peter,



Crowd: "Surely you too are one of them;
even your speech gives you away."

Narrator: At that he began to curse and to swear,

Peter: "I do not know the man."

Narrator: And immediately a cock crowed.
Then Peter remembered the word
that Jesus had spoken:
"Before the cock crows
you will deny me three times."

Narrator: He went out and began to weep bitterly.

When it was morning,
all the chief priests and the elders of the people
took counsel against Jesus to put him to death.
They bound him, led him away,
and handed him over to Pilate, the governor.

Then Judas, his betrayer,
seeing that Jesus had been condemned,
deeply regretted what he had done.
He returned the thirty pieces of silver
to the chief priests and elders, saying,

Judas: "I have sinned in betraying innocent blood."

Narrator: They said,

Pharisee: "What is that to us?
Look to it yourself."

Narrator: Flinging the money into the temple,
he departed and went off and hanged himself.
The chief priests gathered up the money, but said,



Pharisee: “It is not lawful to deposit this in the temple treasury,
for it is the price of blood.”

Narrator: After consultation,
they used it to buy the potter’s field
as a burial place for foreigners.
That is why that field even today
is called the Field of Blood.
Then was fulfilled what had been said
through Jeremiah the prophet,

*And they took the thirty pieces of silver,
the value of a man with a price on his head,
a price set by some of the Israelites,
and they paid it out for the potter’s field
just as the Lord had commanded me.*

Now Jesus stood before the governor,
and he questioned him,

Pilate: “Are you the king of the Jews?”

Narrator: Jesus said,

Jesus: “You say so.”

Narrator: And when he was accused
by the chief priests and elders,
he made no answer.
Then Pilate said to him,

Pilate: “Do you not hear how many things
they are testifying against you?”

Narrator: But he did not answer him one word,
so that the governor was greatly amazed.



Now on the occasion of the feast
the governor was accustomed to release to the crowd
one prisoner whom they wished.
And at that time
they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas.
So when they had assembled, Pilate said to them,

Pilate: “Which one do you want me to release to you,
Barabbas, or Jesus called Christ?”

Narrator: For he knew that it was out of envy
that they had handed him over.
While he was still seated on the bench,
his wife sent him a message,

Wife of Pilate: “Have nothing to do with that righteous man.
I suffered much in a dream today because of him.”

Narrator: The chief priests and the elders
persuaded the crowds
to ask for Barabbas but to destroy Jesus.
The governor said to them in reply,

Pilate: “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?”

Narrator: They answered,

Crowd: “Barabbas!”

Narrator: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: “Then what shall I do with Jesus called Christ?”

Narrator: They all said,

Crowd: “Let him be crucified!”



Narrator: But he said,

Pilate: “Why? What evil has he done?”

Narrator: They only shouted the louder,

Crowd: “Let him be crucified!”

Narrator: When Pilate saw that he was not succeeding at all,
but that a riot was breaking out instead,
he took water and washed his hands
in the sight of the crowd, saying,

Pilate: “I am innocent of this man’s blood.
Look to it yourselves.”

Narrator: And the whole people said in reply,

Crowd: “His blood be upon us and upon our children.”

Narrator: Then he released Barabbas to them,
but after he had Jesus scourged,
he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor
took Jesus inside the praetorium
and gathered the whole cohort around him.
They stripped off his clothes
and threw a scarlet military cloak about him.
Weaving a crown out of thorns,
they placed it on his head,
and a reed in his right hand.
And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying,

Crowd: “Hail, King of the Jews!”



Narrator:

They spat upon him and took the reed
and kept striking him on the head.
And when they had mocked him,
they stripped him of the cloak,
dressed him in his own clothes,
and led him off to crucify him.

As they were going out,
they met a Cyrenian named Simon;
this man they pressed into service
to carry his cross.

And when they came to a place called Golgotha,
—which means Place of the Skull—
they gave Jesus wine to drink mixed with gall,
But when he had tasted it, he refused to drink.
After they had crucified him,
they divided his garments by casting lots;
then they sat down and kept watch over him there.
And they placed over his head
the written charge against him:
This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.
Two revolutionaries were crucified with him,
one on his right and the other on his left.
Those passing by reviled him,
shaking their heads and saying,

Crowd:

“You who would destroy the temple
and rebuild it in three days,
save yourself, if you are the Son of God,
and come down from the cross!”

Narrator:

Likewise the chief priests with the scribes and elders
mocked him and said,



Crowd: “He saved others; he cannot save himself.
So he is the king of Israel!
Let him come down from the cross now,
and we will believe in him.
He trusted in God;
let him deliver him now if he wants him.
For he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’”

Narrator: The revolutionaries who were crucified with him
also kept abusing him in the same way.

From noon onward,
darkness came over the whole land
until three in the afternoon.
And about three o’clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

Jesus: “*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?*”

Narrator: which means,
“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”
Some of the bystanders who heard it said,

Crowd: “This one is calling for Elijah.”

Narrator: Immediately one of them ran to get a sponge;
he soaked it in wine, and putting it on a reed,
gave it to him to drink.
But the rest said,

Crowd: “Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to save him.”

Narrator: But Jesus cried out again in a loud voice,
and gave up his spirit.

Here all kneel and pause for a short time.



And behold, the veil of the sanctuary
was torn in two from top to bottom.
The earth quaked, rocks were split,
tombs were opened,
and the bodies of many saints
who had fallen asleep were raised.
And coming forth from their tombs
after his resurrection,
they entered the holy city and appeared to many.
The centurion and the men with him
who were keeping watch over Jesus
feared greatly when they saw the earthquake
and all that was happening, and they said,

Crowd: “Truly, this was the Son of God!”

Narrator: There were many women there,
looking on from a distance,
who had followed Jesus from Galilee,
ministering to him.
Among them were Mary Magdalene
and Mary the mother of James and Joseph,
and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening,
there came a rich man from Arimathea named Joseph,
who was himself a disciple of Jesus.
He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus;
then Pilate ordered it to be handed over.
Taking the body, Joseph wrapped it in clean linen
and laid it in his new tomb
that he had hewn in the rock.
Then he rolled a huge stone
across the entrance to the tomb
and departed.
But Mary Magdalene and the other Mary
remained sitting there, facing the tomb.



The next day, the one following the day of preparation,
the chief priests and the Pharisees
gathered before Pilate and said,

Pharisee: “Sir, we remember that this impostor
while still alive said,
‘After three days I will be raised up.’
Give orders, then, that the grave be secured
until the third day,
lest his disciples come and steal him
and say to the people,
‘He has been raised from the dead.’
This last imposture would be worse than the first.”

Narrator: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: “The guard is yours;
go, secure it as best you can.”

Narrator: So they went and secured the tomb
by fixing a seal to the stone and setting the guard.

At the end of the Gospel, the head of the family acclaims:

The Gospel of the Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SILENT REFLECTION



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Head of the Family::

Nobody has ever seen God:
his only begotten Son has revealed him.
Nobody has ever seen God:
if we love one another, God dwells in us.
Therefore, brothers and sisters,
fixing our gaze on Jesus, image of the invisible God,
moved by the Holy Spirit dwelling in our hearts,
let us pray to God for all the Church and all people of the earth.

R. Through the passion of Christ, hear our prayer.

During this most solemn week of the Church year,
may we kneel before God
and implore the forgiveness for our sins.
May we enter into the mystery of the Lord's death
and rise with him to a newness of life.
We pray.

R. Through the passion of Christ, hear our prayer.

May Church and government leaders
follow the example of Christ
who came not to be served but to serve
and to give his life for the good of the people.
We pray.

R. Through the passion of Christ, hear our prayer.

May those who continue to crucify Jesus
by acts of violence against their brothers and sisters
be led to the road of repentance
and atone for the evils they have done.
We pray.

R. Through the passion of Christ, hear our prayer.



**May we support the Alay Kapwa Program
as our way of responding
to the challenge of restoring social justice
and helping the weak and the needy.**

We pray.

R. Through the passion of Christ, hear our prayer.

**May all our overseas Filipino workers and migrants,
that the God of compassion may bring them healing,
comfort and strength.**

**May the Lord turn to his way of love and peace
those whose hearts are consumed with selfishness,
hatred and violence.**

We pray.

R. Through the passion of Christ, hear our prayer.

**May the passion and death of Jesus
strengthen all of us in our trials and tribulations
so that we may lift up ourselves
and our nation from corruption and hopelessness.**

We pray.

R. Through the passion of Christ, hear our prayer.

Head of the Family:

**Accept, O Lord God, the prayer of your Church
who with love follows your Son in his passion, death and resurrection,
and grant to your children the wisdom of the Cross, narration of your love,
and the glory of him who has given up life for all,
who lives and reigns forever and ever.**

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Head of the Family:

**Let us ask our Father
to forgive our sins
and to bring us to forgive
those who sin against us.**

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.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The minister introduces the Lord's Prayer. After the Lord's Prayer the minister invites the assembly to offer the sign of peace to each other.

The head of the family invites the members of the family:

**My brothers and sisters,
let us now seek to receive the Lord spiritually
as we join him in his passion and death
toward the glory of his resurrection**

**My 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 now receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
As though You have already come,
I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;
never permit me to be separated from You.**



CONCLUDING PRAYER

Head of the Family:

We humbly beseech you, O Lord,
that, just as through the death of your Son
you have brought us to hope
for what we believe,
so by his Resurrection
you may lead us to where you call.
Through Christ our Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Amen.

RITE OF DISMISSAL

Head of the Family:

Brothers and sisters,
through this celebration
may God sustain us in body and spirit
as we walk on the way of conversion.
And may Almighty God bless us,
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



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 he instituted the sacraments of the Eucharist and the priesthood, and commanded us to love one another as he had loved us. It is celebrated in the evening.

The celebration consists of the following elements:

- a. Liturgy of the Word, which narrates and explains the events of the Last Supper.
- b. Washing of the Feet, which reveals the nature of Christ's love expressed in humble service.
- c. Spiritual Communion as a participation in the Lord's Supper
- d. In response to Christ's command to love and serve the poor, today all are invited to offer gifts for them.



INTRODUCTORY RITES

A gathering song may be sung.

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

Brothers and sisters,
This evening we begin the Easter Triduum
of Christ's passion, burial, 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 on our sins,
may God find us worthy of his blessings.

The head of the family recites the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Loving Father,
on the eve of his death,
as 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.
Make us always long for the sacred banquet,
and give us 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.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

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

Brothers and sisters:

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you,
that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over,
took bread, and, after he had given thanks,
broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying,
"This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."
For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,
you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The Word of the Lord.

The members of the family reply:

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 shall I make a return to the LORD
for all the good he has done for me?
The cup of salvation I will take up,
and I will call upon the name of the LORD.**

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



Precious in the eyes of the LORD
is the death of his faithful ones.
I am your servant, the son of your handmaid;
you have loosed my bonds.

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

To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and I will call upon the name of the LORD.
My vows to the LORD I will pay
in the presence of all his people.

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

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

John 13:34

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.

GOSPEL

John 13:1-15

Brothers and sisters let us now listen to the reading
from the holy Gospel according to John

Before the feast of Passover,
Jesus knew that his hour had come
to pass from this world to the Father.
He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end.
The devil had already induced Judas,
son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand him over.
So, during supper,
fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power
and that he had come from God and was returning to God,
he rose from supper and took off his outer garments.



He took a towel and tied it around his waist.
Then he poured water into a basin
and began to wash the disciples' feet
and dry them with the towel around his waist.
He came to Simon Peter, who said to him,
"Master, are you going to wash my feet?"
Jesus answered and said to him,
"What I am doing, you do not understand now,
but you will understand later."
Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet."
Jesus answered him,
"Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me."
Simon Peter said to him,
"Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well."
Jesus said to him,
"Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed,
for he is clean all over; so you are clean, but not all."
For he knew who would betray him;
for this reason, he said, "Not all of you are clean."

So when he had washed their feet
and put his garments back on and reclined at table again,
he said to them, "Do you realize what I have done for you?
You call me 'teacher' and 'master,'
and rightly so, for indeed I am.
If I, therefore, the master and teacher,
have washed your feet,
you ought to wash one another's feet.
I have given you a model to follow,
so that as I have done for you, you should also do."

At the end of the Gospel, the head of the family acclaims:

The Gospel of the Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SILENT REFLECTION



WASHING OF THE FEET

The head of the family washes the feet of the members of the family. The head of the family pours water over each one's feet and dries them with a towel. Meanwhile an appropriate song is sung.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Head of the Family:

**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, in sacrifice, and in 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 after the common welfare of the people.
We pray.**

R. Lord, listen to your people.

**May the sick, the elderly, the handicapped,
and those burdened with trials and difficulties
be comforted with the hope and presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.
We pray.**

R. Lord, listen to your people.

**May the youth believe in Christ's Paschal Mystery
by uniting themselves to God and offering their own lives
through humble service and compassion with one another.
We pray.**

R. Lord, listen to your people.

**May our departed ones,
who shared Christ's Body and Blood in the Eucharist,
receive heavenly glory.
We pray.**

R. Lord, listen to your people.

Head of the Family:

**Heavenly Father,
giver of life and of all that is good,
hear our prayers and look upon us with kindness.
As 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.**

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

The head of the family introduces the Lord's Prayer.

Head of the Family:

**Let us ask our Father
to forgive our sins
and to bring us to forgive
those who sin against us.**

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 head of the family invites the members of the family to offer the sign of peace to each other.



SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The head of the family invites the members of the family:

My brothers and sisters,
the Holy Eucharist
has been entrusted to us
as a sacrament of love,
a sign of unity, and a blood of charity.
Let us now seek to receive the Lord spiritually.

My 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 now receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
As though You have already come,
I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;
never permit me to be separated from You.

After the prayer the head of the family invites the members of the family to offer or pledge gifts for the poor which were the fruit of their Lenten penance. A fitting song may be sung.



AFTERNOON LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

According to the Church; ancient tradition, the sacraments are not celebrated today or tomorrow. On this day we celebrate the Lord's Passion by recalling the redemptive act whereby he freely and completely surrendered himself to death in obedience to the will of the Father. The celebration takes place around three o'clock in the afternoon, unless pastoral reasons suggest a later hour.

The celebration consists of three parts:

- a. The Liturgy of the Word, which is the central part of the celebration, brings back to mind the suffering and death of Christ and makes us re-experience the event. We respond to God's word through the ten general intercessions provided by the Church for this occasion.
- b. The Veneration of the Cross, which is the expression of our reverence for Christ's cross and joy over his victory over sin and death.
- c. Spiritual Communion, whereby we are spiritually united with Christ, as we join him in his passion and death toward the glory of his resurrection.



INTRODUCTORY RITES

The members of the family gather. All pray silently for a period of time. Then the head of the family recites the following prayer:

Let us pray.

**Remember, Lord, your tender mercies,
which you showed in ages past;
watch over and sanctify your servants,
for whom Christ your Son, by shedding his blood,
has established the paschal mystery.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Philippians 2:8-9

Christ became obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.
Because of this, God greatly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name
which is above every other name.

GOSPEL

John 18:1—19:42

The narrative of the Lord's Passion is proclaimed. Members of the family can be assigned to read the different parts of the narrative.

Head of the Family:

**Brothers and sisters let us now listen
to the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John**

Narrator: Jesus went out with his disciples
across the Kidron valley
to where there was a garden,
into which he and his disciples entered.



Judas his betrayer also knew the place,
because Jesus had often met there with his disciples.
So Judas got a band of soldiers and guards
from the chief priests and the Pharisees
and went there with lanterns, torches, and weapons.
Jesus, knowing everything
that was going to happen to him,
went out and said to them,

Jesus: Whom are you looking for?

Narrator: They answered him,

Crowd: “Jesus the Nazorean.”

Narrator: He said to them,

Jesus: “I AM.”

Narrator: Judas his betrayer was also with them.
When he said to them, “I AM, “
they turned away and fell to the ground.
So he again asked them,

Jesus: “Whom are you looking for?”

Narrator: They said,

Crowd: “Jesus the Nazorean.”

Narrator: Jesus answered,

Jesus: “I told you that I AM.
So if you are looking for me, let these men go.”



Narrator: This was to fulfill what he had said,
“I have not lost any of those you gave me.”
Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it,
struck the high priest’s slave,
and cut off his right ear.
The slave’s name was Malchus.
Jesus said to Peter,

Jesus: “Put your sword into its scabbard.
Shall I not drink the cup that the Father gave me?”

Narrator: So the band of soldiers, the tribune,
and the Jewish guards seized Jesus,
bound him, and brought him to Annas first.
He was the father-in-law of Caiaphas,
who was high priest that year.
It was Caiaphas who had counseled the Jews
that it was better that one man should die
rather than the people.

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus.
Now the other disciple was known to the high priest,
and he entered the courtyard
of the high priest with Jesus.
But Peter stood at the gate outside.

So the other disciple,
the acquaintance of the high priest,
went out and spoke to the gatekeeper
and brought Peter in.
Then the maid who was the gatekeeper said to Peter,

Maid: “You are not one of this man’s disciples, are you?”

Narrator: He said,

Peter: “I am not.”



Narrator:

Now the slaves and the guards
were standing around a charcoal fire
that they had made, because it was cold,
and were warming themselves.
Peter was also standing there keeping warm.

The high priest questioned Jesus
about his disciples and about his doctrine.
Jesus answered him,

Jesus:

“I have spoken publicly to the world.
I have always taught in a synagogue
or in the temple area where all the Jews gather,
and in secret I have said nothing. Why ask me?
Ask those who heard me what I said to them.
They know what I said.”

Narrator:

When he had said this,
one of the temple guards standing there
struck Jesus and said,

Guard:

“Is this the way you answer the high priest?”

Narrator:

Jesus answered him,

Jesus:

“If I have spoken wrongly,
testify to the wrong;
but if I have spoken rightly,
why do you strike me?”

Narrator:

Then Annas sent him bound
to Caiaphas the high priest.

Now Simon Peter was standing there keeping warm.
And they said to him,



Crowd: "You are not one of his disciples, are you?"

Narrator: He denied it and said,

Peter: "I am not."

Narrator: One of the slaves of the high priest,
a relative of the one whose ear Peter had cut off, said,

Crowd: "Didn't I see you in the garden with him?"

Narrator: Again Peter denied it.
And immediately the cock crowed.

Then they brought Jesus
from Caiaphas to the praetorium.
It was morning.
And they themselves did not enter the praetorium,
in order not to be defiled
so that they could eat the Passover.
So Pilate came out to them and said,

Pilate: "What charge do you bring against this man?"

Narrator: They answered and said to him,

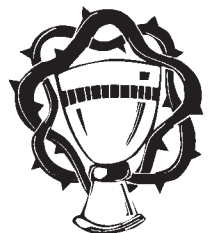
Crowd: "If he were not a criminal,
we would not have handed him over to you."

Narrator: At this, Pilate said to them,

Pilate: "Take him yourselves,
and judge him according to your law."

Narrator: The Jews answered him,

Crowd: "We do not have the right to execute anyone,"



Narrator: in order that the word of Jesus might be fulfilled that he said indicating the kind of death he would die. So Pilate went back into the praetorium and summoned Jesus and said to him,

Pilate: “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Narrator: Jesus answered,

Jesus: “Do you say this on your own or have others told you about me?”

Narrator: Pilate answered,

Pilate: “I am not a Jew, am I?
Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me.
What have you done?”

Narrator: Jesus answered,

Jesus: “My kingdom does not belong to this world.
If my kingdom did belong to this world,
my attendants would be fighting
to keep me from being handed over to the Jews.
But as it is, my kingdom is not here.”

Narrator: So Pilate said to him,

Pilate: “Then you are a king?”

Narrator: Jesus answered,

Jesus: “You say I am a king.
For this I was born and for this I came into the world,
to testify to the truth.
Everyone who belongs to the truth
listens to my voice.”



Narrator: Pilate said to him,

Pilate: “What is truth?”

Narrator: When he had said this,
he again went out to the Jews and said to them,

Pilate: “I find no guilt in him.
But you have a custom
that I release one prisoner to you at Passover.
Do you want me to release to you
the King of the Jews?”

Narrator: They cried out again,

Crowd: “Not this one but Barabbas!”

Narrator: Now Barabbas was a revolutionary.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him scourged.
And the soldiers wove a crown out of thorns
and placed it on his head,
and clothed him in a purple cloak,
and they came to him and said,

Soldier: “Hail, King of the Jews!”

Narrator: And they struck him repeatedly.
Once more Pilate went out and said to them,

Pilate: “Look, I am bringing him out to you,
so that you may know that I find no guilt in him.”

Narrator: So Jesus came out,
wearing the crown of thorns and the purple cloak.
And he said to them,

Pilate: “Behold, the man!”



Narrator: When the chief priests and the guards saw him they cried out,

Crowd: “Crucify him, crucify him!”

Narrator: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: “Take him yourselves and crucify him. I find no guilt in him.”

Narrator: The Jews answered,

Crowd: “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.”

Narrator: Now when Pilate heard this statement, he became even more afraid, and went back into the praetorium and said to Jesus,

Pilate: “Where are you from?”

Narrator: Jesus did not answer him. So Pilate said to him,

Pilate: “Do you not speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you and I have power to crucify you?”

Narrator: Jesus answered him,

Jesus: “You would have no power over me if it had not been given to you from above. For this reason the one who handed me over to you has the greater sin.”



Narrator: Consequently, Pilate tried to release him;
but the Jews cried out,

Crowd: “If you release him, you are not a Friend of Caesar.
Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.”

Narrator: When Pilate heard these words
he brought Jesus out
and seated him on the judge’s bench
in the place called Stone Pavement,
in Hebrew, Gabbatha.
It was preparation day for Passover,
and it was about noon.
And he said to the Jews,

Pilate: “Behold, your king!”

Narrator: They cried out,

Crowd: “Take him away, take him away! Crucify him!”

Narrator: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: “Shall I crucify your king?”

Narrator: The chief priests answered,

Pharisee: “We have no king but Caesar.”

Narrator: Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus, and, carrying the cross himself,
he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull,
in Hebrew, Golgotha.
There they crucified him, and with him two others,
one on either side, with Jesus in the middle.
Pilate also had an inscription written
and put on the cross.



It read,
“Jesus the Nazorean, the King of the Jews.”
Now many of the Jews read this inscription,
because the place where Jesus was crucified
was near the city;
and it was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek.
So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate,

Pharisee: “Do not write ‘The King of the Jews,’
but that he said, ‘I am the King of the Jews’.”

Narrator: Pilate answered,

Pilate: “What I have written, I have written.”

Narrator: When the soldiers had crucified Jesus,
they took his clothes
and divided them into four shares,
a share for each soldier.
They also took his tunic,
but the tunic was seamless,
woven in one piece from the top down.
So they said to one another,

Soldier: “Let’s not tear it,
but cast lots for it to see whose it will be,”

Narrator: in order that the passage of Scripture
might be fulfilled that says:
*They divided my garments among them,
and for my vesture they cast lots.*
This is what the soldiers did.
Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother
and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas,
and Mary of Magdala.
When Jesus saw his mother
and the disciple there whom he loved
he said to his mother



Jesus: “Woman, behold, your son.”

Narrator: Then he said to the disciple,

Jesus: “Behold, your mother.”

Narrator: And from that hour
the disciple took her into his home.

After this, aware that everything was now finished,
in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled,
Jesus said,

Jesus: “I thirst.”

Narrator: There was a vessel filled with common wine.
So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop
and put it up to his mouth.
When Jesus had taken the wine, he said,

Jesus: “It is finished.”

Narrator: And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit.

All kneel for a few moments of silent prayer.

Now since it was preparation day,
in order that the bodies might not remain
on the cross on the sabbath,
for the sabbath day of that week was a solemn one,
the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken
and that they be taken down.
So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first
and then of the other one
who was crucified with Jesus.



But when they came to Jesus
and saw that he was already dead,
they did not break his legs,
but one soldier thrust his lance into his side,
and immediately blood and water flowed out.
An eyewitness has testified,
and his testimony is true;
he knows that he is speaking the truth,
so that you also may come to believe.
For this happened
so that the Scripture passage might be fulfilled:
Not a bone of it will be broken.
And again another passage says:
They will look upon him whom they have pierced.

After this, Joseph of Arimathea,
secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews,
asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus.
And Pilate permitted it.
So he came and took his body.
Nicodemus,
the one who had first come to him at night,
also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes
weighing about one hundred pounds.
They took the body of Jesus
and bound it with burial cloths along with the spices,
according to the Jewish burial custom.
Now in the place where he had been crucified
there was a garden,
and in the garden a new tomb,
in which no one had yet been buried.
So they laid Jesus there
because of the Jewish preparation day;
for the tomb was close by.



At the end of the Gospel, the head of the family acclaims:

The Gospel of the Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SILENT REFLECTION

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

A member of the family reads the invitation to the prayer and the head of the family says the prayer after a period of silence. All answer "Amen". The members of the family may stand or kneel throughout the intercessions.

A member of the family:

1. **Let us pray, dear friends,
for the holy Church of God throughout the world,
that God will guide it and gather it together,
so that we may worship the Father
in tranquillity and peace.**

A period of silence.

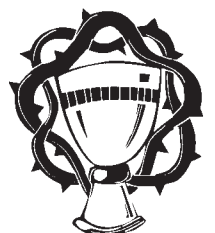
Head of the Family:

**Almighty and eternal God,
in Christ your Son
you revealed your glory to nation upon nation.
Safeguard the great work of your mercy,
so that your Church throughout the world
may persevere with unshakeable faith
in confessing your holy name.**

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



A member of the family:

2. Let us pray also for our Holy Father, Pope N.,
that God, who has chosen him for the office of bishop,
will keep him in health and strength for the sake of the Church
to guide and govern the holy people of God.

A period of silence.

Head of the Family:

Almighty and eternal God,
whose wisdom orders all things,
protect with your love the shepherd you have chosen,
that the Christian people you entrust to his care
may under his leadership prosper in faith.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



A member of the family:

3. Let us pray also for N., our bishop,
for all bishops, presbyters, and deacons,
and for all God's holy people.

A period of silence.

Head of the Family:

Almighty and eternal God,
by whose Spirit the Church is ruled and made holy,
hear the prayers we offer
for those you have called to ministry
and for your entire people,
that by your grace we may all serve you faithfully.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



A member of the family:

4. Let us pray also for catechumens,
that God will open their ears and their hearts
and unlock for them the gates of divine mercy,
so that through waters of rebirth
they may receive pardon for their sins
and find new life in Christ Jesus.

A period of silence.

Head of the Family:

Almighty and eternal God,
by whom the Church is continually blessed with new members,
deepen the faith and understanding of all catechumens,
that, being reborn in the font of baptism,
they may take their place among your adopted children.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



A member of the family:

5. Let us pray also for those who share our faith in Jesus Christ,
that God will gather together and keep in one Church
all who seek to live by the truth.

A period of silence.

Head of the Family:

Almighty and eternal God,
by whom the dispersed are gathered
and kept together as one,
look lovingly on the flock of your Son,
that all who have been sealed by one baptism
may be joined together by wholeness of faith
and preserved in fellowship by the bond of love.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



A member of the family:

6. Let us pray also for the Jewish people,
the first to hear the word of God,
that they will grow in the love of God's name
and in faithfulness to the covenant.

A period of silence.

Head of the Family:

Almighty and eternal God,
who long ago chose Abraham and his descendants
and established them as children of the promise,
hear the prayers of your Church,
that the people you first made your own
may arrive at the fullness of redemption.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



A member of the family:

7. Let us pray also for those
who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ,
that the light of the Holy Spirit
will guide them toward the path of salvation.

A period of silence.

Head of the Family:

Almighty and eternal God,
grant that those who do not believe in Christ,
but who walks before you in sincerity of heart,
may find the truth.
Make our love for each other grow
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of salvation,
that we may bear before the world
a more perfect witness to your love.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



A member of the family:

8. Let us pray also for those who do not believe in God,
that they will come to a knowledge of God
through their wholehearted seeking of all that is right.

A period of silence.

Head of the Family:

Almighty and eternal God,
you implanted in the human heart
such a deep longing for yourself
that only in you can peace be found.
Grant that, despite the obstacles which stand in the way,
all may recognize the signs of your goodness,
discern the holiness of your people,
and so gladly acknowledge you
as the one true God and Father of us all.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



A member of the family:

9. Let us pray also for those who serve in public office,
that God will direct their minds and hearts
in accordance with his will
to ensure true peace and freedom.

A period of silence.

Head of the Family:

Almighty and eternal God,
whose hand upholds the rights and aspirations of all,
guide those in authority,
that people everywhere on earth
may enjoy prosperity, freedom of worship, security, and peace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



A member of the family:

10. Finally, dear friends, let us pray that God
will rid the world of falsehood and error,
dispel disease and famine from the face of the earth,
break the fetters of captives,
grant safe passage to travellers and those far from home,
restore health to the sick,
and give salvation to the dying.

A period of silence.

Head of the Family:

Almighty and eternal God,
comfort of the afflicted and strength of the weary,
hear the voices of those who cry to you in distress
and grant that all may rejoice,
because your mercy attended them in their hour of need.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



VENERATION OF THE CROSS

The head of the family lifts up the cross, and sings the invitation:

**Behold the wood of the cross,
on which hung the Savior of the world.**

The members of the family answer:

Come, let us worship.

After each response all kneel and pray briefly in silence. The members of the family approach the cross and venerate it by a simple genuflection or some other appropriate sign of reverence, e.g. kissing the cross. During the veneration suitable songs are sung.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The head of the family introduces the Lord's Prayer.

Head of the Family:

**Let us ask our Father
to forgive our sins
and to bring us to forgive
those who sin against us.**

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 head of the family invites the members of the family to offer the sign of peace to each other.



SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The head of the family invites the members of the family:

My brothers and sisters,
let us now seek to receive the Lord spiritually
as we join him in his passion and death
toward the glory of his resurrection

My 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 now receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
As though You have already come,
I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;
never permit me to be separated from You.

After communion the members of the family stand. The head of the family recites the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God,
you have restored us to life
through the death and resurrection of your Christ.
Preserve within us the work of your mercy,
that, being united with his paschal mystery,
we may never cease to offer you faithful service.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.



EASTER VIGIL

In accord with the Church's ancient tradition, this night is one of vigil for the Lord (Exodus 12:42). The Gospel of Luke (12:35ff) is a reminder to the faithful to have their lamps burning ready, and to await their Master's return so that when he arrives he will find them wide awake and will seat them at his table.

The night vigil is arranged in four parts:

- a. Service of light;
- b. Liturgy of the Word, when the Church meditates on all the wonderful things God has done for his people.
- c. Renewal of Baptismal Promises; and
- d. Spiritual Communion, when the whole Church is called to unite herself to the risen Lord
- e. The entire celebration of the Easter Vigil takes place at night. It should not begin before nightfall nor end after daybreak on Sunday.



SERVICE OF LIGHT

All the lights in the house are put out. There is an option to prepare a bonfire at a suitable place outside the house. The family prepares a candle that can serve as the family Easter candle.

The head of the family briefly instructs them about the vigil in these words:

Dear friends of Christ,
on this holy night
when our Lord Jesus Christ
passed from death to life,
we come together in solemn vigil and prayer
in union with the whole Church
and with our parish community.
This is the passover of the Lord:
if we keep the memory of his death and resurrection
by hearing his word and celebrating his sacraments,
then we may be confident
that we shall share his victory over death
and live with him for ever in God.

Let us pray.

Lord God,
we share in the brightness of your glory
through your Son, the light of the world.
Make this new fire holy.
Through this Easter celebration,
purify our minds and inflame us with new hope,
that we may come one day to the feast of eternal light.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The head of the family lights the Easter candle from the new fire saying:

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,
dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.



Then lifting the Easter candle high, the head of the family says:

Christ our light.

The members of the family answer:

Thanks be to God.

The members of the family light their candles from the Easter candle.

A member of the family sings or recites prayerfully the Easter proclamation (Exsultet) with other members of the family holding their lighted candles.

THE EXSULTET

Exult and sing, O heavenly choirs of angels!
Rejoice, all you powers in heaven and on earth!
Jesus Christ our King is risen!
Sound the trumpet, sing of our salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour,
radiant in the brightness of your king!
Lands that once lay covered by darkness,
see Christ's glory filling all the universe!

Rejoice, O mother Church, with all your children,
resplendent in your risen Savior's light!
Let our joyful voices resound this night!
Let God's people shake these walls with shouts of praise!

It is truly right and just
That with full hearts and minds and voices,
we should praise you, unseen God, almighty Father,
and your only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.
For Christ ransomed us with his precious blood
and, by nailing to the cross the decree that condemned us,
he paid to you, eternal Father, the price of Adam's sin.

This is our passover feast,
when Christ, the true Lamb, is slain,
whose blood consecrates the homes of all believers.



This is the night
when first you set the children of Israel free:
you saved our ancestors from slavery in Egypt
and led them dry-shod through the sea.

This is the night
when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death
and in triumphant glory rose from the grave.

O God, how wonderful your care for us!
How boundless your merciful love!
To ransom a slave, you gave up a Son!

O happy fault, O necessary sin of Adam
which gained for us so great a Redeemer!

How holy is this night,
which heals our wounds and washes all evil away!

A night to restore lost innocence and bring mourners joy!
O truly blessed night
When heaven is wedded to earth
And we are reconciled with God!
Therefore, Father most holy, in the joy of this night,
Receive our evening sacrifice of praise,
The solemn offering of your holy people.
Accept this Easter candle.
Let it dispel the darkness of this night!

May the Morning Star which never sets
finds this flame still burning.
Christ is the Morning Star,
who rose to shed his peaceful light on all creation
and lives and reigns with you for ever and ever.

Amen.

After the Easter proclamation, the candles are out aside.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Before the readings begin, the head of the family explains the Liturgy of the Word in these words:

Dear friends in Christ,
we have begun our solemn vigil.
Let us now listen attentively to the Scriptures.
They tell how God saved a chosen people
in the course of history
and, in the fullness of time,
sent his only-begotten Son as our Redeemer.
Let us pray that our God will bring to completion
The saving work of the paschal mystery.

READING

Exodus 14:15-31—5:1

A reading from the book of Exodus

The LORD said to Moses,
“Why are you crying out to me?
Tell the Israelites to go forward.
And you, lift up your staff and,
with hand outstretched over the sea,
split the sea in two,
that the Israelites may pass through it on dry land.
But I will make the Egyptians so obstinate
that they will go in after them.
Then I will receive glory
through Pharaoh and all his army,
his chariots and charioteers.
The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD,
when I receive glory through Pharaoh
and his chariots and charioteers.”



The angel of God, who had been leading Israel's camp,
now moved and went around behind them.
The column of cloud also, leaving the front,
took up its place behind them,
so that it came between the camp of the Egyptians
and that of Israel.
But the cloud now became dark,
and thus the night passed without the rival camps
coming any closer together all night long.
Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea,
and the LORD swept the sea
with a strong east wind throughout the night
and so turned it into dry land.
When the water was thus divided,
the Israelites marched into
the midst of the sea on dry land,
with the water like a wall
to their right and to their left.

The Egyptians followed in pursuit;
all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and charioteers
went after them right into the midst of the sea.
In the night watch just before dawn
the LORD cast through the column of the fiery cloud
upon the Egyptian force a glance
that threw it into a panic;
and he so clogged their chariot wheels
that they could hardly drive.
With that the Egyptians sounded the retreat before Israel,
because the LORD was fighting for them
against the Egyptians.

Then the LORD told Moses,
Stretch out your hand over the sea,
that the water may flow back upon the Egyptians,
upon their chariots and their charioteers."



So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea,
and at dawn the sea flowed back to its normal depth.
The Egyptians were fleeing head on toward the sea,
when the LORD hurled them into its midst.
As the water flowed back,
it covered the chariots and the charioteers
of Pharaoh's whole army
which had followed the Israelites into the sea.
Not a single one of them escaped.
But the Israelites had marched on dry land
through the midst of the sea,
with the water like a wall
to their right and to their left.
Thus the LORD saved Israel on that day
from the power of the Egyptians.
When Israel saw the Egyptians
lying dead on the seashore
and beheld the great power that the LORD
had shown against the Egyptians,
they feared the LORD and believed in him
and in his servant Moses.

Then Moses and the Israelites
sang this song to the LORD:
I will sing to the LORD,
for he is gloriously triumphant;
horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The Word of the Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Thanks be to God.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Exodus 15:1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 17-18

R. Let us sing to the Lord;
he has covered himself in glory

**I will sing to the LORD, for he is gloriously triumphant;
horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.
My strength and my courage is the LORD,
and he has been my savior.
He is my God, I praise him;
the God of my father, I extol him.**

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

**The LORD is a warrior, LORD is his name!
Pharaoh's chariots and army he hurled into the sea;
the elite of his officers
were submerged in the Red Sea.**

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

**The flood waters covered them,
they sank into the depths like a stone.
Your right hand, O LORD, magnificent in power,
your right hand, O LORD, has shattered the enemy.**

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



You brought in the people you redeemed
and planted them on the mountain of your inheritance,
the place where you made your seat, O LORD,
the sanctuary, LORD, which your hands established.
The LORD shall reign forever and ever.

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

PRAYER

Head of the Family:

God of ages,
through the light of the new covenant,
you unlock for us the meaning of those marvels
you worked in ancient times:
the waters of the Red Sea
prefigure the waters of baptism,
and the Israelites you once freed from slavery
become a sign of your Christian people.
Grant that every nation by virtue of its faith
may inherit the same privilege you bestowed on Israel
and receive new birth through the gift of your Spirit.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



After the reading from the book of Exodus with its responsory and prayer, the candles of the family altar are lighted, and the head of the family leads in the singing or reciting of the Gloria, while the bells can be rung.

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.



After the hymn the head of the family recites the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God,
you brighten this most holy night
with the radiance of the risen Christ.
Quicken within your Church the spirit of adoption,
so that, renewed in mind and body,
we may dedicate our lives wholeheartedly to your service.

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

The members of the family reply:

Amen.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 118:1-2. 16. 17. 22-23

R. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his mercy endures forever.
Let the house of Israel say,
“His mercy endures forever.”

R. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The right hand of the Lord
has struck with power;
the right hand of the Lord is exalted.
I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the Lord.

R. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.



The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.
By the Lord has this been done;
it is wonderful in our eyes.

R. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1-10

Brothers and sisters let us now listen
to the reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

After the sabbath,
as the first day of the week was dawning,
Mary Magdalene and the other Mary
came to see the tomb.
And behold, there was a great earthquake;
for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven,
approached, rolled back the stone, and sat upon it.
His appearance was like lightning
and his clothing was white as snow.
The guards were shaken with fear of him
and became like dead men.
Then the angel said to the women in reply,
“Do not be afraid!
I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified.
He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said.
Come and see the place where he lay.
Then go quickly and tell his disciples,
‘He has been raised from the dead,
and he is going before you to Galilee;
there you will see him.’
Behold, I have told you.”



Then they went away quickly from the tomb,
fearful yet overjoyed,
and ran to announce this to his disciples.
And behold, Jesus met them on their way
and greeted them.
They approached, embraced his feet,
and did him homage.
Then Jesus said to them,
“Do not be afraid.
Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee,
and there they will see me.”

At the end of the Gospel, the head of the family acclaims:

The Gospel of the Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SILENT REFLECTION



RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

All stand holding lighted candles for the renewal of their baptismal promises. The head of the family speaks in these words:

Dear friends,
through the paschal mystery
we have been buried with Christ in baptism,
so that we may rise with him to a new life.
Now that we have completed our Lenten observance,
let us renew the promises we made in baptism
when we renounced Satan and all the work of evil,
and promised to serve God faithfully
in the holy Catholic Church.
And so:

Do you renounce Satan?

R. I do.

And all his works?

R. I do.

And all his empty show?

R. I do.

Or:

Do you renounce sin,
so as to live in the freedom of the children of God?

R. I do.

Do you renounce the lure of evil,
so that sin may have no mastery over you?

R. I do.



**Do you renounce Satan,
the author and prince of sin?**

R. I do.

Then the head of the family continues:

**Do you believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth?**

R. I do.

**Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered death and was buried,
rose again from the dead
and is seated at the right hand of the Father?**

R. I do.

**Do you believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting?**

R. I do.

After the renewal, as a reminder of Baptism, the members of the family can trace the sign of the cross at each other's forehead.



GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Head of the Family:

The light of the risen Christ
shines forth from the Easter Candle.
May the flame of faith in our hearts inspire us
as we offer prayers for the needs
of all our brothers and sisters.
For every petition, let us say:

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

A member of the family:

For the Universal Church,
that, with our Pope and Bishops,
we may proclaim the saving event of Easter.
We pray.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

For the nations of this world,
that the kingdom of the risen Lord
may spread through all societies and cultures.
We pray.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who have been baptized at this time,
that, freed from slavery of sin,
they will live in the new life of the risen Christ.
We pray.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.



**For this worshipping community,
that we will share the joyous news of the Resurrection
with those we meet.**

We pray.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

**For the faithful departed,
that, having died with Christ,
they will return to life with him.**

We pray.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Head of the Family:

**Father,
receive the prayers of your Church,
celebrating the glorious victory
of your risen Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.**

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

The head of the family introduces the Lord's Prayer.

Head of the Family:

**Let us ask our Father
to forgive our sins
and to bring us to forgive
those who sin against us.**

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 head of the family invites the members of the family to offer the sign of peace to each other.



SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The head of the family invites the members of the family:

My brothers and sisters,
the Holy Eucharist
has been entrusted to us
as a sacrament of love,
a sign of unity, and a blood of charity.
Let us now seek to receive the Lord spiritually.

My 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 now receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
As though You have already come,
I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;
never permit me to be separated from You.

After communion the members of the family stand. The head of the family recites the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God,
watch over your Church with unfailing care,
that we who have received new life
through the paschal mystery of Christ
may come to the glory of the resurrection.

Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Then the head of the family addresses the members of the family in these words:

**My brothers and sisters,
now that we have celebrated the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ,
let us go and proclaim the word we have heard
and live according to the spirit of the Sacrament we have received.**

**And may almighty God bless you,
The Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.**

The members of the family reply:

Amen.

Note on the Blessing of Various Objects.

If it is customary to bless foodstuff and articles or implements of livelihood, the head of the family may lead of prayer of blessing.

The family can share the Easter meal.



EASTER SUNDAY

INTRODUCTORY RITES

A gathering song may be sung.

After the song the members of the family makes the sign of the cross. The head of the family introduces the celebration in these words:

**Brothers and sisters,
Christ is risen, alleluia!**

Members of the family:

He is truly risen, alleluia!

Head of the Family:

**As we come together to celebrate
the glorious resurrection of Our Lord,
In the unity of the Holy Spirit,
let us now give glory to God in the highest
and to his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Lamb of God who took away our sins.**



Members of the family:

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Head of the Family:

Brothers and sisters,
like the disciples on the way to Emmaus,
let our hearts burn within us,
as we listen to God's word.

GOSPEL

John 20:1-9

Brothers and sisters let us now listen
to the reading from the holy Gospel according to John

On the first day of the week,
Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning,
while it was still dark,
and saw the stone removed from the tomb.
So she ran and went to Simon Peter
and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them,
“They have taken the Lord from the tomb,
and we don't know where they put him.”
So Peter and the other disciple went out
and came to the tomb.
They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter
and arrived at the tomb first;
he bent down and saw the burial cloths there,
but did not go in.
When Simon Peter arrived after him,
he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there,
and the cloth that had covered his head,
not with the burial cloths
but rolled up in a separate place.
Then the other disciple also went in,
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,
and he saw and believed.
For they did not yet understand the Scripture
that he had to rise from the dead.



At the end of the Gospel, the head of the family acclaims:

The Gospel of the Lord.

The members of the family reply:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

The members of the family stand holding lighted candles for the renewal of their baptismal promises. The head of the family speaks in these words:

Dear friends,
through the paschal mystery
we have been buried with Christ in baptism,
so that we may rise with him to a new life.
Now that we have completed our Lenten observance,
let us renew the promises we made in baptism
when we renounced Satan and all the work of evil,
and promised to serve God faithfully
in the holy Catholic Church.
And so:

Do you renounce Satan?

R. I do.

And all his works?

R. I do.

And all his empty show?

R. I do.



Then the head of the family continues:

**Do you believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth?**

R. I do.

**Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered death and was buried,
rose again from the dead
and is seated at the right hand of the Father?**

R. I do.

**Do you believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting?**

R. I do.

After the renewal, as a reminder of Baptism, the members of the family can trace the sign of the cross at each other's forehead.



GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Head of the Family:

**Christ is the Lord of life, raised up by the Father;
in turn he will raise us up by his power.
Let us address our petitions to the heavenly Father as we pray:**

R. Father, we beseech you, hear us.

A member of the family:

**May the Church proclaim with all courage
your Son's victory to a world living in sin,
in agony, and in fear.
We pray.**

R. Father, we beseech you, hear us.

**May the ecclesiastical and government leaders
die to their personal interests
so that like the Good Shepherd
they may serve your people faithfully.
We pray.**

R. Father, we beseech you, hear us.

**May all the baptized believers
die to their sins and live up to their dignity
as children of God.
We pray.**

R. Father, we beseech you, hear us.



**May there be new hope and life for our nation
through the advent of a capable and principled leadership.**
We pray.

R. Father, we beseech you, hear us.

**May the faithful departed
share in Christ's glorious Resurrection.**
We pray.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Head of the Family:

**Father, your Son conquered the power of death.
Let our celebration today raise us up and renew our lives,
through Jesus our Lord who lives and reigns with you
for ever and ever.**

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

The head of the family introduces the Lord's Prayer.

Head of the Family:

**Christ, our risen Lord,
taught us to call God our Father,
And so we have the courage to say:**

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.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The head of the family invites the members of the family:

**My brothers and sisters,
the Holy Eucharist
has been entrusted to us
as a sacrament of love,
a sign of unity, and a blood of charity.
Let us now seek to receive the Lord spiritually.**



**My 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 now receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
As though You have already come,
I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;
never permit me to be separated from You.**

After communion the members of the family stand. The head of the family recites the following prayer:

**Eternal God,
watch over your Church with unfailing care,
that we who have received new life
through the paschal mystery of Christ
may come to the glory of the resurrection.
Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Members of the family:

Amen.

RITE OF DISMISSAL

Then the head of the family addresses the members of the family in these words:

**Brothers and sisters,
now that we have celebrated the resurrection
of our Lord Jesus Christ,
let us go and proclaim the word we have heard
and live according to the spirit of the Sacrament
we have received.
And may Almighty God bless us,
the Father, and the Son , and the Holy Spirit.**

Members of the family:

Amen.





Archdiocesan Liturgical Commission
Manila