

Seven Churches Visitation

This centuries-old tradition is modeled after a traditional seven-church visitation that pilgrims make in Rome. After the Mass of the Lord's Supper, many churches remain open for exposition of the Blessed Sacrament so that worshippers can pray, reenacting the actions of the apostles in the Garden of Gethsemane, whom Jesus told, "Remain here and keep watch with me" (Mt 26:38). This pilgrimage will allow us to figuratively walk with Jesus on his path toward his crucifixion, death and resurrection.

Church Listing

Blessed Trinity Parish

300 E Tallmadge Ave, Akron, OH 44310

Mass @ 7:00 / Pilgrims welcome until 9:00 p.m.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

1905 Portage Trail, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

Mass @ 7:00 / Pilgrims welcome until 9:00 p.m.

St. Bernard Parish

44 University Ave., Akron, OH 44308

Mass @ 7:00 / Pilgrims welcome until 11:00 p.m.

St. Francis de Sales Parish

4019 Manchester Rd., Akron, OH 44319

Mass @ 7:00 / Pilgrims welcome until 11:00 p.m.

Adoration will be in Memorare Center, not church.

St. Hilary Parish

2750 W Market St., Fairlawn, OH 44333

Mass @ 7:00 / Pilgrims welcome until 11:00 p.m.

Thank you!

Participating in Christ's Passion this way gives such an abundance of graces. But please don't let your participation end here. Make sure to see what your parish offers to keep Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection ever-present in our lives. Many will offer Good Friday services and Stations of the Cross, Blessing of the Foods and Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday and of course, Easter Sunday liturgy. Know that you are being prayed over by all of us working hard behind the scenes to make all of the possible for you and your families. Please keep all of us in your prayers, especially our priests!

**"Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; He has risen, just as He said."
(Matthew 28:5)**

The Seventh Visit

The Praetorium

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise You.

**Because by Your Holy Cross,
You have redeemed the world.**

“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, “Hail, King of the Jews!” 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.”
(Mt 27:27-31)

+ Let us pray: Loving Jesus, our pilgrimage is drawing close to an end, but our hearts are now even more deeply united to your Sacred Heart, pierced on the Cross for us. Give us the grace of faith and perseverance that we may walk with you to Calvary in our daily lives, and and always stand with hope at the foot of the Cross like Mary. Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (3 times)

St. Mary Parish

750 S. Main St., Akron, OH 44311

No Mass / Pilgrims welcome between 8:00 - 11:00 p.m.

St. Paul Parish

1580 Brown St., Akron, OH 44301

Mass @ 7:00 / Pilgrims welcome until 11:00 p.m.

St. Sebastian Parish

476 Mull Ave., Akron, OH 44320

Mass @ 7:00 / Pilgrims welcome until 11:00 p.m.

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The First Visit

The Garden of Gethsemane

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise You.

**Because by Your Holy Cross,
You have redeemed the world.**

“Then going out he went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. When he arrived at the place he said to them, “Pray that you may not undergo the test.” After withdrawing about a stone’s throw from them and kneeling, he prayed, saying: “Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me; still, not my will but yours be done.” And to strengthen him an angel from heaven appeared to him. In his anguish he prayed with all the greater intensity, and his sweat became like drops of blood falling to the ground. When he rose from prayer and returned to his disciples, he found them sleeping from grief. He said to them, “Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not undergo the test.” (Lk 22:39-46)

+ Let us pray: Lord Jesus, we kneel before you tonight, trusting in your Eucharistic presence amongst us and yearning to accompany you in your agony. We ask for the grace to follow the Father’s Plan, especially when we do not understand it and when the cross seems too much to bear. Send forth your Spirit once again to transform our hearts, that we may surrender our lives completely into the merciful hands of the Eternal Father. Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (3 times)

The Sixth Visit

The Palace of Pilate

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise You.

**Because by Your Holy Cross,
You have redeemed the world.**

“Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said, “Let him be crucified.” And he said, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified.” So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this righteous man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” And all the people answered, “His blood be on us and our children!” Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.”(Mt 27:22-26)

+ Let us pray: Lord Jesus, sometimes we too want to wipe our hands clean of any wrong doing and not accept that it is our sin that crucified you! Help us to deeply embrace your forgiveness as we continue to walk with you through your passion, death and resurrection. We yearn to open our hearts to embrace your gift of mercy, and with your grace to learn to be evermore merciful and forgiving like you. Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (3 times)

The Fifth Visit

The Palace of Herod

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise You.
**Because by Your Holy Cross,
You have redeemed the world.**

“When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. So he questioned him at some length; but he made no answer. And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then arraying him in gorgeous apparel, he sent him back to Pilate.” (Lk 23:8-9; 11)

+ Let us pray: Thank you Jesus for staying with us in the Blessed Sacrament, a foretaste of the encounter we will have with you in heaven. How we desire to see you face to face! And yet so many times we fail to see you in the face of our brothers and sisters in need, and we reject you and mock you in them. May this pilgrimage tonight help us to foster the interior silence we need to recognize your presence in the suffering face of those we encounter in our daily lives. Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (3 times)

The Second Visit

The House of Annas

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise You.
**Because by Your Holy Cross,
You have redeemed the world.**

“The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together; I have said nothing secretly. Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me, what I said to them; they know what I said.” When he had said this, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, “Is that how you answer the high priest?” Jesus answered him, “If I have spoken wrongly, bear witness to the wrong; but if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?” (Jn 18:19-23)

+ Let us pray: Lord Jesus, in the midst of your Agony in the Garden you experienced betrayal from one of your own when Judas handed you over with a kiss. Bound like a criminal you were captured and lead to the house of Annas where you were unfairly treated and struck. You suffered so much out of love for us! We adore you and give you thanks for your painful journey to the Cross which you underwent so that we might be healed. We implore you, grant us patience and hope in the midst of all the adversities of life!
Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (3 times)

The Third Visit

The House of Caiaphas

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise You.

**Because by Your Holy Cross,
You have redeemed the world.**

“But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to him, “I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.” Jesus said to him, “You have said so.

But I tell you, hereafter you will see the Son of man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.” Then the high priest tore his robes, and said, “He has uttered blasphemy. Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your judgment?” They answered, “He deserves death.” Then they spat in his face, and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, “Prophesy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?” (Mt 26:63-68)

+ Let us pray: Lord Jesus, at the high priest’s house you experienced deep humiliation when they spat on you, struck you and slapped you. Bowing down before your humble presence in the Eucharist, we pray for the grace to be men and women of meek and humble hearts, knowing that “unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.” Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (3 times)

The Fourth Visit

The Palace of Pilate

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise You.

**Because by Your Holy Cross,
You have redeemed the world.**

Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me; what have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingship is not of this world; if my kingship were of this world, my servants would fight, that I might not be handed over to the Jews; but my kingship is not from the world.” Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Every one who is of the truth hears my voice.” (Jn 18:35-37)

+ Let us pray: You are our Prince of Peace and Shepherd-King! By your authority we pray that you deliver us from all bondage and the darkness of sin in our lives. With the guidance of your Spirit, may we learn to listen ever more attentively to your voice of truth and renounce to the temptations of the father of lies. Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (3 times)