

Dear parents,

The month of April brings the end of Lent and the celebrations of Easter. This year, once again, don't hesitate to bring your children, even the youngest ones, to these different celebrations—particularly the Easter Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil, and Easter Mass on Sunday). These Masses bring the body and soul into the mystery of the death and Resurrection of Christ. Even if your children fall asleep in your arms at these beautiful liturgies, they will begin to sense the sacredness of the mysteries we celebrate. On Easter, the special project of making a Resurrection mobile is proposed to the children. They will need your help and your encouragement to construct the eight flames that compose it. At the end of the Easter season, on the day of Pentecost, the children will learn more about the Holy Spirit, God's gift of love to the human family. The Holy Spirit strengthened the Apostles with the zeal and fortitude to proclaim the Good News to all the nations of the world.

■ Palm Sunday

We come home from Mass on Palm Sunday with green branches in our hands, usually palm fronds. Last year's old faded palms have already been burned or reverently discarded.

With your family, go through your home and put little palms on the crucifixes and other pictures of Christ you may have. You can say or sing: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, hosanna in the highest."

Don't forget to put a little palm branch in your "prayer corner."

■ Holy Thursday

If you cannot go to the parish celebration, you can take time at the family meal to tell the children the story of Jesus' Last Supper with his friends, of the washing of the feet, and of Jesus' prayer in the garden of Gethsemane. You can refer to a children's Bible to help you. Conclude this time as a family by reciting together Jesus' prayer, the Our Father.

■ Good Friday

Even if the children aren't fasting, they can abstain from meat, sweets and electronic devices today. If you cannot participate in the parish celebrations, gather the children before a crucifix and pray this prayer with them:

Look down upon me, good and gentle Jesus, while before you I humbly kneel and, with burning soul, pray and beg you to fix deep in my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope, and charity, true contrition for my sins, and a firm purpose of amendment; while I contemplate, with great love and tender pity, your five most precious wounds, pondering over them within

me and calling to mind the words which David, your prophet, said of you, my Jesus: "They have pierced my hands and my feet, they have numbered all my bones." Amen.

Then all make the sign of the cross together.

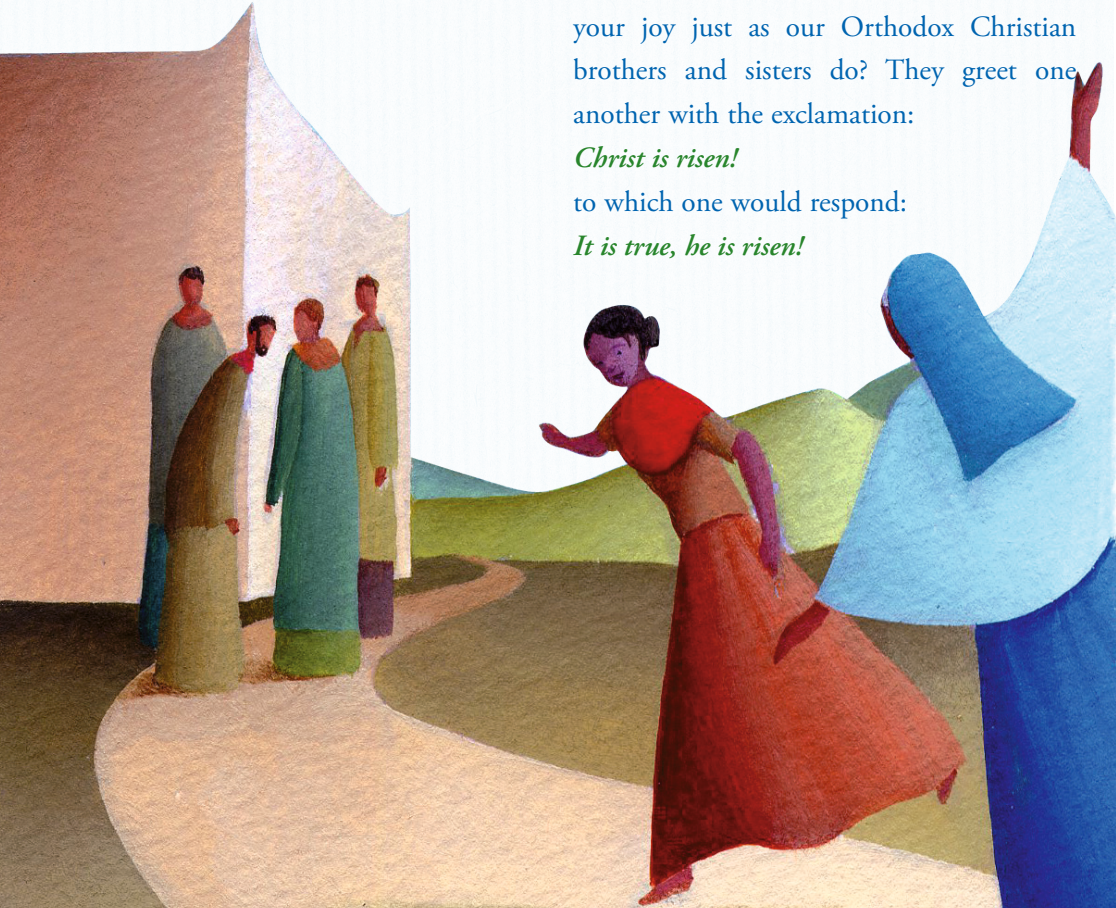
■ Easter

Beginning on the eve of Easter (if you participate in the Easter Vigil), or on Easter morning, let the joy of the Resurrection shine into your lives. Let your home resound with laughter and alleluias. Why not express your joy just as our Orthodox Christian brothers and sisters do? They greet one another with the exclamation:

Christ is risen!

to which one would respond:

It is true, he is risen!



April 5, 2020
Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

MagnifiKid!®



“Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord!”

brother Goodventure!



▶ Celebrating Jesus

In Hebrew, the name Jesus means "God saves." This week, show the love of Jesus, Savior of the human family, to a person who is suffering. Take a cup of hot chocolate to your sister who has the flu, or visit a classmate who has missed school. Smile and provide them with comfort and concern.

A hero like no other!

In the movies, the superhero always wins. The superhero usually wears a special costume, like Batman or Spiderman, and usually carries a powerful weapon or drives some fast and flashy vehicle. Jesus, the “superhero” of the Gospels, is quite different. He wins by losing. He dies and is abandoned by his friends. The soldiers take away his clothes and roll dice to see who wins them. Jesus’ only uniform is a mock crown made out of thorns. His only weapons are the cross and the nails from which he hangs. His vehicle into Jerusalem was a donkey. Even though the crowd welcomes him today as their king, on Friday they will cry out, “Crucify him! Crucify him!” This superhero, Jesus, didn’t come to destroy the enemies of the Jews, but to destroy sin and death. Jesus came not with violence, but with healing love. If Jesus is still your superhero, then hold your palm branches high, and greet him with, “Hosanna!”

Lisa Reno



► A special week

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. Bring a palm frond that has been blessed at Mass to three people of your choice. This is a way of telling them of your faith in Jesus, our Messiah, and your hope in his Resurrection.

Sunday, April 5th

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

THE COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM



→ On this day the Church recalls the entrance of Christ the Lord into Jerusalem to accomplish his Paschal Mystery. Accordingly, the memorial of this entrance of the Lord takes place at all Masses, by means of the Procession or the Solemn Entrance before the principal Mass or the Simple Entrance before other Masses.

🗨️ **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.**

🗨️ **Amen.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

When Jesus and the disciples drew near Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples,

saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tethered, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them here to me. And if anyone should say anything to you, reply, 'The master has need of them.' Then he will send them at once." This happened so that what had been spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled: *Say to daughter Zion, 'Behold, your king comes to you, meek and riding on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'* The disciples went and did as Jesus had ordered them. They brought the ass and the colt and laid their cloaks over them, and he sat upon them. The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road. The crowds preceding him and those following kept crying out and saying: "Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest." And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was shaken and asked, "Who is this?" And the crowds replied, "This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee."

(Matthew 21:1-11)

THIS WEEK'S
SPOTLIGHT

The Passion of Christ

Passion comes from a Latin word that means "sufferings." The story of the Passion of Jesus is recounted in the readings about his last meal with his disciples, his night of prayer in the garden of Gethsemane, his arrest, and his crucifixion.

- The four Gospels tell about the Passion of Jesus Christ. This shows the importance of the moment in time when Christ gave his life for all men, women, and children. On the third day, he will rise from the dead. It is the victory of God's love.

→ The Procession to the church where Mass will be celebrated then sets off in the usual way. As the Procession moves forward, chants in honor of Christ the King are sung by the choir and people.

Collect

🗨️ **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.**

🗨️ **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

My face I did not shield from buffets and spitting knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

The Lord GOD has given me/ a well-trained tongue,/ that I might know how to speak to the weary/ a word that will **rouse (1)** them./ Morning after morning/ he opens my ear that I may hear;/ and I

have not **rebelled (2)**,/ have not **turned back (3)**,/ I gave my back to those who beat me,/ my cheeks to those who plucked my beard;/ my face I did not shield/ from **buffets (4)** and spitting.

The Lord GOD is my help,/ therefore I am not **disgraced (5)**;/ I have set my face like **flint (6)**,/ knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

(Isaiah 50:4-7)

🗨️ **The word of the Lord.**

🗨️ **Thanks be to God.**



Psalm 22

℟. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me **scoff (7)** at me;
they mock me with parted lips, they
wag their heads:
“He relied on the LORD; let him
deliver him,
let him rescue him, if he loves him.” **℟.**

THE DIFFICULT WORDS

(1) **To rouse** someone is to wake that person up.

(2) **To rebel** means to fight back against something, to be unwilling to obey.

(3) **Turn back** here means to avoid or escape from something unpleasant. Here Isaiah does not turn back from God's word.

(4) A **buffet** is a sharp blow or hit with the hand.

(5) **Disgraced** means embarrassed, disrespected, or rejected.

(6) **Flint** is a hard stone that sparks when you hit it against another stone.

(7) **To scoff** means to make fun of


Indeed, many dogs surround me,
 a pack of evildoers closes in upon me;
 they have pierced my hands and my feet;
 I can count all my bones. **R.**

They divide my garments among them,
 and for my **vesture (8)** they
cast lots (9).

But you, O LORD, be not far from me;
 O my help, hasten to aid me. **R.**

I will **proclaim your name (10)** to
 my brethren;
in the midst of the assembly (11)

I will praise you:
 "You who fear the LORD, praise him;
 all you descendants of Jacob, give
 glory to him;
 revere him, all you descendants
 of Israel!" **R.**

 **A reading from
 the Letter of Saint Paul
 to the Philippians**

*Christ humbled himself. Because of this God greatly
 exalted him.*

Christ Jesus, though he was in the
form (12) of God,/ did not regard
 equality with God/ something to be


grasped (13)./ Rather, he emptied
 himself,/ taking the form of a slave,/ coming
 in human likeness;/ and found human in
 appearance,/ he humbled himself,/ becoming
 obedient to the point of death,/ even death
 on a cross./ Because of this, God greatly
exalted (14) him/ and **bestowed (15)**
 on him the name/ which is **above every
 name (16)**./ that at the name of Jesus/
 every knee should bend,/ of those in heaven
 and on earth and under the earth,/ and
 every tongue confess that/ Jesus Christ is
 Lord,/ to the glory of God the Father.


(Philippians 2:6-11)


 **The word of the Lord.**

 **Thanks be to God.**

Verse before the Gospel

 **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
 King of endless glory!**

 **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.**

 **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
 King of endless glory!**

Gospel

 **The Lord be with you.**

THE DIFFICULT WORDS

- someone in a cruel way.
- (8) Vesture** means clothing.
- (9) To cast lots** is to play a game, similar to dice, to see who gets something.
- (10) To proclaim the name of God** means to tell others of God's power; glory,
- and goodness.
- (11) In the midst of the assembly** means publicly, in front of everyone.
- (12) Form** means shape or likeness.
- Though Jesus was God, he was willing to look like a slave, like an ordinary man.

🗨️ **And with your spirit.**

🗨️ **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.**

🗨️ **Glory to you, Lord.**



The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

→ The Priest can choose to read a longer form of the Passion of Christ. Here is the short one.

✝️: Christ; 📖: Narrator; 🗨️: Voice; 👥: Crowd.

Jesus stood before the governor, Pontius Pilate, who questioned him, 🗨️ “Are you the king of the Jews?” 📖 Jesus said, ✝️ “You say so.” 📖 And when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he made no answer. Then Pilate said to him, 🗨️ “Do you not hear how many things they are testifying against you?” 📖 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, 🗨️ “Which one do you want me to release to you, Barabbas, or Jesus called Christ?” 📖 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, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man. I suffered much in a dream today because of him.” The chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas but to destroy Jesus. The governor said to them in reply, 🗨️ “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” 📖 They answered, 👥 “Barabbas!” 📖 Pilate said to them, 🗨️ “Then what shall I do with Jesus called Christ?” 📖 They all said, 👥 “Let him be crucified!” 📖 But he said, 🗨️ “Why? What evil has he done?” 📖 They only shouted the louder, 👥 “Let him be crucified!” 📖 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, 🗨️ “I am innocent of this man’s blood. Look to it yourselves.” 📖 And the whole people said in reply, 👥 “His blood be upon us and upon

THE DIFFICULT WORDS

(13) To be **grasped** means to be held tightly. Paul is saying that Jesus was happy to be like us in all things except sin.

(14) To **exalt** means to lift up and to honor and praise.

(15) To **bestow** means to give.

(16) **Above every name** means that it is the most special and powerful name; it is the name of God.

our children.” 📖 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, 👥 “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.

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, 👥 “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!”

📖 Likewise the chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him and said, 👥 “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.’” 📖 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, ✝ “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” 📖 which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” Some of the bystanders who heard it said, 👥 “This one is calling for Elijah.” 📖 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, 👥 “Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to save him.” 📖 But Jesus cried out again in a loud voice, and gave up his spirit.

→ *Here all kneel and pause for a short time.*

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ (“Anima Christi” in Latin) is a beautiful traditional prayer of the Church. Take time to say this prayer during this very special week.

- Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
- Body of Christ, save me.
- Blood of Christ, fill me.
- Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
- Passion of Christ, strengthen me.

☞ 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, ☞☞☞ "Truly, this was the Son of God!"

(Matthew 27:11-54)

🗨️ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

🗨️ **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



Homily

Profession of Faith

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial
with the Father;

through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

→ All bow until the words: "and became man."
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,

he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father
and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is
adored and glorified,

THIS WEEK'S SPOTLIGHT

○ good Jesus, hear me.
Within your wounds hide me.
Never let me be separated from you.
From the evil enemy defend me.
In the hour of death call me,

- And tell me to come unto you.
- That with your saints I may praise you
- For ever and ever:
- Amen.
-
-

who has spoken through the prophets.
 I believe in one, holy, catholic
 and apostolic Church.
 I confess one Baptism
 for the forgiveness of sins
 and I look forward to
 the resurrection of the dead
 and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Presentation and Preparation of the Gifts

→ If the Offertory Chant is not sung, the Priest may speak these words aloud:



Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,/ for through your goodness we have received/ the bread we offer

you:/ fruit of the earth and work of human hands,/ it will become for us the bread of life.

Q Blessed be God for ever.

Q Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,/ for through your goodness we have received/ the wine we offer you:/ fruit of the vine and work of human hands,/ it will become our spiritual drink.

Q Blessed be God for ever.

Invitation to Prayer

Q Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),/ that my sacrifice and yours/ may be acceptable to God,/ the almighty Father.

Q May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

Q Through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son, O Lord,/ may our reconciliation with you be near at hand,/ so that, though we do not merit it by our own deeds,/ yet by this sacrifice made once for all,/ we

Hosanna

Hosanna means "save us" in Hebrew. When Jesus enters Jerusalem, the crowds wave palm branches and set them on his path as a sign of honor and respect.

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- They cheer him with shouts of "Hosanna!" and a line from Psalm 118: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." This
- statement is a way to express that Jesus is
-
-

may feel already the effects of your mercy./ Through Christ our Lord.

🗨 Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

🗨 **The Lord be with you.**

🗨 **And with your spirit.**

🗨 **Lift up your hearts.**

🗨 **We lift them up to the Lord.**

🗨 **Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

🗨 **It is right and just.**

Preface: The Passion of the Lord

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,/ always and everywhere to give you thanks,/ Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,/ through Christ our Lord./ For, though innocent, he suffered willingly for sinners/ and accepted unjust condemnation to save the guilty./ His Death has washed away our sins,/ and his Resurrection has purchased our justification./ And so, with all the Angels,/ we praise you, as in joyful celebration we acclaim:

🗨 **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord
God of hosts.**

Heaven and earth are full

of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

→ The Priest has over ten different texts to choose from. During this prayer, he asks the Holy Spirit to transform the bread and wine so that they become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. The Priest then says the words of Jesus:

“TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,/ FOR THIS IS MY BODY,/ WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.”

“TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,/ FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,/ THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,/ WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY/ FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS./ DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.”

→ After the Body and Blood of Christ are raised, we say or sing an acclamation. This is the most common one:

🗨 **The mystery of faith.**

🗨 **We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

→ During the rest of the Eucharistic Prayer, we pray for the whole Church. At the end, the Priest says:

🗨 **Through him, and with him, and**

THIS WEEK'S SPOTLIGHT

the Messiah sent by God. In the Mass, these words are repeated in the Sanctus, which in Latin means “holy.”

The Sanctus is the “Holy, Holy, Holy” prayer said or sung right before the Eucharistic Prayer; it praises God for his holiness.

in him,/ **O God, almighty Father,/ in the unity of the Holy Spirit,/ all glory and honor is yours,/ for ever and ever.**

Q **Amen.**



Communion Rite

Q **At the Savior's command/ and formed by divine teaching,/ we dare to say:**

Q **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.

Q **Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,/ graciously grant peace in our days,/ that, by the help of your mercy,/ we may be always free from sin/ and safe from all distress,/ as we await the blessed hope/ and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.**

Q **For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

Q **Lord Jesus Christ,/ who said to your Apostles:/ Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,/ look not on our sins,/ but on the faith of your Church,/ and graciously grant her peace and unity/ in accordance with your will./ Who live and reign for ever and ever.**

Q **Amen.**

Q **The peace of the Lord be with you always.**

Q **And with your spirit.**

→ *Then the Deacon or the Priest may say:*

Q **Let us offer each other the sign of peace.**

→ *Then the Priest takes the host, breaks it over the paten, and places a small piece in the chalice. Meanwhile, the following is sung or said:*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Your prayer after Communion

After receiving Holy Communion, you can say this prayer silently to yourself. If you have not yet received your First Communion, you can still say this prayer because of your desire to receive Jesus.

- Father, through Jesus Christ, in union with
- the whole Church, I thank you for coming
- into my heart. It's never too late to receive
- your love and forgiveness.
-
-

Invitation to Communion

→ While holding up the consecrated host, the Priest says:

🗨 **Behold the Lamb of God,/ behold him who takes away the sins of the world./ Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.**

🗨 **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

Prayer after Communion

🗨 **Nourished with these sacred gifts,/ 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.**

🗨 **Amen.**

CONCLUDING RITES

Brief announcements

Prayer over the People and Final Blessing

🗨 **The Lord be with you.**

🗨 **And with your spirit.**

🗨 **Look, we pray, O Lord, on this your family,/ for whom our Lord Jesus Christ/ did not hesitate to be delivered into the hands of the wicked/ and submit to the agony of the Cross./ Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.**

🗨 **Amen.**

🗨 **And may the blessing of almighty God,/ the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,/ come down on you and remain with you for ever.**

🗨 **Amen.**

Dismissal

→ In these or similar words the Priest or Deacon dismisses the people:

🗨 **Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.**

🗨 **Thanks be to God.**



Help me to follow you this week and to comfort you by my love and prayerfulness. Amen.

• Now, listen attentively to the prayer that the Priest is going to say in the name of the entire congregation. It is your prayer, too. You can follow along in *MagnifiKid!* It is the Prayer after Communion.

LET'S BEGIN HOLY WEEK!

On Palm Sunday, Christians begin Holy Week.

It is the most important week of the year because it leads us right up to Easter Sunday. The Church invites us to follow Jesus through his Passion and all the way to his Resurrection.



On Palm Sunday the Priest wears red vestments.

THE EASTER TRIDUUM

The end of Holy Week is called the Easter Triduum. Triduum comes from a Latin word that means "three days": Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Shortly before these three days, the Bishop celebrates a Chrism Mass surrounded by all his Priests. During the Mass, they all renew their commitment to the Church as Priests in the service of their brothers and sisters. The Bishop consecrates (makes sacred) the oils that are going to be used for different sacraments.

On Holy Thursday, Christians remember the final meal that Jesus had with his disciples, the Last Supper. He washed their feet as a sign of love and of service.

He gave them the Eucharist to nourish them with his Body and his Blood.



On Holy Thursday the Priest wears white vestments.

On Good Friday, the Church celebrates the day when Jesus died on the cross. Mass is never celebrated on this day. Instead, Christians are encouraged to make the Stations of the Cross or to participate in the Celebration of the Lord's Passion. At the latter, the story of the Passion of Jesus is read from the Gospel of John. This is followed by the special prayers for the human race and then the Adoration of the Holy Cross and Holy Communion.



On Good Friday the Priest wears red vestments.

Holy Saturday

is a day of silence because Jesus is in the tomb. During the day there is no Mass. But in the evening, Christians gather for the Easter Vigil. This is a long and beautiful celebration of the Resurrection that starts with the blessing of the new fire, a sign of the light that Christ brings to us. Adults who have been preparing for baptism are baptized on this night.



On Holy Saturday the Priest wears white vestments.

On Easter Sunday

, the joy of the Resurrection gives rise to a great day. At Mass, Christians renew their Baptismal Promises and are sprinkled with the holy water blessed at the vigil. After the Mass, we celebrate by partaking of some of the treats we gave up during Lent. The Easter Season lasts seven weeks, until Pentecost.



On Easter Sunday the Priest wears white vestments.

HOLY WEEK CELEBRATIONS IN MY PARISH

To be sure not to forget anything, check your parish bulletin and copy down the times of the Holy Week celebrations.

• Holy Thursday (April 9)

Celebration of the Lord's Supper:

• Holy Saturday (April 11)

Easter Vigil:

• Good Friday (April 10)

Stations of the Cross:
Celebration of the Passion:

• Easter Sunday (April 12)

Mass of the Resurrection:



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The Entrance into Jerusalem, mural, Saint Sebastian Chapel, Lanslevillard, France.

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