

The Paschal Triduum 3/20/16

Dear Parishioners,

I am looking forward to celebrating the Paschal Triduum with you. The saving events we celebrate this week reveal the depth of God's unfathomable love for us in His Son Jesus Christ. They also unmask the horror and insidious nature of sin which leads to death. Only in, with and through Jesus can we discover sin's subtle and very real hold on us. And only when we give our life over to Jesus can we encounter the JOY-FILLED GOOD NEWS—the GOSPEL—that sin can be forgiven and death can be transformed into NEW LIFE. This is precisely what we celebrate in Holy Week.

Let [the paschal fast] be celebrated everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible, prolonged throughout Holy Saturday, so that the joys of the Sunday of the resurrection may be attained with uplifted and clear mind (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of Vatican II).

HOLY THURSDAY MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

8pm at Ascension (INCENSE WILL BE USED)

- Foot Washing Ritual:

Pope Francis has changed the Rite of "The Washing of the Feet" in a letter dated December 20, 2015, part of which is below:

I have been reflecting on the Rite of "The Washing of Feet", contained in the Liturgy of In Missa in cena Domini, with the aim of improving the procedure, in order to fully express the significance of the gesture Jesus performed in the Upper Room, giving of himself "to the very end" for the salvation of the world, his boundless charity.

After careful consideration, I have reached the decision to make a change in the rubric of the Roman Missal. Therefore, I order that the rubric according to which the candidates chosen to receive the washing of feet be men or boys be modified in such a way as to enable the Pastors of the Church from now on to choose the candidates for the rite from among all members of the People of God.

The 7 sacraments are the primary means by which God infuses his divine life into us. Therefore, given Pope Francis' aforementioned change, on this Holy Thursday I have chosen to underscore the vital importance of the sacraments by washing the feet of parishioners have recently or will soon celebrate various sacraments. Here is a list of the parishioners and which sacrament they will be receiving:

Liam son of Dale & Angela McCrea—Baptism 10/17/15 (Ascension)

Avery daughter of Matt and Jami Smith—1st Reconciliation 1/16/16 (Ascension)

Sarah daughter of Greg & Anastasia Kostecka—1st Holy Communion 4/23/16 (Ascension)

Nathan son of Mike & Debbie Worm—Confirmation 4/16/16 (St. Bernard)

Jason & Laura Templin—Marriage convalidation Spring 2016 (St. Bernard)

Shane Lobitz (wife--Mackenzie)—1st Reconciliation, received into Church, Confirmation & 1st Holy Communion 5/15/16 (St. Bernard)

Dorothy Braunwarth—Anointing of the Sick 3/11/16 (Ascension)

- Keeping watch with our Lord:

At the conclusion of Holy Thursday Mass you are encouraged to stay and adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament during which we will intermittently read the beautiful “Farewell Discourses” in John 13-17, ending the night with Compline (Night Prayer) at 10:15pm.

GOOD FRIDAY—FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

3pm at Ascension: Living Stations of the Cross

5pm at Ascension: Celebration of the Lord’s Passion

- Reading of the Passion, Solemn Intercessions, Adoration of the Cross, Holy Communion

7pm at St. Bernard: Celebration of the Lord’s Passion

- Reading of the Passion, Solemn Intercessions, Adoration of the Cross, Holy Communion
- Keeping watch with our Lord:

At the conclusion of the Good Friday Liturgy you are encouraged to stay, contemplate the mystery of the cross in Jesus’ life and in ours. We will also meditate on our Lord’s 7 last words and end our night with Compline at 9:15pm.

EASTER VIGIL (INCENSE WILL BE USED)

8pm at St. Bernard

- The Service of Light with the singing of the Exsultet (The Easter Proclamation)
- The Liturgy of the Word providing a brief summary of Salvation History through Christ
- The ALLELUIA RETURNS!!!
- The Blessing of the Water
- The Liturgy of the Eucharist

EASTER SUNDAY

8 & 10am at Ascension

10am at St. Bernard (Fr. Jerry Berger)

In God’s awesome love,

Fr. Gregory