

Come, join in the journey of

The SACRED



PASCHAL TRIDUUM



Our Lady of Victory

"Love God. Love Others. Make Disciples."

The Sacred Paschal Triduum is:

the *holiest* three days of the Church Year. From sunset on **Holy Thursday, March 29th**, through sunset on **Easter Sunday, April 1st**, we *fast and feast, pray and watch*. We celebrate the **three days of Easter**. We have been preparing throughout the Season of Lent, and now we come to:

Holy Thursday, MARCH 29th

We begin this day gathering for Morning Prayer at 8:30 AM, and look forward with anticipation to the actual start of

‡ The Sacred Paschal (Easter) Triduum which begins with

‡ Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper ‡
at 7:00 PM

We model discipleship by serving as the Lord has served, witnessed in the *washing of feet* – “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.” (John 13:1-15)



We then come to the table of the Lord, where we remember; where we present our gifts: for those in need; the gift of ourselves; the simple gifts of bread and wine. Here, we offer our God a sacrifice of thanks and praise; here we are fed the heavenly food and drink that strengthens and sustains us in our mission to care for one another, especially the lost and forgotten. This is our constant hope, that, “in the midst of conflict and division” we return the gift God continues to give to us, “the sacrifice of reconciliation”. As Saint Paul proclaims in his first Letter to the Corinthians, we too, hand on what we have received, believing that “. . . as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.” (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

We then keep watch with Christ this night, at the Altar of Reposition, concluding with Night Prayer in Room 101 of the Parish Center at 9:45 PM.

Good Friday, MARCH 30th

Again, the community gathers for Morning Prayer at 8:30 AM, Good Friday, March 30th. We join in the prayer of the Church with our brothers and sisters throughout the world, in our own community, in the sick, in the suffering and in the dying. The Church remains open throughout this day, a quiet refuge for all who simply want to sit and reflect on the great event of God's love that took place centuries ago.

We gather then for the culmination of this holy day being the solemn

✠ Celebration of the Lord's Passion ✠
at 3:00 PM

The central celebration of this day, we gather in silence to receive the proclamation of the Passion of the Lord according to the Evangelist John; to pray at length for the world's needs and to be a part of a once a year event - the Cross, lifted in our midst - and venerated by old and young, rich and poor alike.

Stations of the Cross, at 7:00 PM, prayerfully portrayed by our 7th/8th Grade youth brings a powerful close to this holy day.



On Holy Saturday morning, March 31st, the community comes together at 8:30 AM for Morning Prayer, as we continue our fasting and our prayer, waiting and anticipating God's saving action in Christ. We are privileged to celebrate the Preparation Rites with our Elect . . . those to be baptized, and, along with our Candidate, to be confirmed, and welcomed to the Table of the Lord for the first time at the solemn celebration of our Easter Vigil in the Holy Night . . . the "mother" of all Vigils.

This prayer leads us to the preparation of the Church for the celebration of ✠ The EASTER VIGIL in the HOLY NIGHT and The Initiation of our Elect and Reception of Candidate into the Church ✠. This remains a day of fasting and prayer as we prepare for the great events of the evening.

At 2:00 PM, families are invited to gather for the blessing of food . . . the food to be eaten and shared at the first meal of Easter.

CHRIST YESTERDAY & TODAY

The great fast of **The TRIDUUM** is concluded following **The EASTER VIGIL** in the **HOLY NIGHT** and the initiation of our **Elect** and the **Reception of our Candidate into the Church**, at **8:00 PM**. At the **Vigil**, we gather around the fire and are reminded that Christ not only brings warmth but light to our lives, from the darkness of despair. We hear in the opening introduction of this **Vigil**: *“Dear brothers and sisters, on this most sacred night, in which our Lord Jesus Christ passed over from death to life, the Church calls upon her sons and daughters, scattered throughout the world, to come together to watch and pray. If we keep the memorial of the Lord’s paschal solemnity in this way, listening to his word and celebrating his mysteries, then we shall have the sure hope of sharing his triumph over death and living with him in God.”* (Roman Missal)



This night stands at the very center of our life. We proclaim Christ as our Light. We hear powerful stories from Scripture of God’s saving action – stories that become our stories. We join with the Saints in singing God’s praises. Our holy font is once again revived and filled with water that will be used to remind us of our own baptism into the death and resurrection of our Lord, and so, we call down God’s blessing, through the power of God’s Holy Spirit, on these waters, in anticipation of the new life that will spring forth from them. We renounce our old ways and once again renew our baptismal promises, and are refreshed by these waters. Then, hungry from our fasting, we eat and drink at the Lord’s Table, sharing in the bread and wine of our salvation.

✠ **Easter Sunday** ✠, April 1st, the celebration of **The Resurrection of The Lord** continues in the celebration of **Eucharist** at **7:30 AM**, **9:30 AM** and **11:30 AM**.

The SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM of the LORD as it began, in the dark of night, so it ends at sunset on **Easter Sunday**, God, once again, doing great things in our midst.