



## HOLY THURSDAY

The Sacred Paschal Triduum begins the Evening of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. Triduum comes from the Latin word for "three days."

These three days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil are the highpoint of our entire liturgical year. Holy Thursday especially commemorates Jesus's command to serve others, modeled explicitly in the washing of feet and the celebration of the Eucharist.

How do you serve others in your own family and community? Why is it important to connect our daily service to others with Jesus's command to do so?

Even when we are unable to gather to celebrate Eucharist, we are still called to be a eucharistic people. Jesus's gift of Himself in the Eucharist allows us to give freely of ourselves to others, following Jesus' instructions, **"Do this in memory of me."**

Our own table fellowship with our family and friends is also a participation in the Eucharist, because the Eucharist by its very nature is deeply relational. If we limit our understanding of Eucharist to only what we receive at Mass, we are missing a major part of Christ's invitation to us.

## WASHING OF FEET ON HOLY THURSDAY

The washing of feet, has been a Holy Thursday practice since as early as the seventh century.

A concrete representation of our call to service, the washing of feet in the Holy Thursday liturgy reminds us of Jesus' example and command. If we truly understand this command, however, we realize that we are called to do more than literally wash feet. Rather, this is a ritual that reminds us of our call to serve others through the concrete realities of life.

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**"Do this in memory of me"** is a command and call to action. Do we dare to live our lives following the example of Christ?

## INSTRUCTIONS

This para- liturgy takes place in the presence of all the family members. The head of the house can play the role of the leader or in the absence of the head of the family any elderly person may take the role. Basin, towel, water and a jug may be prepared ahead of time.

## A HYMN OF PRAISE

### GIVE THANKS

Give thanks  
with a grateful heart  
Give thanks  
To the Holy One  
Give thanks  
For he has given Jesus  
Chris, His Son (x2)

And now let the weak say  
I am strong  
Let the Poor say  
I am RICH  
Because of what  
the Lord has  
Done for Us

(X2—Give thanks)

## INTRODUCTION

*Leader* : In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit

*All* : Amen

*Leader* : Dear family, in a moment of silence let us  
acknowledge our sins—especially for the  
times we failed to show love to one another—  
and ask the Lord for pardon

*(Pause for a brief moment of silence)*

*Leader* : Have mercy on us O Lord

*All* : For we have sinned against you.

*Leader* : Show us O Lord you mercy

*All* : And grant us your salvation.

*Leader* : May the Almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive our sins, and bring us to everlasting  
life.

*All* : Amen.

*Leader* : Together let us praise God as we sing to  
Him a hymn of praise

## OPENING PRAYER

*Leader* : Loving God, You show us by example how to  
love others. Today as we celebrate Holy  
Thursday, we remember when you washed the  
feet of your disciples. Give us the strength  
and love to wash each other's feet, not only in  
the ritual moment of today, but in all  
moments of our lives. May we as a family  
recommit ourselves to the service of others.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord

*All* : Amen

## LITURGY OF THE WORD : JOHN 13:1-15

### A READING OF THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN

Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus, knowing that His hour had come that He would depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup> And during supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon, to betray Him, <sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that the Father had handed all things over to Him, and that He had come forth from God and was going *back* to God, <sup>4</sup> got up from supper and laid His outer garments *aside*; and He took a towel and tied it around Himself.

<sup>5</sup> Then He poured water into the basin, and began washing the disciples' feet and wiping them with the towel which He had tied around Himself. <sup>6</sup> So He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, "Lord, You are washing my feet?" <sup>7</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing, you do not realize right now, but you will understand later." <sup>8</sup> Peter said to Him, "Never shall You wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no place with Me." <sup>9</sup> Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, *then wash* not only my feet, but also my hands and my head!" <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, "He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet; otherwise he is completely clean. And you are clean—but not all *of you*." <sup>11</sup> For He knew the one who was betraying Him; *it was* for this reason *that* He said, "Not all *of you* are clean."

<sup>12</sup> Then, when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined *at the table* again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done for you? <sup>13</sup> You call Me 'Teacher' and 'Lord'; and you are correct, for so I am. <sup>14</sup> So if I, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup> For I gave you an example, so that you also would do just as I did for you.

The Gospel of the Lord

All : Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

### THE WASHING OF FEET

Instruction:

**All may be seated.**

**The elder in the family will wash the feet of each of the family members. Then, the rest of the family members will do likewise.**

**The youngest will wash the feet of the rest of the family members last.**

**This family washing of the feet will end with the kiss of peace/ embrace of peace.**

After the washing of the feet follows the Prayers Intercessions.



## PRAYER INTERCESSIONS

Leader : Confident the Jesus Christ hears our prayers, let us offer our petitions with open heart....



- ◆ We pray for the Church on earth, especially Pope Francis, our Bishop Sebastian Francis and all our clergy, that they may be guided to a greater understanding of the perfect love and service of Christ.

**We pray to the Lord.**

*R/. Lord hear our prayer.*

- ◆ We pray for those in positions of power and influence in our country and the world, that they may understand the spirit of Christ's sacrifice and lead with integrity and justice. **We pray to the Lord.** *R/. Lord hear our prayer.*
- ◆ We pray for an end to the COVID-19 pandemic, that the Lord will bless the use of vaccines to stop the threat of this virus and restore to us all that the locusts have eaten. **We pray to the Lord.** *R/. Lord hear our prayer.*
- ◆ We pray for those who are sick and in need of God's healing touch. That the amazing grace of God will overwhelm them and assure them that God is walking with them all the way and that they are never alone to face the trials and challenges that beset them. He will be their strength when they are at their weakest. **We pray to the Lord.** *R/. Lord hear our prayer.*
- ◆ We pray for unity in our families, for the grace to forgive and the grace to be forgiven. That this Easter, the Lord will bring reconciliation and restoration to our families. **We pray to the Lord.** *R/. Lord hear our prayer.*
- ◆ We pray for the dead, especially the deceased members of our family, those who have died from the coronavirus that God in His goodness will grant them their eternal reward. **We pray to the Lord.** *R/. Lord hear our prayer.*

Let us now pray for our own intentions in silence. (Pause for a few seconds)

**We pray to the Lord.** *R/. Lord hear our prayer.*

*Leader : Father, we come before you and present our needs to you, humbled by the Eucharistic Love and Generosity of Your Son, our Eternal Priest, who lives and reigns for ever and ever*

**All:** Amen

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ON THE BUSINESS OF  
WASHING FEET

*Learning humility from the powerful  
example of Jesus washing the feet of His  
disciples*

LET US NOW PRAY IN THE WORDS THAT  
JESUS TAUGHT US ...

Our Father, Thou art in heaven  
Hallowed be Thy name  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done  
On earth as it is in heaven  
Give us our daily bread  
Forgive us our trespassers  
As we forgive those who trespass against us  
Do not lead us into temptation  
But deliver us from evil  
Amen

*“Now let us share with one another the sign of Christ’s peace”*

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Leader :

Lord God, in times of darkness,  
be our light, in times of pain,  
be our strength, in times of  
isolation and anxiety, draw us  
into the healing love of Christ  
who shared our human weak-  
ness to bring us to the glory of  
resurrection.

All : Amen

All : And may Almighty  
God Bless Us– In the  
name of the Father,  
and of the Son and of  
the Holy Spirit. Amen

Leader : Let us Bless the Lord.

All : Thanks be to God



FINAL HYMN

**JESUS , WE ENTHRONE YOU**

JESUS, WE ENTHRONE YOU  
WE PROCLAIM YOU ARE KING  
STANDING HERE, IN THE MIDST OF US  
WE RAISE YOU UP WITH OUR PRAISE

AND AS WE WORSHIP BUILD YOUR THRONE  
AND AS WE WORSHIP BUILD YOUR THRONE  
AND AS WE WORSHIP BUILD YOUR THRONE  
COME LORD JESUS AND TAKE YOUR PLACE