



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. ² And during supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon, to betray Him, ³ 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, ⁴ got up from supper and laid His outer garments *aside*; and He took a towel and tied it around Himself.

⁵ 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. ⁶ So He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, "Lord, You are washing my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing, you do not realize right now, but you will understand later." ⁸ 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." ⁹ Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, *then wash* not only my feet, but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ 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*." ¹¹ For He knew the one who was betraying Him; *it was* for this reason *that* He said, "Not all *of you* are clean."

¹² 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? ¹³ You call Me 'Teacher' and 'Lord'; and you are correct, for so I am. ¹⁴ So if I, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ 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**