



NOTES on HOLY WEEK 2020

updated & expanded from the ODW Bulletin of February 2020

Holy Week | *from* Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, April 5, 2020
to Holy Saturday, April 11, 2020 (*concluding before Easter Vigil*)

Theme | Commemoration of Christ's Passion,
beginning with his Messianic entrance into Jerusalem

CLARIFICATION

Palm Sunday and Monday through Thursday of Holy Week are part of the Season of Lent, which season concludes before the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. The Paschal Triduum begins with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and concludes with Evening Prayer on the Sunday of the Resurrection.

cf. Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year, 18-19

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (April 5, 2020)

- † The proper texts of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord must be used. The optional Memorial of St. Vincent Ferrer is omitted in 2020.
- † One of the three forms for the Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem must be used at all Masses (Procession, Solemn Entrance, or Simple Entrance). The presider may wear a red cope for the procession, in which case he sets it aside at the conclusion of the procession and puts on a red chasuble.
- † The Gospel of the Passion is read without incense or candles. The greeting and signing of the book are omitted. The veneration of the book with a kiss is omitted, but "The Gospel of the Lord" is said with its response. The Gospel may be read by the deacon, a concelebrant, or the presider; or, the Gospel may be read by lay readers with the part of Christ reserved to the priest.
- † On this day, the Order of Placing Branches in the Home may be celebrated in homes (*Catholic Household Book of Blessings and Prayers*, 108-109).

Weekdays of Holy Week (April 6-11, 2020)

- † *Monday of Holy Week:* Proper texts of this day are used, unless a Funeral Mass, which is permitted, is celebrated. The use of prayers & readings for Ritual Masses, Masses for Various Needs, and Votive Masses is not permitted.
- † *Tuesday of Holy Week:* Proper texts of this day are used, unless a Funeral Mass, which is permitted, is celebrated. The use of prayers & readings for Ritual Masses, Masses for Various Needs, and Votive Masses is not permitted. The Memorial of St. John Baptist de la Salle is omitted in 2020.
- † *Wednesday of Holy Week:* Proper texts of this day are used, unless a Funeral Mass, which is permitted, is celebrated. The use of prayers & readings for Ritual Masses, Masses for Various Needs, and Votive Masses is not permitted.

[Weekdays of Holy Week (April 6-11, 2020) *continued*]

- † *Thursday of Holy Week (Holy Thursday)*: The only Masses permitted on this day are the Chrism Mass and the Evening Mass of Thursday of the Lord's Supper. Funeral Masses, Ritual Masses, Masses for Various Needs, and Votive Masses are not permitted. According to ancient tradition, all Masses without an assembly are forbidden. On Holy Thursday, Communion is only distributed during the liturgy, but it may be taken to the sick at any appropriate hour.

✠ Chrism Mass ✠

Thursday, April 9, 2020, 10:30am • Cathedral of Saint Thomas More

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge • *Bishop of Arlington, Principal Celebrant & Homilist*

- † *Friday of Holy Week (Good Friday) & Saturday of Holy Week (Holy Saturday)*: Friday & Saturday of Holy Week are part of the Paschal Triduum (*see below*). The Memorial of St. Stanislaus is omitted in 2020.

The Sacred Paschal Triduum | “In the Sacred Triduum, the Church solemnly celebrates the greatest mysteries of our redemption, keeping by means of special celebrations the memorial of her Lord, crucified, buried, and risen” (*The Sacred Paschal Triduum*, 1 [in *The Roman Missal*]). The Paschal Triduum begins with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and concludes with Evening Prayer on the Sunday of the Resurrection. (*Additional details on the observance of the Sacred Paschal Triduum will be provided in future bulletins.*)

Order of Liturgy of the Hours (*Palm Sunday through Holy Thursday*)

- † Hymns for Holy Week may be found in the Liturgy of the Hours. The hymn for Night Prayer may be chosen from the Evening Prayer hymns for Holy Week.

Sacraments and Funerals (*Palm Sunday through Holy Thursday*)

- † *Baptism and Confirmation*: Because the Easter Vigil is the natural place for Baptism and Confirmation, these Sacraments are ordinarily not celebrated during Holy Week, except in danger of death.
- † *Penance/Reconciliation*: The Season of Lent, especially Holy Week, is a most fitting time for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, including communal celebrations (Rite II of the *Rite of Penance*).
- † *Matrimony*: Matrimony is ordinarily not celebrated during Holy Week.
- † *Funerals*: Funerals are permitted. However, on Holy Thursday and during the Paschal Triduum funeral rites make use of a Liturgy of the Word closing with the rite of Farewell (*Order of Christian Funerals*, part I, no. 4); readings should reflect the nature of these days and Communion is not distributed.

Music, Arts, & Environment (*Palm Sunday through Holy Thursday*)

- † Instruments are played only to give the necessary support to the singing.
- † The altar is not decorated with flowers; other decorations should be restrained.
- † Crosses & images may be covered on the 5th Sun. of Lent. Crosses remain covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord's Passion; images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.

Additional details on the observance of the Sacred Paschal Triduum and Easter Time will be provided in other resources.