

“The Great Week”



St Joseph's Lent Sessions 2026
Deacon Richard Martin

1

Overview

- **Palm Sunday**
 - Monday of Holy Week
 - Tuesday of Holy Week (“Fig Tuesday”)
 - Wednesday of Holy Week (“Spy Wednesday”)
 - **Maundy Thursday (Holy Thursday)**
 - **Good Friday**
 - **Holy Saturday (*not “Easter Saturday”!*)**
 - **Easter Sunday**
- } Sacred Triduum

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2

Discussion in groups:

- What can you remember from last week?
What struck you last week?
- What do you think about the veiling of crosses and statues?
- How do you feel about objects being a connection with people/events?

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3

Good Friday



3rd April

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4

Good Friday: Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

- No Mass today – the only day in the year
- Bare altar – empty tabernacle - enter in silence
- Prostration before the Altar (Priest and Deacon)
- No Sign of the Cross
- 3 parts:
 1. Liturgy of the Word
 2. Adoration of the Cross
 3. Holy Communion

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5

1 Liturgy of the Word

- 1st Reading: Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12 *Suffering Servant
He was pierced for our transgressions*
- Psalm: from Ps 31, response Luke 23:46
Father, into your hands I commend my spirit
- 2nd Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
*He learned obedience and became the source of
salvation to all who obey him*
- Gospel Acclamation: Philippians 2:8-9
Obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross
- The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
- Solemn Intercessions

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6

Solemn Intercessions

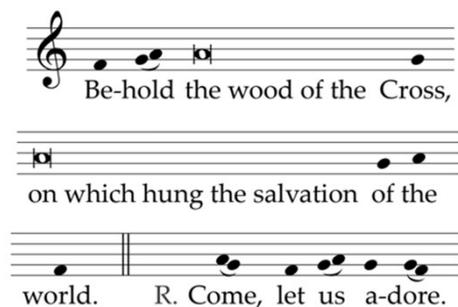
1. For Holy Church
2. For the Pope
3. For all orders and degrees of the faithful
4. For catechumens
5. For the unity of Christians
6. For the Jewish people
7. For those who do not believe in Christ
8. For those who do not believe in God
9. For those in public office
10. For those in tribulation

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7

2 Adoration of the Cross

• Showing of the Holy Cross



Be-hold the wood of the Cross,
on which hung the salvation of the
world. R. Come, let us a-dore.

• Adoration of the Holy Cross

- History
- Why?
- Current practice

All kneel briefly in adoration

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8

3 Holy Communion

- Preparation of Altar
- Retrieval of Blessed Sacrament
- No “Lamb of God”
- Holy Communion (no chalice)
- Repose Blessed Sacrament

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9

Conclusion of service

- Prayer and Blessing
- No Sign of the Cross or Dismissal
- Leave in silence, genuflecting to the Cross
- Collection to help maintain the 'Holy Places' in Jerusalem
- Altar stripped
- No Vespers (Evening Prayer) if attended this service

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10

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11

The Sacred Triduum continues...

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12