

“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

St Joseph’s Lent Sessions 2026 The Great Week Dcn Richard Martin

2

Good Friday: Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

- No Mass today
- 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

St Joseph's Lent Sessions 2026 The Great Week Dcn Richard Martin

3

Easter Vigil

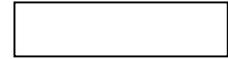
4th April



St Joseph's Lent Sessions 2026 The Great Week Dcn Richard Martin

4

Holy Saturday: The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night (and First Mass of Easter)



• 4 parts:

1. Service of Light (*Lucernarium*)
2. Liturgy of the Word
3. Baptismal Liturgy
4. Liturgy of the Eucharist

St Joseph's Lent Sessions 2026 The Great Week Dcn Richard Martin

5

1 Service of Light

- Church in darkness
- Gather round Easter Fire outside
- Blessing of Fire and Preparation of Paschal Candle
- Lighting of Paschal Candle
- Procession into darkened church – spread of light
- Easter Proclamation (*Exsultet*)

St Joseph's Lent Sessions 2026 The Great Week Dcn Richard Martin

6

2 Liturgy of the Word (1)

- Old Testament readings – story of salvation
reading – psalm – prayer
 1. Genesis 1: *Creation – God saw it was very good*
 2. Genesis 22: *Abraham and Isaac*
 3. Exodus 14: *Escape from Egypt through the sea*
 4. Isaiah 54: *God’s steadfast love and compassion*
 5. Isaiah 55: *Come to the waters everyone who thirsts*
 6. Baruch 3,4: *Walk towards the shining light of the Lord*
 7. Ezekiel 36: *I will give you a new heart... a new spirit*

St Joseph’s Lent Sessions 2026 The Great Week Dcn Richard Martin

7

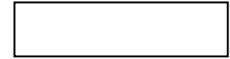
2 Liturgy of the Word (2)

- Old Testament readings – story of salvation
reading – psalm – prayer
- *Gloria!* (with bells)
- New Testament reading from Romans 6
- *Alleluia!!* with psalm
- Gospel (Year A/B/C)
- Homily

St Joseph’s Lent Sessions 2026 The Great Week Dcn Richard Martin

8

Holy Saturday: The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night (and First Mass of Easter)



• 4 parts:

1. Service of Light (*Lucernarium*)
2. Liturgy of the Word
3. Baptismal Liturgy
4. Liturgy of the Eucharist

St Joseph's Lent Sessions 2026 The Great Week Dcn Richard Martin

10

The Easter Vigil has begun...

St Joseph's Lent Sessions 2026 The Great Week Dcn Richard Martin

11