

WHAT MAKES HOLY WEEK HOLY

Published by: Dominic Raona on 04/11/2019



Foley's Forum

Bishop Foley Council 2660
serving Dearborn since 1927

WE MUST DIE TO BE BORN INTO ETERNAL LIFE

This weekend, as we progress through the long Mass of the Passion with the first Gospel praising Jesus as He enters into Jerusalem, and then stand through the long interactive Gospel of the Passion of our Lord, we can sum up all of Holy Week in this one Mass. But we would be cheating ourselves if we did not participate in the beautiful services of Holy Week.

We start Holy Thursday when the holy oils are blessed and the chrisam is consecrated at the cathedral at the Chrism Mass; representatives from parishes around the diocese attend and bring the holy oils back to their parish to use throughout the year. Mass is then celebrated that evening in Catholic churches around the world. It is the last Mass the church will celebrate until Easter Vigil. The Mass of the Last Supper celebrates two things: the institution of the Eucharist and Priesthood. Oftentimes, the priest or pastor will recommit to his vocation at this Mass. The priest then washes the feet of twelve men from the parish to represent Jesus washing His disciples' feet. It is a reminder that we are all called to serve one another. The Mass ends with a procession through the church with the Blessed Sacrament (Jesus Himself in the Eucharist). The procession ends with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament being placed on the altar of repose. The side altar is beautifully adorned with flowers and there Jesus stays until midnight when He is removed to the sacristy. This is the time for us to adore our Lord and wait and watch with Him as He asked His disciples to do in the Garden of Gethsemane.

As a day of fast, we are reminded of the significance of Good Friday. The solemnness of the Good Friday Service (not a Mass) allows us to venerate the cross and again relive the interactive Gospel Passion. Collective prayers allow the whole church to pray for the world, for unity of Christians, for people of other faiths and even for those who do not believe in God. There is no consecration, but the service ends with Communion that was consecrated at the Holy Thursday Mass the previous night.

Holy Saturday invites families to come together in tradition for the blessing of the Easter baskets. In years past, churches would be filled with people bringing their Easter food to be blessed. Sometimes parishes would have two or three different times for the blessings. As the day progresses and evening sets in, the church prepares for the Easter Vigil Mass. Starting when it becomes dark, the long Mass retraces the history of the Church and our salvation. From the blessing of light, water and readings that take us from Creation, Exodus all the way to Jesus' Resurrection! We welcome newly Baptized Catholics and confirm others who have not received their Sacraments. It is a long Mass, but if you are able to attend and stay up late, you will not regret it.

Easter Morning Masses continue to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. It is a time to renew our own Baptismal Promises. Without Jesus' Resurrection, we would not have 2000 years of faith. Think of that! The Holy Spirit has guided the Church through 2000 years of ups and downs. The current crises that the Church is in are no different from the history we have endured. Yet the Holy Spirit continues to guide those who choose to believe.

So as we prepare for Holy Week, let's remember that we call it Holy Week for a reason. It is the most solemn time in the Church Calendar. Without the Passion of our Lord, there would be no Resurrection, without darkness in our lives there is no awakening, without winter there is no spring. Let's look at this Easter as a rebirth, an awakening and a new spring. I hope your Lent was a good Lent and a time of reflection and preparedness as we celebrate Easter together next week.

This weekend is our Annual Palm Sunday Tootsie Roll Collection for the people who need our help because of a developmental or intellectual disability. Please be generous to your parish Knights! Thank you in advance.

HELP US HELP THEM





44th Annual M. I. Drive

To Assist Michigan Citizens with
Intellectual / Developmental Disabilities



THIS WEEKEND AFTER MASS
Please be help out your Parish Knights





KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MICHIGAN STATE COUNCIL



MICHIGAN DISTRICT 5 CLERGY APPRECIATION DINNER

BISHOP FOLEY COUNCIL 2660 along with:
Mgtr. Champion Council 2819, Robert Jones Council 3078 & Fr.
Saylor Council 3774

You are invited to attend an evening celebrating our area
clergy
for their dedication and devotion to all of us.
Non-members are welcome!

MONDAY, APRIL 29th
Doors Open at 6:00 – Dinner at 7:00

GUEST SPEAKER – Fr. Paul Ballen,
Detroit Diocesan Chaplain
FOLEY FAMILY of the YEAR
FOLEY KNIGHT of the YEAR

PARK PLACE BANQUET CENTER
23400 Park Street, Dearborn
(South of Michigan Avenue just West of Outer Drive)

Tickets just \$20 per person for dinner and open bar.
Complimentary tickets for Priests and Religious.
See your GK or call 313-212-1835 for more information.