



Lenten Newsletter 2021

HOLY FAMILY OF J.M.J CATHOLIC CHURCH VICTORIA



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Ash Wednesday Masses

February 17, 2021

6:00 AM

12:10 PM

4:00 PM

6:00 PM



VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments asked priests to take special anti-COVID-19 precautions this year when distributing ashes on Ash Wednesday,

Feb. 17, including sprinkling ashes on the top of people's heads rather than using them to make a cross on people's foreheads.

The directive on the "distribution of ashes in time of pandemic" directs priests to say "the prayer for blessing the ashes" and then sprinkle "the ashes with holy water, without saying anything."

"Then he addresses all those present and only once says the formula as it appears in the Roman Missal, applying it to all in general: 'Repent and believe in the Gospel' or 'Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.'"

"The priest then cleanses his hands, puts on a face mask and distributes the ashes to those who come to him or, if appropriate, he goes to those who are standing in their places," it said. "The priest takes the ashes and sprinkles them on the head of each one without saying anything."

The usual practice would be to repeat the formula -- "Repent and believe in the Gospel" or "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return" -- to each person as the ashes are sprinkled on the top of their head or rubbed onto their forehead. Sprinkling ashes on the top of people's heads, rather than marking foreheads with ashes, is the customary practice at the Vatican and in Italy. Given the spread of the coronavirus, the practice has the advantage of not requiring the priest to touch multiple people.

The Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments and the Diocese of Victoria asked priests to take special anti-COVID-19 precautions this year when distributing ashes on Ash Wednesday.



Mark your calendar for the Holy Family Lenten Penance Service, Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

Confession is available weekly on Saturday's at 11:30 am, and Monday and Friday from 5:30 until 5:55 pm.

FAST AND ABSTINENCE - **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. People aged 18 until age 59 are obligated to fast. When **fasting**, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal a full meal. The norms concerning **abstinence** from meat are binding from age 14 onwards. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.



Stations of the Cross—weekly devotion

For Catholics throughout the world, the Stations of the Cross are synonymous with Lent, Holy Week and, especially, Good Friday. This devotion known as the "Way of the Cross", commemorates 14 key events on the day of Christ's crucifixion. The Stations originated in medieval Europe when wars prevented Christian pilgrims from visiting the Holy Land. European artists created works depicting scenes of Christ's journey to Calvary. The faithful installed these sculptures or paintings at intervals along a procession, inside the parish church or outdoors. Performing the devotion meant walking the entire route, stopping to pray at each "station." Today the Stations of the Cross are depicted in virtually every Catholic Church, and prayed by millions of the faithful.



Join your parish community each Friday of Lent at 6:30 pm to pray, to remember, to honor your Savior.

Chrism Mass

Tuesday, March 30th, at 10:00 am
The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory

This Mass, which the bishop concelebrates with his college of presbyters and at which he consecrates the holy chrism and blesses the other oils, manifest the communion of the presbyters with their bishop.



The holy chrism consecrated by the bishop is used to anoint the newly baptized, to seal the candidates for confirmation, and to anoint the hands of presbyters and the heads of bishops at their ordination, as well as the rites of anointing pertaining to the dedication of churches and altars. The oil of catechumens is used in the preparation of the catechumens for their baptism. The oil of the sick is used to bring comfort and support to the sick in their infirmity.

Presbyters are brought together and concelebrate this Mass as witnesses and cooperators with their bishop in the consecration of the chrism because they share in the sacred office of the bishop in building up, sanctifying, and ruling the people of God. This Mass is, therefore, a clear expression of the unity of the priesthood and sacrifice of Christ, which continues to be present in the Church. *This year, attendance at this Mass will be limited to maintain safe distances, but it may be viewed online at <http://ourladyofvictory.sermon.net/>*



Easter Triduum

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| HOLY THURSDAY | APRIL 1ST | 7:00 PM |
| GOOD FRIDAY | APRIL 2ND | 3:00 PM |
| EASTER VIGIL | APRIL 3RD | 8:00 PM |



The Easter Triduum commemorates the heart of our faith: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Sacred Triduum begins with Holy Thursday, which marks the end of the forty days of Lent and the beginning of the three-day celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ - Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday.



The Triduum liturgies teach us the meaning of Christ's life, death, and resurrection. The richness of the rituals and symbols help us to experience the mysteries of Jesus' final hours, His passion, suffering -- and His rising from the dead. In a special way, during these three days, we come together as God's people to remember the saving act of Jesus, the miracle of His resurrection -- and to celebrate our faith and identity as Catholics. Because Christ was willing to die for our sins and was raised from the dead, death is no longer the end of life for us. It is the beginning of a new life in Him.

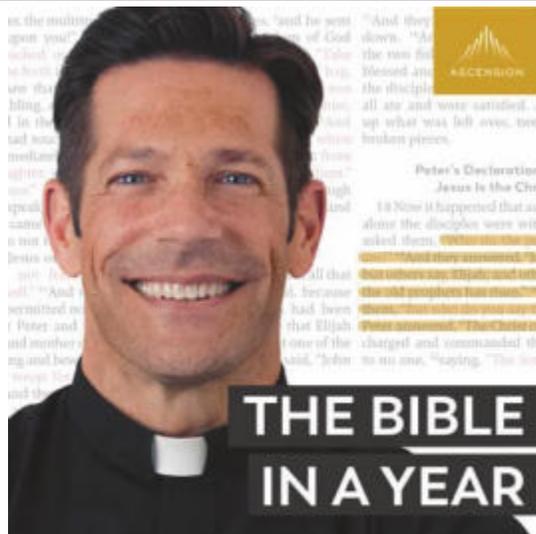
New Beginnings - April 3rd

During the Easter Vigil this year, we will welcome new Brothers and Sisters to our Catholic Family, to our parish family. Please keep them in your prayers during the remaining formation process as we approach this milestone in their spiritual journey. Welcome them during the Vigil, and afterwards by including them in our various parish ministries and activities. Also, it isn't too early to offer this faith journey to others by inviting them to join us in our next RCIA formation process later this year. Contact Dcn. Eddie for more information



Opportunities to assist you in your Lenten Journey.....

This year, because of the pandemic, your small group may be those in your immediate household. So rather than trying to form small groups within the parish, Disciples on the Journey is available to you online or by contacting the church for a printed copy. Online you may go to <https://disciplesonthejourney.org/> to view, or download the Adult, Family or Teen version of this informative lectionary based reflection. If you prefer not to go online, you may contact the church office to order your printed copies.



In The Bible in a Year podcast, Fr. Mike Schmitz walks you through the entire Bible in 365 episodes, providing commentary, reflection, and prayer along the way. Unlike any other Bible podcast, Ascension's Bible in a Year podcast follows a reading plan inspired by The Great Adventure Bible Timeline, a ground-breaking approach to understanding salvation history developed by renowned Catholic Bible scholar Jeff Cavins. For each period in the timeline, Jeff will join Fr. Mike for a special episode that will help you understand the context of each reading. With this podcast, you won't just read the Bible in a year ... you'll finally understand how all the pieces of the Bible fit together to tell an amazing story that continues in your life today! Listen and... Read the ENTIRE Bible

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IT'S NOT WHAT YOU GIVE UP

It's Who You Become

A Life-Changing Lenten Experience

Embrace a deeper, more spiritually rewarding life, and lose yourself in God this Lent.

Visit BestLentEver.com to take the first step toward unlocking your God-given potential.

BEST LENT EVER

This Lent, join Matthew Kelly and the Dynamic Catholic team for BEST LENT EVER - a free series of emails and video reflections that will help you to discover or rediscover God through prayer.

Join us each Thursday beginning Feb. 25, at 6:30 pm (or immediately after 6 pm Mass) in St. Peter's Hall for the Ascension Press Video Series *No Greater Love*. This 5 part series shown in less than one hour increments was filmed on location in the Holy Land. *No Greater Love* features Fr. Mike Schmitz, Jeff Cavins, Jennifer Fulwiler, Curtis Martin, Teresa Tomeo, Fr. Josh Johnson, and Elizabeth Sri. Best selling author Edward Sri will guide us as we experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for us.

For more information contact Gail Janecka at 361-550-0981.

Stations of the Cross—Good Friday



Join members of your parish family at **9:00 am April 2nd** (Good Friday) in the church for a special Good Friday Stations of the Cross. The Stations of the Cross is a powerful way to contemplate, and enter into, the mystery of Jesus' gift of himself to us. Stations of the Cross will conclude by praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Lent and Easter Schedule at a Glance

| | | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| February 17th | Ash Wednesday | 6 AM, 12:10 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM | Mass times Ashes will only be distributed during Mass |
| February 19th | Stations of the Cross | 6:30 PM | or immediately after 6 PM Mass |
| February 26th | Stations of the Cross | 6:30 PM | or immediately after 6 PM Mass |
| March 5th | Stations of the Cross | 6:30 PM | or immediately after 6 PM Mass |
| March 12th | Stations of the Cross | 6:30 PM | or immediately after 6 PM Mass |
| March 19th | Stations of the Cross | 6:30 PM | or immediately after 6 PM Mass |
| March 25th | Penance Service | 6:30 PM | in the church |
| March 26th | Stations of the Cross | 6:30 PM | or immediately after 6 PM Mass |
| March 28th | Palm Sunday | 5PM Vigil 7:30, 9 AM and 11 AM | Palms will be distributed at all Masses and also may be picked up outside under the covered area until 1:00 pm |
| March 30th | Chrism Mass | 10:00 AM | Streamed from The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory at https://olvcathedral.org/ |
| April 1st | Holy Thursday | 7:00 PM | Mass |
| April 1st | Holy Thursday Adoration | | Adoration from 8:15-Midnight 8:15 - 9 PM, Last name from A-G 9-10 PM, Last name from H-M 10-11 PM Last name from N-S 11-12 PM Last name from T-Z |
| April 2nd | Good Friday | 9:00 AM | Stations of the Cross and start of the |
| April 2nd | Good Friday | 3:00 PM | Good Friday service and Veneration of the Cross |
| April 3rd | Easter Vigil | 8:00 PM | |
| April 4th | Easter | 7:30, 9 AM and 11 AM | Mass times |

Adoration will be closed Thursday, April 1st during the day.

The schedule for Holy Thursday Evening Adoration is: 8:15– 9 pm those with last names A-G; 9-10 pm those with last names H-M; 10-11pm; those with last names N-S; 11-12 midnight those with last names T-Z



Easter Masses

Vigil, Saturday, April 3rd 8:00 pm

Sunday Mass: 7:30 am
9:00 am
11:00 am

PLEASE NOTE: THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
APRIL 1ST THRU APRIL 5TH.



"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die"

John -11:25-26