

# HOLY WEEK

*Schedule & Information from Our Pastor, Fr. Mike Hall*



Liz, our communications director and Dwight, who films all of our live-streams, reminded me that March 21 was the one year anniversary of our first pandemic live-streamed Mass. I tried to figure out how to say congratulations without also heaving a sigh: I don't think that I was successful.

We speak often about how trying this year been, and while there is seemingly light at the end of the tunnel, we are, as another staff member reminded me, "still in the tunnel." That being said, as we come to these most sacred days on our Church calendar, Holy Week, the Pascal Triduum, and Easter, it is important to mark the progress made, but also the caution we still need to have. The most important difference between last year and this year, is that, for those who feel comfortable being here, the Church buildings are open.

We will commemorate these holy days in person, and although our practices will be slightly different than a normal year, that does not diminish their sacred nature and the importance of our observances. So, let's talk about what we will do and a few things that will look different than normal this week.

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (March 27/28)** We will not be having palm processions, but all the weekend Masses will include a palm blessing and the reading of the Passion of the Lord. We will also be able to distribute palms to our attendees, but we will have to limit how many can be taken, and they will be handed out only as you depart the Church after Mass.

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday (March 29-31)** Morning Masses will be at 7:00AM and 8:30AM as usual. We will also still have our normal confessions on Tuesday and Wednesday at 6:30PM. Holy Thursday and the days of the Triduum, there are no morning Masses celebrated, but we will have Morning Prayer in the Church at 8:30AM

**Monday evening (March 29)** is the annual diocesan Chrism Mass, where our priests will renew their promises and the Holy Oils for the next year our blessed. Only diocesan priests will be able to attend, however, the Mass will be live-streamed to the entire diocese at 7:30PM.

**Holy Thursday evening (April 1)** The Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at 7:30PM (in-person and live-streamed). There will be no foot washing this year, however we will still keep vigil with Christ after the Mass. The Vigil in the Church will end at 11:00PM with Night Prayer.

**Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord (April 2)** will be commemorated

at 3:00PM (in-person and live-streamed). While we will not be able to individually physically venerate the cross this year, all the other aspects of this solemn day remain intact. Our deacons will lead the Meditation on the Seven Last words of Christ at 7:30PM in the Church, which will be in-person and live-streamed.

**Holy Saturday (April 3)** While we cannot have parishioners bring their food into the Church this year, the priests will be out at the curb at 1:00PM, for a drive-thru Blessing of Easter Food. Please follow the directions as you pull into the main entrance of the Parking Lot from Nottingham Way.

**Easter Vigil (April 3)** The most important Mass of the entire Church year will be celebrated at 8:00PM (in-person and live-streamed). While some of the rituals of this mass will be omitted this year, we will still give praise to the light of the world as we exult the paschal candle and welcome new members into our Church through Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.

**Easter Sunday (April 4)** We will have our normal morning schedule which will include a live-stream of the 10:30AM Mass. We hope you are able to celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord with us.

These celebrations will be as reverent and beautiful as we can make them, and while the COVID protocols will alter them somewhat, we will still commemorate and celebrate them together. We will do all we can to keep our parishioners safe, will includes the requirement to wear face coverings while in our buildings and continue socially-distanced seating. Our capacities will still be limited, but we will do the best we can to accommodate those who wish to attend.

Please remember that those who help as sacristans, ushers, seaters, and even with the live-stream are volunteers and fellow parishioners who have been dedicating themselves to serve the Church, the parish, and all of us during this pandemic. We hope that everything goes smoothly and beautifully during this Holy time, but once in a while, we may have to exercise a little patience with one another and with the circumstances that we are faced with. When we remember the sacrifice that we commemorate during this Holy Week, this does not seem like too much to ask. I hope you have a blessed, healthy, safe, and meaningful Holy Week.

# **CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY THE GREAT**

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[www.stgregorythegreatchurch.org](http://www.stgregorythegreatchurch.org)

## **2021 HOLY WEEK**

### **MASS SCHEDULE**

#### **PALM SUNDAY, March 27 & 28**

*Palms distributed at every Mass*

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM\*, 12:00 PM

#### **Monday, March 29**

Masses at 7:00 AM and 8:30 AM

#### **Tuesday, March 30**

Masses at 7:00 AM and 8:30 AM

#### **Wednesday, March 31**

Masses at 7:00 AM and 8:30 AM

## **THE SACRED TRIDUUM**

#### **HOLY THURSDAY, April 1**

*(No Morning Mass)*

*Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7:30pm\**

Eucharistic Adoration – following Mass until 11:00 PM

Night Prayer | 10:45 – 11:00 PM

**GOOD FRIDAY, April 2**

*(No Morning Mass)*

***Commemoration of the Lord's Passion***

Veneration of the Cross with Holy Communion – 3:00 PM\*

Meditation on the Seven Last Words – 7:30 PM\*

**HOLY SATURDAY, April 3**

*(No Morning Mass)*

Blessing of Easter Food (Drive-by) – 1:00 PM

**GREAT AND SOLEMN VIGIL OF EASTER - 8:00 PM\***

**EASTER SUNDAY, April 4**

**THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM\*, 12:00 PM

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*\*will be live-streamed on [Facebook.com/SGTGC](https://www.facebook.com/SGTGC) and the Parish Website:*

*[www.StGregorytheGreatChurch.org/livestream](http://www.StGregorytheGreatChurch.org/livestream)*