



# ST. PIUS X PARISH

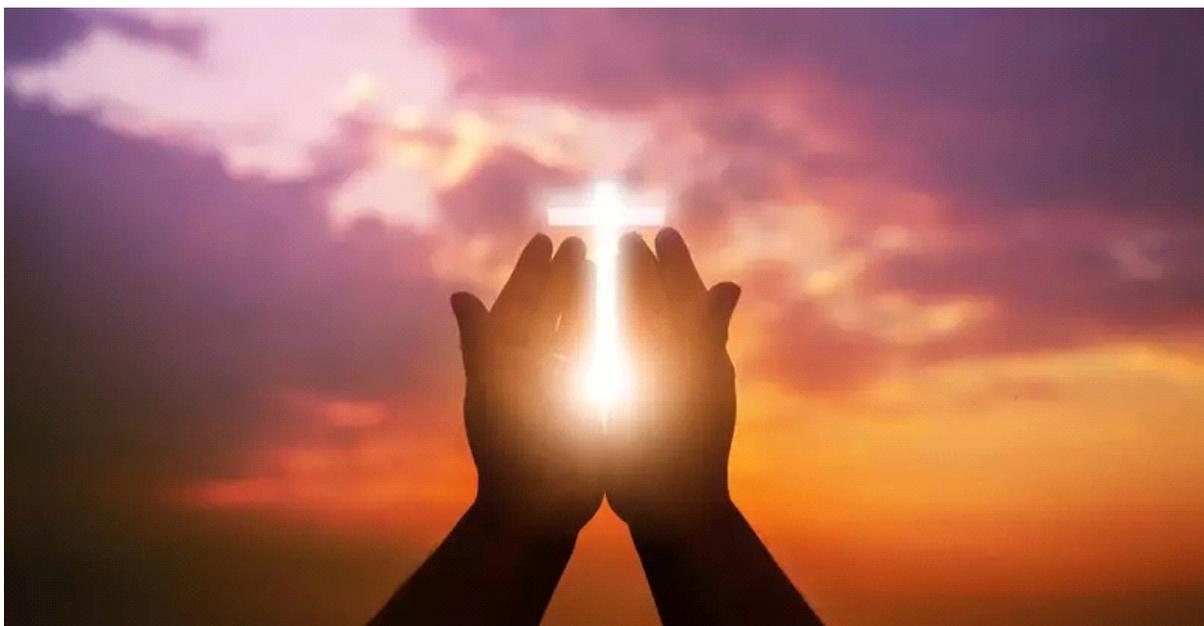
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OUR PIUS UPDATE  
MARCH 30, 2021





## ST. PIUS X PARISH (VIRTUAL) RECONCILIATION SERVICE

We are pleased to invite you to an **on-line Reconciliation Service** to prepare for the Easter Triduum. The Service will include prayers, reflections on a scripture passage, and some time for personal prayer. The **Reconciliation Service** will be led by **Fr. Earl Smith, SJ and Fr. Charlie Pottie, SJ.**

The **Reconciliation Service** is on **Tuesday, March 30** from **7:00 to 8:00 p.m.** It is a cooperative event of **Queen's College** and the **NL Jesuit Community.** You can join the **Reconciliation Service** at this link <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/258914213>

Also, feel free to invite others from your family and household to join with you, and please feel free to forward this invitation to others.

*This evening will not be offering sacramental reconciliation. Sacramental reconciliation is available upon request by phoning our **Parish Office** at **754-0170.***

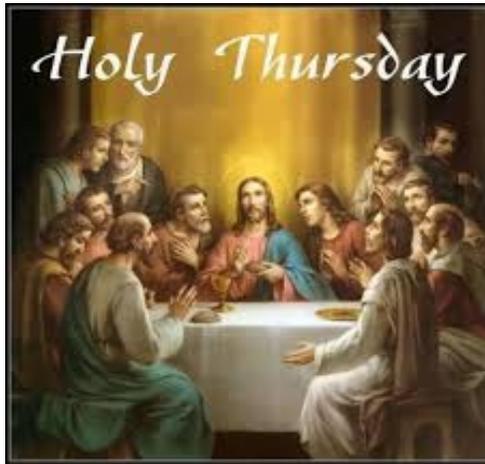


<b>Holy Thursday, April 1</b>	7:30 pm
<b>Good Friday, April 2</b>	3:00 pm
<b>Easter Sunday, April 4</b>	10:00 am ( <i>regular time</i> )

These Services will be live-streamed at [www.spx.ca](http://www.spx.ca) .

*Now that we have returned to Alert Level 2, we can invite parishioners to attend our **Holy Week Services** in person. But there are some changes.*

1. The maximum number of persons in the Church is 50, including the priest and parishioners participating in the ministries.
2. For Holy Week, there will be **no pre-registration, FIRST COME-FIRST SERVED.**
3. **Masks.** According to the Department of Health protocols, parishioners **MUST** keep masks on, the entire time we are in the Church - except when we receive Communion or speak as a minister of the Word. This does not apply to young children or people with medical reasons for doing so.
4. Please arrive **30 minutes** before the scheduled time so that the screening process can be done at the main Church entrance.



## BREAD

At the **Last Supper**, Jesus took bread, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, *“Take and eat; this is my body”*. We hear those words over and over, each time we celebrate Mass or attend a Communion service.

Ever wonder who made the bread that was used that Passover night? Of course, we don’t know, but it’s pleasant to think that perhaps Mary prepared the loaves.

Earlier in the week, she must have known, with the intuition mothers have, that something was afoot. She must have sensed the uneasiness in her son and his disciples. She had to have heard rumors and rumblings among the other women.

Wondering, worrying, watching, she may have found respite in the ritual of grinding the wheat, kneading the dough, shaping the loaves. She may have found peace in knowing that no matter what happened in the next few days, her son, her baby, would enjoy the taste of bread prepared by his mother.

If indeed Mary was the one to make the bread that Jesus broke at the Last Supper, little did she know that she was helping prepare a miracle. In doing what mothers have done for millennia, she transformed grain into bread for life. That night, before he died, her son transformed her bread for life into the Bread of Life.

*How can I allow my life to be transformed by service for others?*

**SOURCE:** Woodeene Koenig-Bricker, [365 Mary](#)



## WHY IS GOOD FRIDAY SO GOOD?



On the Friday before Easter Christians celebrate what we call **Good Friday**. Today we honor the day that Jesus was crucified on the cross. The day He was publically ridiculed, disrespected, and mocked. Today was the day He died, leaving a gaping hole in the hearts of His followers and diminishing their hope for the great King they anticipated. It doesn't sound like such a **Good Friday** now does it? And on the day He was crucified it certainly didn't hold the term.

However, post-resurrection today is a Good Friday because if there is no Friday, there is no Sunday. If there is no crucifixion, there is no resurrection. It was the worst day ever that ushered us into the best day ever. So we don't forget this day because our salvation came at a cost that was paid for on Friday. Today is good because Jesus didn't have to die. He willingly took this cup and walked this path. So as we anticipate the resurrection and prepare for Sunday don't forget today. It's a sober day. It's a hard day, and still, it is good.

*Dear Heavenly Father,  
thank You for the sacrifice of Your Son and my Savior,  
Jesus Christ.  
May I never forget the price paid for my salvation  
and live a life of gratitude to You  
in response to Your ultimate act of love for me.  
In Jesus Christ Name I pray.  
Amen.*

**SOURCE:** Christina Patterson, [www.ibelieve.com](http://www.ibelieve.com)

## SITTING WITH THE ANIMA CHRISTI PRAYER



The *Anima Christi* prayer has been attributed to **St. Ignatius Loyola**, but it has ancient roots, having lived within the soul of the Christian community for many centuries. We can see why its phrases would be associated with Ignatius; it's quite an incarnational prayer, connecting us to every aspect of Jesus the Christ—not merely his soul and passion but his very blood, body, and wounds. In this prayer, we call upon Jesus the human as well as the cosmic Christ who existed before all and enlivens us and all of creation with his spirit and love.

*Soul of Christ, sanctify me.  
Body of Christ, save me.  
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.  
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.  
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.  
O good Jesus, hear me.  
Within your wounds hide me.  
Do not allow me to be separated from you.  
From the malevolent enemy defend me.  
In the hour of my death call me,  
and bid me come to you,  
that with your saints I may praise you  
forever and ever.  
**Amen.\****

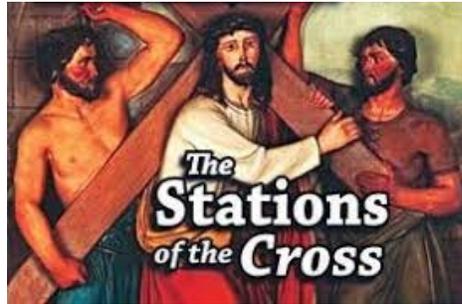
Read through this prayer two or three times, and then sit with these questions.

- Which phrase or phrases speak to me most powerfully, and why do I think this is so?
- Which phrase or phrases are most difficult for me to relate to, and why do I think this is so?
- How do I understand the Body of Christ saving me or the water from his side washing me?
- How do I relate to the phrase, “*Blood of Christ, inebriate me*”?
- How do I imagine Christ hides me in his wounds? Why would I want to be there?
- Choose one phrase from the Anima Christi to integrate into your prayers today.

**SOURCE:** Vinita Hampton Wright, [www.ignatianspirituality.com](http://www.ignatianspirituality.com)

\* (Translation by George E. Ganss, SJ, in *The Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius*)

## SCRIPTURAL WAY OF THE CROSS



Since of the 14 traditional stations of the cross, only eight have clear scriptural foundation, Pope John Paul II introduced a new form, the Scriptural Way of the Cross on Good Friday in 1991 and performed them at the Coliseum in Rome on Good Fridays during his reign. Pope Francis has reverted to the Traditional Way of the Cross. You'll find scripture included for each of these for your meditation. Protestants should find this very biblical and acceptable, though some prefer an alternate version that includes the Resurrection as the last station.

**SOURCE:** A History of the Way of the Cross Prepared by the Vatican

Let's pray a *Scriptural Stations of the Cross*.

Before each Station:

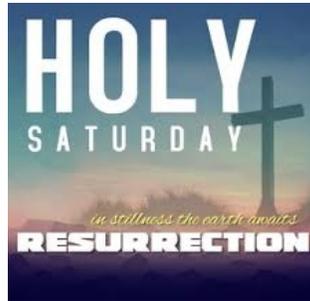
***We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
Because of your holy cross you have redeemed the world.***

**After each station:** All: Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.

- |     |  |                    |
|-----|--|--------------------|
| 1.  | Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane                        | (Matthew 26:36-41) |
| 2.  | Jesus is betrayed by Judas and arrested                  | (Mark 14:43-46)    |
| 3.  | Jesus is condemned by the Sanhedrin                      | (Luke 22:66-71)    |
| 4.  | Jesus is denied by St. Peter                             | (Matthew 26:69-75) |
| 5.  | Jesus is judged by Pontius Pilate                        | (Mark 15:1-5, 15)  |
| 6.  | Jesus is scourged at the pillar and crowned with thorns  | (John 19:1-3)      |
| 7.  | Jesus Bears the Cross                                    | (John 19:6, 15-17) |
| 8.  | Jesus is helped by Simon the Cyrenian to carry the cross | (Mark 15:21)       |
| 9.  | Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem                       | (Luke 23:27-31)    |
| 10. | Jesus is crucified                                       | (Luke 23:33-34)    |
| 11. | Jesus promises his kingdom to the good thief             | (Luke 23:39-43)    |
| 12. | Jesus speaks to his mother and the beloved disciple      | (John 19:25-27)    |
| 13. | Jesus dies on the cross                                  | (Luke 23:44-46)    |
| 14. | Jesus is placed in the tomb                              | (Matthew 27:57-60) |

**SOURCE:** [www.joyfulheart.com](http://www.joyfulheart.com)

# HOLY SATURDAY



**Holy Saturday** is part of the Christian celebration of Holy Week that commemorates an eight-day miracle of redemption. It's what we now call the day between Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Holy Saturday marks a critical turning point in Jesus' journey that began on Palm Sunday and continued through the Last Supper, his brutal crucifixion, and into glorious resurrection.

It is a world with its breath held...in anticipation that God will deliver. Longing to see if their Savior, sealed behind a stone, will rise. In our modern world, Holy Saturday is a day to evaluate and appreciate our faith.

**SOURCE:** Lia Martin, [www.ibelieve.com](http://www.ibelieve.com)

## A Prayer to Find Refuge in Hope

*Lord God,  
on the Sabbath,  
Jesus rested.  
He was in the grave.  
He had finished his work.  
To most people's eyes,  
it looked as if it were all over.  
He was dead and buried.  
But only as a seed dies when it is planted in the earth,  
not to decay,  
but to spring to new life.  
Teach us to take refuge in you when we are afraid.  
Teach us that death is not our end.  
Teach us to hope always in you and in the resurrection,  
the making of all things New.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
**Amen***

**SOURCE:** Rachel Marie Stone, [www.ibelieve.com](http://www.ibelieve.com)

## EASTER SUNDAY



**Mary of Magdala** visited the tomb of Jesus early in the morning and came back distraught, weeping, with an emotional tale of an empty tomb. Peter and John went racing out to investigate, but what they found was inconclusive. A short time later, Mary was back, radiant as she proclaimed, *"I have seen the Lord."*

Whenever I read this familiar passage (*John 20:1–18*), I always pause at those few words. Imagine Mary's face, suffused with the light of grace. Imagine her voice, clear and firm about what she knows, yet still filled with awe at the wonder of it all. Taking in the beautiful, simple words, we can experience her wonder and joy.

The disciples, however, were less impressed. In fact, *"when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it"* (*Mark 16:11*).

Why should they? The testimony of women in the ancient world was worthless, as it is in some parts of the world even today. The idea of a woman as an evangelist, commissioned by Jesus to *"go and tell my brothers"* must have been inconceivable to the compilers of the Gospels. Over the succeeding centuries, scholars identified **Mary of Magdala** with the *"sinful woman"* who scandalized the Pharisees when she bathed the feet of Jesus (*Luke 7:36–50*). The pre-Vatican II liturgical calendar described her as a *"penitent"*; this designation was undoubtedly connected to the tradition, with no basis in Scripture, that she was a prostitute. Others imagined even more bizarre life stories for her. Her witness to the Resurrection faded into the background. Only in our own century has her role as the first evangelist begun to be recognized.

In our secular, often anti-religious, society, the Resurrection may indeed *"seem like nonsense"* (*see Luke 24:11*), or at best a myth made light of by people who regard themselves as rational. Yet we, like **Mary of Magdala**, are called on to proclaim the **Resurrection**. Those of us who are not preachers or teachers proclaim it by the way we live our lives. St. Ignatius urges us *"to ask for the grace to be glad and to rejoice intensely because of the great glory and joy of Christ our Lord."* As our churches fill with songs of celebration this Easter season, let us take the joy deep into our hearts, reflecting back the radiance of the knowledge that Jesus is alive!

*Where have you seen the Lord?*

SOURCE: Barbara Lee, [www.ignatianspirituality.com](http://www.ignatianspirituality.com)

