

## ***Our Holy Week Pilgrimage***

*This Holy Week, join a pilgrimage. Experience God in a new way. Enter into Christ's passion and come through changed, unable to return to old ways of living and thinking.*

### **Holy Thursday: The Mass of the Lord's Supper**

Holy Thursday marks the end of Lent and the beginning of the Holy Triduum, which also includes Good Friday, the Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday. On Holy Thursday, we celebrate Jesus' institution of the sacrament of holy Eucharist, when Christ makes new the Passover meal of the Jewish people.

This night is also special because we remember the poor through a special collection.

Jesus knew that this would be his last supper. So, at the Last Supper, he did something striking to prepare his disciples to teach others about Him. He washed their feet. During the time of Jesus, there were no sewers. The roads were dirt and stone, and animals and people alike would leave their refuse in the streets. The role of washing the feet was left to the lowest servants. Jesus taught the disciples that a leader must have humility. This is Jesus' call to us to be teacher-servants.

At the end of the Holy Thursday service, we strip the sanctuary space of all its cloths and furniture. We leave in darkness. With the apostles, we are called to vigil with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. Stay. Keep watch. Pray.

### **Altar of Repose**

**After our Holy Thursday service, there will be an Altar of Repose in the Chapel until 10:00 PM. The Rosary Society will be present to pray a rosary 15 minutes after the end of the service.**

**Altar of Repose continues on Good Friday between 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM, excluding during the noon Stations, and 3:00 PM Communion service. All are welcome to this vigil, and all are encouraged to sign-up for a time slot on the Sign-Up sheets in the back of Church.**

**The Men's Club will be present to safely escort people to and from their vehicles.**

*For more about Altars of Repose, see the handout at the back of the church.*

### **Good Friday**

On Good Friday we will have Stations of the Cross (Mary's Way of the Cross) at Noon, followed by our Communion Service and Veneration of the Cross at 3:00 PM.

*For more about Good Friday, see the handout at the back of the church.*

## ***The Easter Vigil***

ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! Christ is Risen!

The Easter Vigil is the Feast of Feasts. The Vigil of Vigils. The largest celebration in our Church calendar. It is the culmination of our three-day long Triduum service. The service lasts approximately 2-2.5 hours.

At the Easter Vigil we recount the history of our Jewish ancestors, reminding us of the age-old quest for the True God.

The answer to our quest, of course, is Jesus—who taught what it means to live fully as a human created in the image and likeness of God. The right view of God is love.

This Easter we are excited to welcome two new members into the fullness of the Church. We have one catechumen who will receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion. We will have one additional Candidate for Confirmation.

Please take the time to congratulate these individuals, and welcome them into the embrace of God's selfless love.

### ***Catechumens***

Mihyanna

### ***Candidates for Confirmation***

Laila

*Cristina Czaia*

*Director of Music and Liturgy*

*St. Matthew's Catholic Community exists in the world as  
a visible expression of God's love.*