



The Holy See of Antioch Apostolic Liberal Catholic Church



The Holy Week

As we approach a special “Holy Week” of activities, we wish a Happy and a Blessed Easter to our church.

We reflect it is a time for us to remember that we are here by God’s Grace.

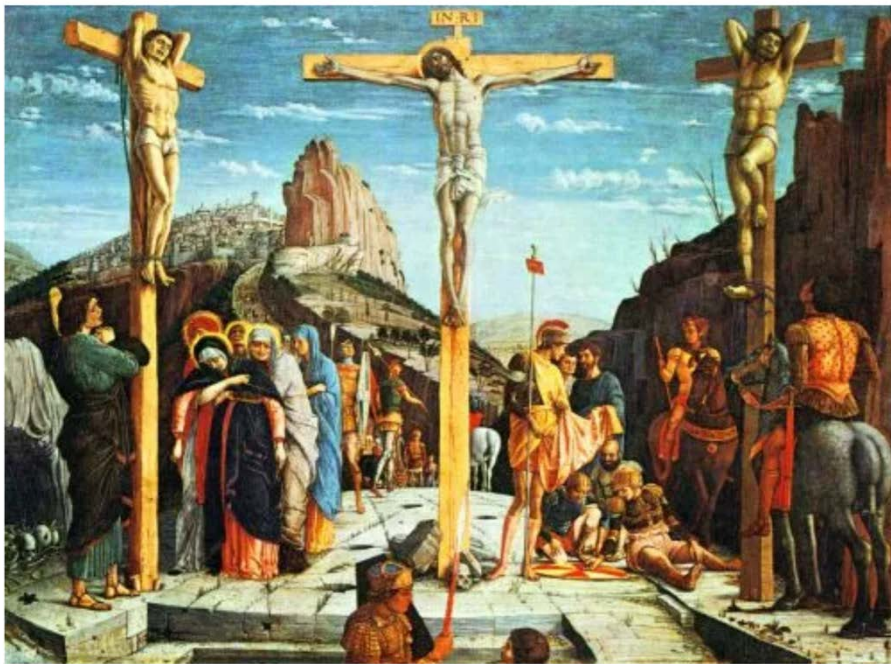
The next several days that lie ahead are the most important in our Christian calendar. (See our Spiritual thoughts section “Holy Week” of activities)

I call upon all members of our church to pray incessantly for the unification of Christ’s Churches and to reach out to other Christian’s with love in our hearts, as we are told,

“this year our church mission is to convert, bring back and start our lapsed brethren to the joy of the Christian faith of love and inclusion”.

Blessing to all, in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Simon Peter – The Bishop of Antioch





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Holy Thursday / The Last Supper

28 March 2024

Holy Thursday is the commemoration of the Last Supper of Jesus Christ, when he established the sacrament of Holy Communion prior to his arrest and crucifixion.

It also commemorates His institution of the priesthood. The holy day falls on the Thursday before Easter and is part of Holy Week.

Jesus celebrated the dinner as a Passover feast. Christ would fulfil His role as the Christian victim of the Passover for all to be saved by His final sacrifice.

The Last Supper was the final meal Jesus shared with his Disciples in Jerusalem. During the meal, Jesus predicts his betrayal.

The Last Supper. The central observance of Holy Thursday is the ritual re-enactment of the Last Supper at Mass.

This event is celebrated at every Mass, as party of the Liturgy of the Eucharist, but it is specially commemorated on Holy Thursday.





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He also establishes the special priesthood for his disciples, which is distinct from the "priesthood of all believers." Christ washed the feet of his Disciples, who would become the first priests.

This establishment of the priesthood re-enacted at Mass with the priest washing the feet of several parishioners.

During the Passover meal, Jesus breaks bread and gives it to his Disciples, uttering the words,

"This is my body, which is given for you."

Subsequently, he passes a cup filled with wine. He then says,

"This is my blood..."



The Last Supper is celebrated daily in the Catholic Church as part of every Mass for it is through Christ's sacrifice that we have been saved.

On the night of Holy Thursday, Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place where the faithful remain in the presence of the Eucharist just as the Disciples kept a vigil with Christ.

Following the Last Supper, the disciples went with Jesus to the Mount of Olives, where he would be betrayed by Judas.



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Good Friday – 29 March 2024

Good Friday is the day on which we commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. We will be joined by almost all other Christians in solemn commemoration on this day.

Nos autem gloriari oportet in cruce Domini nostri Iesu Christi, in quo est salus, vita et resurrectio nostra per quem salvati et liberati sumus.

We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our resurrection; through Him we are saved and made free. Galatians 6:14

Background Readings

- ✠ Isaiah 52:13—53:12
- ✠ Psalms 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25
- ✠ Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
- ✠ John 18:1-19:42

According to the gospels, Jesus was betrayed by Judas on the night of the Last Supper, commemorated on Holy Thursday.

The morning following Christ's arrest, he was brought before Annas, a powerful Jewish cleric. Annas condemned Jesus for blasphemy for refusing to repudiate Annas' words that He was the Son of God.

From there, Jesus was sent to Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor of the province. Pontius Pilate questioned Jesus but found no reason to condemn Him. Instead, he suggested Jewish leaders deal with Jesus according to their own law.

However, under Roman law, they could not execute Jesus, so they appealed to Pilate to issue the order to kill Jesus.



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Pilate appealed to King Herod, who found no guilt in Jesus and sent Him back to Pilate once again. Pilate declared Jesus to be innocent, and washed his hands to show that he wanted nothing to do with Jesus, but the crowds were enraged.

To prevent a riot and to protect his station, Pilate reluctantly agreed to execute Jesus and sentenced him to crucifixion. Jesus was convicted of proclaiming himself to be the King of the Jews.

The sequence of events on the first Good Friday

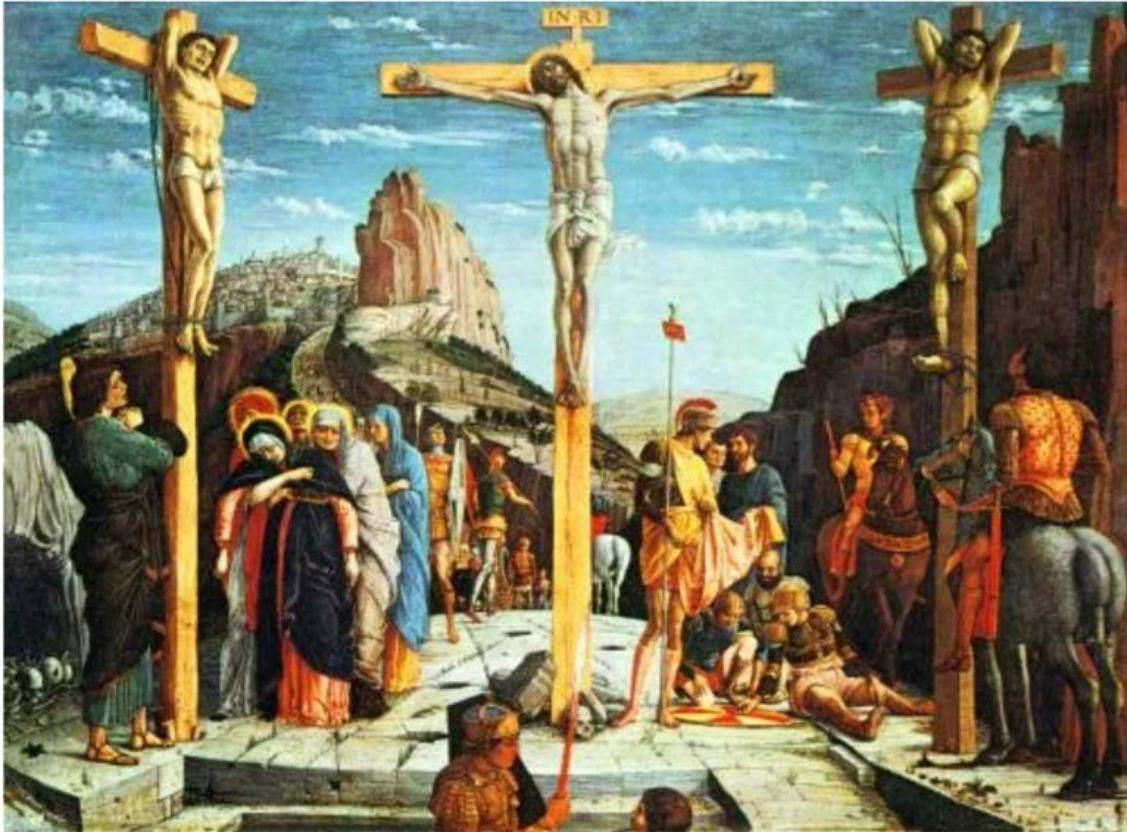
During the night, Jesus had been arrested and taken before the high priests Annas and Caiaphas. It was during this time that Peter denied him.

According to the gospels, the following happened to Jesus:

- ✘ Was taken before Pilate in the morning
- ✘ Sent to Herod
- ✘ Returned to Pilate
- ✘ Was mocked and beaten
- ✘ Saw Barabbas released in his stead
- ✘ Was crowned with thorns
- ✘ Was condemned to death
- ✘ Carried the crushing burden of his cross
- ✘ Told the weeping women what would happen in the future
- ✘ Was crucified between two thieves
- ✘ Forgave those who crucified him
- ✘ Entrusted the Virgin Mary to the beloved disciple
- ✘ Assured the good thief of his salvation
- ✘ Said his famous seven last words
- ✘ Cried out and died



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In addition:

- ✘ There was darkness over the land
- ✘ There was an earthquake
- ✘ The veil of the temple was torn in two
- ✘ Many saints of the Old Testament period were raised
- ✘ A soldier pierced Christ's side and blood and water flowed out
- ✘ Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body
- ✘ He was buried in Joseph's own tomb
- ✘ A guard was set over the tomb
- ✘ All Jesus' friends and family grieved at his death



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Please read the gospel accounts below to understand the full sequence of events of the last hours of our Lord and Saviour

- ✠ Matthew 27:1-66
- ✠ Mark 15:1-47
- ✠ Luke 23:1-56
- ✠ John 18:28-19:42



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Easter Sunday – 31 March 2024 **Holy Day of Obligation**

Easter is the celebration of Christ's resurrection from the dead. It is celebrated on Sunday, and marks the end of Holy Week, the end of Lent, the last day of the Easter Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday), and is the beginning of the Easter season of the liturgical year.

Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the third day following his crucifixion, which would be Sunday.





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The sacrament on Easter Sunday is significant as His own prayer, "Thy Kingdom come, on earth as it is in Heaven," begins to be fulfilled on Easter Sunday.

His resurrection marks the triumph of good over evil, sin and death.





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It is the singular event which proves that those who trust in God and accept Christ will be raised from the dead.

Easter represents the fulfilment of God's promises to mankind, it is the most important holiday in our Christian calendar.

Easter Sunday Readings 2024 – 31 March 2024

1st Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24

2nd Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Gospel: John 20: 1-18; Acts 10:34-43; Mark 16:1-8

Easter Monday Readings 1 April 2024

1st Reading: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24;

2nd Reading: Genesis 1:1-19;

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord

The Gradual for Easter Day and until the Feast of the Ascension:

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. Not with the old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over Him.

For in that He died, He died unto sin once; but in that He liveth, He liveth unto God.

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin; but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.



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Christ is risen from the dead; and become the first-fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death; by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die; even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

The Preface for Easter Day and seven days after:

But chiefly are we bound to praise Thee for the glorious resurrection of Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who by His mystic death and rising again hath given unto us the promise of everlasting life.

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord

The Gradual for Ascension Day and nine days after:

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in.

Who is the King of Glory? It is the Lord strong and mighty, even the Lord mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in.

Who is the King of Glory? Even the Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory.

Glory be to the Father + and to the Son; and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end.
Amen.

The Preface for Ascension Day and nine days after:

Through Thy most dearly beloved son Jesus Christ our Lord, who after His most glorious resurrection ascended up above all the heavens; that where He is, thither we might also ascend and, being made partakers of His Godhead, might reign with Him in Glory.

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord



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The Gradual for Whitsunday and six days after:

The Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters; and God said: Let there be light; and there was light.

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God; and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

The Spirit of life, because of righteousness; and as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

The Lord is that Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.
The Gradual for Whitsunday and six days after:

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who, going up above all the heavens, according to His most true promise sent for the Holy Ghost, who came down as at this time from heaven with a sudden great sound, as it had been a mighty wind, in the likeness of fiery tongues, lighting upon the Apostles, to teach them, and lead them to all truth.

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord

The Gradual Trinity Sunday only:

It is the Spirit that beareth witness; because the Spirit is truth.
There are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these Three are One.

There are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree in One.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end.
Amen.

The Preface for Trinity Sunday only:



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Who are one God, one Lord, not in the oneness of a single Person only, but in the trinity of one Substance; for the Father is Lord, the Son Lord, and the

Holy Ghost Lord; and yet They are not three Lords, but one Lord.

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord

