- C: Still, You insist on sincerity of heart; in my inmost being teach me wisdom.
- R: Cleanse me with hyssop, that I may be pure; wash me, make me whiter than snow.
- C: Let me hear sounds of joy and gladness; let the bones You have crushed rejoice.
- R: Turn away Your face from my sins; blot out all my guilt.
- C: A clean heart create for me, God; renew in me a steadfast spirit.
- R: Do not drive me from Your presence, nor take from me Your Holy Spirit.
- C: Restore my joy in Your salvation; sustain in me a willing spirit.
- R: I will teach the wicked Your ways, that sinners may return to You.
- C: Rescue me from death, God, my saving God, that my tongue may praise Your healing power.
- R: Lord, open my lips; my mouth will proclaim Your praise.
- C: For You do not desire sacrifice; a burnt offering You would not accept.
- R: My sacrifice, God, is a broken spirit; God, do not spurn a broken, humbled heart.

Antiphon: Christ humbled Himself, becoming obedient to death.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Stand

- C: Let us pray. Lord, we ask You to look upon the family of Your faithful people, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ did not resist betrayal into the hands of evil men or the torments of the cross, in order to show us the way to salvation. Grant us faith in Your infinite mercy, a love for truth, and the hope of eternal happiness. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
- R: Amen.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

23 Golway Street, Manchester, CT 06042 Official website: www.saintjohnspncc.org Facebook: John the Baptist, Manchester CT

Rectory phone: **860-643-5906**

PASTOR - Rev. Dr. Adam Piekarzewski

March 28, 2024



BEHOLD

MAUNDY THURSDAY

MASS INTENTION - 5pm

For the bishop and all the priests of our Diocese.

INTROIT

C: May I never boast of anything but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ! Through it, the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.

R: May God have pity on us and bless us; may He let His face shine upon us.

C: Lord, for us Your wounds were suffered.

R: O Christ Jesus, have mercy on us.

HOLY MASS

. 5.00 pm



MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass said for a particular intention, you must stop by the Parish Office or the sacristy in the Church before/after Sunday mass. Masses can be said for a deceased person or as a special intention for the living. You may reserve a Sunday of your choice, and your intention will be published in the parish bulletin.

We encourage you to offer a Mass on the occasion of a birthday, anniversary or special personal (family) need.

READING 1

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month shall stand at the head of your calendar; you shall reckon it the first month of the year. Tell the whole community of Israel:

On the tenth of this month every one of your families must procure for itself a lamb, one apiece for each household. If a family is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join the nearest household in procuring one and shall share in the lamb in proportion to the number of persons who partake of it. The lamb must be a year-old male and without blemish. You may take it from either the sheep or the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, and then, with the whole assembly of Israel present, it shall be slaughtered during the evening twilight. They shall take some of its blood and apply it to the two doorposts and the lintel of every house in which they partake of the lamb.

EX 12:1-8, 11-14

That same night they shall eat its roasted flesh with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. "This is how you are to eat it: with your loins girt, sandals on your feet and your staff in hand, you shall eat like those who are in flight.

It is the Passover of the LORD. For on this same night I will go through Egypt, striking down every firstborn of the land, both man and beast, and executing judgment on all the gods of Egypt—I, the LORD! But the blood will mark the houses where you are. Seeing the blood, I will pass over you; thus, when I strike the land of Egypt, no destructive blow will come upon you. "This day shall be a memorial feast for you, which all your generations shall celebrate with pilgrimage to the LORD, as a perpetual institution."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 116

"The cup of blessing that we bless is a sharing in the Blood of Christ."

READING 2

1COR 11:23-26

A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters:

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread, and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying,

"This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MAGNIFICAT - Canticle of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Stand

Antiphon: While they were at supper, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to His disciples.

- C: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for He has looked with favor on His lowly servant.
- R: From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name.
- C: He has mercy on those who fear Him in every generation.
- R: He has shown the strength of His arm, He has scattered the proud in their conceit.
- C: He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.
- R: He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty.
- C: He has come to the help of His servant Israel for He has remembered His promise of mercy,
- R: the promise He made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

Antiphon: While they were at supper, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to His disciples.

PSALM 51:3-19

Kneel

Antiphon: Christ humbled Himself, becoming obedient to death.

- C: Have mercy on me, God, in Your goodness; in Your abundant compassion blot out my offense.
- R: Wash away all my guilt; from my sin cleanse me.
- C: For I know my offense; my sin is always before me.
- R: Against You alone have I sinned; I have done such evil in your sight
- C: That You are just in Your sentence, blameless when You condemn.
- R: True, I was born guilty, a sinner, even as my mother conceived me.

they were for war.

Antiphon: Among those who hated peace, I sought peace; but when I spoke of it, they were for war.

PSALM 140:2-14

Antiphon: Deliver me, Lord, from the wicked; preserve me from the violent.

- C: Deliver me, Lord, from the wicked; preserve me from the violent,
- R: From those who plan evil in their hearts, who stir up conflicts every day,
- C: Who sharpen their tongues like serpents, venom of asps upon their lips. Selah
- R: Keep me, Lord, from the clutches of the wicked; preserve me from the violent, who plot to trip me up.
- C: The arrogant have set a trap for me; villains have spread a net, laid snares for me by the wayside. Selah
- R: I say to the Lord: You are my God; listen, Lord, to the words of my prayer.
- C: My revered Lord, my strong helper, my helmet on the day of battle.
- R: Lord, do not grant the desires of the wicked; do not let their plots succeed. Selah
- C: Around me they raise their proud heads; may the mischief they threaten overwhelm them.
- R: May God rain burning coals upon them, cast them into the grave never more to rise.
- C: Slanderers will not survive on earth; evil will quickly entrap the violent.
- R: For I know the Lord will secure justice for the needy, their rights for the poor.
- C: Then the just will give thanks to Your name;
- R: the upright will dwell in Your presence.

Antiphon: Deliver me, Lord, from the wicked; preserve me from the violent.

GOSPEL JN 13:1-15

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory be to You, Lord.

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father. He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end. The devil had already induced Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand him over.

So, during supper, fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power and that he had come from God and was returning to God, he rose from supper and took off his outer garments. He took a towel and tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Master, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand later." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well." Jesus said to him, "Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed, for he is clean all over; so you are clean, but not all." For he knew who would betray him; for this reason, he said, "Not all of you are clean."

So when he had washed their feet and put his garments back on and reclined at table again, he said to them, "Do you realize what I have done for you? You call me 'teacher' and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am. If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In the Catholic and other mainline Christian traditions, tonight begins what is known as the Triduum (a word which means "three days"). This is the most solemn and important three days of the ecclesiastical year. These three days celebrate in solemn and dramatic fashion the Hour of Glory of Jesus – His giving of Himself, His agony, suffering and death, and His resurrection.

The Triduum begins with the tonight's celebration of the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. The readings speak of the blood covenants which GOD established with the Chosen People. They also speak of signs of GOD's love and total care for the Chosen People.

It is no coincidence that Jesus celebrates this feast of Passover with His followers at His last supper before his death. St. Paul reminds us of what Jesus did on the night He was handed over. While saying the berakah (prayer of praise and blessing) over the unleavened bread, Jesus gives new meaning to the bread. It is His Body which will be broken and given for all of His followers. They are to continue to break the bread and recognize the presence of the Lord Jesus when they break the bread in His memory (zikaron [Hebrew], anamnesis [Greek]). He will be there, feeding them with His very Body whenever they break the bread. St. Paul continues to speak of what Jesus did at the Seder meal of the Last Supper. At the end of the meal, as the fourth cup of wine is passed, Jesus says the berakah over the cup. He again gives new meaning to the cup. It is the cup of His Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant-relationship. Jesus is the unblemished Lamb of GOD, Whose Blood will be poured out to set the Chosen People free from the slavery to sin and give them new life through the death of the Lamb. It is by sharing in the Blood of the Lamb of GOD that the reality of this covenant relationship is manifested.

Within the Catholic tradition, tonight's celebration of the Lord's Supper normally ends with a procession with Eucharistic Bread (the Body of Christ) from the church to an altar of repose.

The personal question/action for today: What does it mean to me that Jesus invites me to eat at His table and to be fed by and with Him? What can I do to fulfill my call to be a servant to others as my Master-Teacher has demonstrated through His acts of giving Himself to others? How can I spend more time in prayer with my Master?

VESPERS OF HOLY THURSDAY

Kneel

All: Our Father.... Hail Mary.....

PSALM 116: 11-19

Antiphon: I will take in my hands the cup of salvation and call the Lord by name.

- C: I said in my alarm, "No one can be trusted!"
- R: How can I repay the Lord for all the good done for me?
- C: I will raise the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.
- R: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people.
- C: Too costly in the eyes of the Lord is the death of His faithful.
- R: Lord, I am Your servant, Your servant, the child of Your maidservant; You have loosed my bonds.
- C: I will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord.
- R: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people,
- C: In the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

Antiphon: I will take in my hands the cup of salvation and call the Lord by name.

PSALM 120:2-7

Antiphon: Among those who hated peace, I sought peace; but when I spoke of it, they were for war.

- C: The Lord answered me when I called in my distress:
- R: Lord, deliver me from lying lips, from treacherous tongues.
- C: What will the Lord inflict on you, O treacherous tongue, and what more besides?
- R: A warrior's sharpened arrows and fiery coals of brush wood!
- C: Alas, I was an alien in Meshech, I lived near the tents of Kedar!
- R: Too long did I live among those who hated peace. When I spoke of peace,