



ST. LAURENCE CHURCH

FAITH | FAMILY | TRADITION



HOLY WEEK

2024

HOLY WEEK AT A GLANCE

PALM SUNDAY - MARCH 24

Morning Prayer	7:45am	Chapel
Mass & Procession with Palms	8:30am	Grass area by office
No Sunday School		
Mass & Procession with Palms	10:45am	Grass area by office
Chorale Rehearsal	12:30pm	Church
Seder Meal	5:00pm	Church

HOLY MONDAY - MARCH 25

Morning Prayer	9:00am	Chapel
Mass	9:30am	Chapel
Confessions	10:00am	Chapel
School of Sacred Arts	10:00am	Parish Hall

HOLY TUESDAY - MARCH 26

Parent's Day Out	9:00am	Parish Hall
Chrism Mass	10:30am	St. Vincent's, Bedford

HOLY WEDNESDAY - MARCH 27

Morning Prayer	9:00am	Chapel
Family Night (Egg dying and Blessing Bag assembly)	5:00pm	Lawn between Church and Parish Hall
Pizza Dinner	5:30pm	Lawn
Evening Prayer	6:00pm	Chapel
Stations of the Cross	6:30pm	Church
Chorale Rehearsal	7:30pm	Church

MAUNDY THURSDAY - MARCH 28

Morning Prayer	9:00am	Chapel
Parent's Day Out	9:00am	Parish Hall
Confessions	5:30pm	Chapel
Mass and Foot Washing	7:00pm	Church
Watch Begins	8:30pm	Chapel
Sr. High Youth Group	9:00pm	Damp's House
Sr. High at Watch	11:00pm	Chapel

GOOD FRIDAY - MARCH 29

Men's Bible Study	6:30am	Parish Hall
Cook & Set up Shift	8:20am	Union Gospel Mission
Watch Ends	9:00am	Chapel
Morning Prayer	9:00am	Chapel
Serve & Clean up Shift	10:15am	Union Gospel Mission
Stations of the Cross	12:00pm	Church
Confessions	5:30pm	Chapel
Liturgy of Good Friday	7:00pm	Church

HOLY SATURDAY - MARCH 30

Confessions	9:00am	Chapel
First Holy Communion Rehearsal	10:00am	Church
The Great Vigil of Easter	8:00pm	Church

EASTER DAY - MARCH 31

Morning Prayer	7:45am	Chapel
Mass	8:30am	Church
Easter Egg Hunt	10:00am	Empty Lot north of Parish Hall
Easter Brunch	10:00am	Parish Hall
Mass	10:45am	Church
Evening Prayer	5:00pm	Church

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION OR CONFESSION

10:00-11:00am

Holy Monday with Fr. Jordan (Chapel)

5:30-6:30pm

Maundy Thursday with Fr. Rogers (Chapel)

5:30-6:30pm

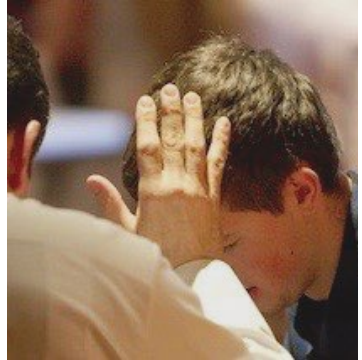
Good Friday with Fr. Crary (Chapel)

9:00-10:00am

Holy Saturday with Fr. Rogers (Chapel) and
Fr. Jordan (Children's Chapel Room)

Confession is the means by which we reconcile ourselves with God. By repenting of our sins and confessing them to God in the presence of a priest we receive God's grace and know that sin no longer stands in the way of our relationship with God. We're offering many times for Confession and we hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to come to Easter wiped clean of sin.

How does it work? Prepare for your Confession ahead of time by examining your conscience. "Sacrament of Reconciliation" booklets are available in the Church Narthex, office or on our website and we offer this to help you prepare. When you arrive for your



confession, enter the Church through the main door and walk to the Chapel through the left transept. If the door to the Chapel is open, then go in and begin your Confession at the Altar rail. If the door is closed, please take a seat in the pews right outside the Chapel door. You may enter when the previous person is finished. On Holy Saturday, the Children's Chapel Room (last door on the right in the Parish Hall) is a second location. Don't worry if you've never made a confession before, tell the priest and he will help you.

HOLY WEEK MUSIC

The St. Laurence Chorale and our Children's Canterbury Choir have been rehearsing for months to prepare the beautiful music we will hear during Holy Week. The brass quintet will be joining us again for the Easter services, adding that extra celebratory sound. Our wonderful St. Laurence Chorale is taking on some amazing pieces that are more challenging than ever. We highlight some of them here for you to look forward to:



Palm Sunday

- **Lamb of God, Pure and Holy and Christ Hath Humbled Himself** by Healey Willan, Canterbury Choir at the 8:30am service
- **Solus ad victimam** by Kenneth Leighton
- **"Quando Corpus" from Stabat Mater** by Giovanni Battista Pergolesi

Maundy Thursday

- **A New Commandment** by Thomas Tallis
- **Ubi caritas** by Maurice Durufle
- **Ave verum** by Peter Philips

Good Friday

- **Adoramus te** by Lodovico Viadana
- **Reproaches** by Tomás Luis de Victoria
- **Crux fidelis** att. John IV of Portugal

Easter

- **Surrexit a mortuis** by Charles-Marie Widor
- **Haec dies** by William Byrd
- **Brass and Organ (Sunday) including "Finale" from Symphony No. 3 ("Organ")** by Charles-Camille Saint-Saëns

HOLY WEEK

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY MARCH 24

8:30am	Mass, Procession with Palms (nursery provided)
10:45am	Choral Mass, Procession with Palms (nursery provided)
5:00pm	Seder Meal

On this day almost 2,000 years ago, our Lord entered the holy city of Jerusalem. It seemed to be His moment of triumph as the people welcomed Him in the way they welcomed their kings on great occasions, with shouts of praise and palm branches thrown in His



path. But by the following Friday, the crowd's "hosannas" had changed to "Crucify him!" and Jesus was being raised onto a cross. The Palm Sunday Mass highlights this shift from triumph to agony.

The Mass begins remembering Jesus' "triumphant" entry into Jerusalem with the Liturgy of the Palms. This mini-liturgy will begin on our back lawn. There, the palms will be blessed and distributed to the congregation. We will then sing the traditional hymn, *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* and go all together in procession into the Church just as the people would have done that day in Jerusalem.

Beginning with the readings from Holy Scripture, the mood of the Liturgy changes dramatically. The focus shifts from Jesus' entry into Jerusalem to His passion on the cross. The reading of the Passion Gospel reminds us that we are all part of this great drama of redemption. The truth of this day is that, by our sins, we all are responsible for the passion and death of our Lord. The glory of this day is that we know the Resurrection is coming, bringing with it the promise of everlasting life.

Truth and Glory - these are Palm Sunday's gifts to the worshiper. Holy Week begins.

SEDER MEAL

5:00-7:30pm Palm Sunday in Parish Hall (nursery provided)



The Passover Meal, known as the Seder, was the meal Jesus had with His apostles the night before He was crucified. We know this meal as the Last Supper, when Jesus instituted the Eucharist. So much of the symbolism of that night came out of this Jewish

tradition. To help us better understand these events and to help raise funds for their summer mission trips, our Youth Groups are hosting a Seder Meal. The Youth will do the readings for this traditional Passover Meal and Fr. Jordan will provide teaching and commentary to explain what is happening. Cost is \$15/person. A nursery is available but please bring dinner for your child. Sign up by scanning the QR code to the right or contact the Church office at office@saintlaurencechurch.org or 817-481-3335.



MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK MARCH 25

9:30am Mass in Chapel

10:00am Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) in Chapel

With Jesus, we go to Bethany to rest with his friends (John 12:1-11).

TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK MARCH 26

10:30am **Chrim Mass for the Diocese at St. Vincent's
Cathedral, Bedford**

Judas leaves Jesus and the apostles and makes His move to hand Jesus over to the authorities; Jesus predicts that Peter will deny Him (John 13:21-38).

The Chrism Mass is a special service when all the priests in the diocese come together to renew their ordination vows. During this service the Bishop blesses the holy oils and gives them to all the priests. These oils are used in the administration of the sacraments throughout the coming year.

WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

MARCH 27

- 5:00pm** **Family Night with Children and Youth Activities - lawn between the Church and Parish Hall**
- 5:30pm** **Pizza Dinner on lawn**
- 6:00pm** **Evening Prayer in Chapel**
- 6:30pm** **Stations of the Cross in the Church**

Judas strikes his bargain to betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver, and then acts innocent at supper with Jesus and His apostles when Jesus says that one of them is going to betray Him (Matthew 26:14-25).

Family Night

Bring the kids and join us for a fun evening on Holy Wednesday. The little ones will dye Easter eggs with the help of the God Squad. We do ask that parents stay and help as well. Please bring 1 dozen hard boiled eggs per child. The children will also color placemats and make Easter cards. These will be used as table decorations at the Good Friday lunch at Union Gospel Mission and then given afterwards to those we feed.



The Jr. and Sr. High Youth will assemble Blessing Bags which will be handed out to the homeless on the street outside Union Gospel Mission on Good Friday. These bags are filled with food items and basic toiletries that are so critically needed by those living on the street.

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross is a unique service when we retrace the final journey of Jesus Christ to Calvary, by walking to the 14 stations shown on the walls of the Church. We walk this way each year during Lent to remember the last moments of our Lord's life -- moments lived in great suffering for our sake. As we read the meditations, say the prayers, and sing the hymns, we remember the Lord's commandment, "If anyone would be my disciple, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me." (Matthew 16:24)

THE SACRED TRIDUUM

The Sacred *Triduum* means the "three holy days" – this is the Christian Passover. These 72 hours are NOT three separate days, each with its own liturgy. Instead they form a whole, the culmination not only of Holy Week, but of the entire Christian year. These 72 hours commemorate the most crucial hours of history: during them Jesus was engaged in a battle with Satan, Sin and Death in order to save us from destruction by these. Just as Jesus "passed over" from death to eternal life, so will His faithful disciples. His victory becomes our victory. The three days of the *Triduum* move us through the successive moments of the mystery of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

MARCH 28

5:30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) in Chapel
7:00pm	The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday (nursery provided)
8:30pm	The Watch Begins at the Altar of Repose in Chapel
9:00pm	Sr. High Youth Group

- This is the night Jesus gathered with His disciples in an upper room in Jerusalem for one last supper.
- This is the night Jesus took a towel and washed His disciples' feet, manifesting the life of service to which He calls His followers.

- This is the night Jesus instituted the Eucharist. On this night Jesus intended for every generation of His followers, through this meal, to enter into the sacrifice He was about to make and be nourished by Him on our journey to heaven.
- This is the night Jesus, the Lamb of God, gave Himself into the hands of those who would kill Him.

All these elements of the first Maundy Thursday are part of the liturgy of every Maundy Thursday. This day's title "Maundy" comes from the latin word *mandatum*, which means "commandment" or "mandate." This refers to Jesus' words to His disciples after He had washed their feet: "A new



commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you." (John 13:34) Every year we repeat the Lord's action and members of the congregation are invited forward to get their feet washed. As they do, the words of Jesus are sung connecting the action of foot washing to the new commandment of love.

The Maundy Thursday Liturgy is one of the most beautiful and deeply moving of the Church's liturgies. By its end, the glory of its Solemn Mass has given way to silence and a Church stripped bare. The Blessed Sacrament has been taken to an "Altar of Repose" representing our Lord's departure for the Garden of Gethsemane. There, in the shadows, as Christians have for centuries, we keep The Watch with our Lord

throughout the night, saying "Yes" to His question: "Could you not watch with me one hour?" Traditionally, Christians this night have kept a holy hour of prayer. Please consider coming at some point throughout the night to pray before the Altar of Repose in the Chapel.



The Watch

8:30pm Maundy Thursday - 9:00am Good Friday in the Chapel

At the end of the Maundy Thursday service, the blessed sacrament (Christ's presence) is removed from the Church and brought to the "Altar of Repose" in the Chapel. The Chapel is decorated with many flowers to represent the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus went after the Last Supper to pray. Jesus asked his disciples to watch with him one hour. As Christians have for centuries, we say "Yes" to Christ and watch with Him in one-hour shifts throughout the night. Pray, read scripture or just sit in His holy presence. It is a beautiful experience that will enhance your Holy Week. Sign up for a time slot on one of the boards in the Parish Hall or Church Narthex or just come at any time throughout the night.



Sr. High Youth Group

Following the Maundy Thursday service, the Sr. High Youth will go to the Damp's house to hang out together and prepare for the Watch. Then they'll head back to St. Laurence to participate in the Watch from 11:00pm-12:00midnight.

GOOD FRIDAY

MARCH 29

9:00am	Morning Prayer, Watch Ends in Chapel
10:15am	Cook and Serve Lunch at Union Gospel Mission
11:15am	Blessing Bag Distribution to Homeless outside UGM
12:00pm	Stations of the Cross in Church (no nursery)
5:30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) in Chapel
7:00pm	The Liturgy of Good Friday (nursery provided)

On this day, Jesus was murdered, for us and for our salvation. Good Friday is a day of fasting. The faithful are asked to fast as a way of sharing with Jesus in His suffering.

The Good Friday Liturgy is austere and stark:

- Its Gospel is St. John's account of Our Lord's Passion. It is sung in three parts to the solemn Holy Week tone.
- Prayer is offered for the Church, the world, and especially those in need, so that as we proceed to gaze upon the instrument of our redemption: the Cross, we will carry to it the needs of people everywhere.
- A large wooden cross is brought into the Church as the priest proclaims, "Behold the wood of the Cross, on which was hung the Savior of the world" and the people respond, "Come let us worship." The cross is placed before the people and ancient anthems in praise of the Holy Cross are offered as the faithful look upon it and venerate our crucified Lord.
- Communion is given from the Sacrament reserved from Maundy Thursday, as no Mass may be celebrated this day. The abrupt ending to the Liturgy leaves us with one clear focus – the saving grace of the cross.



Lunch at Union Gospel Mission

It has been a tradition for over 25 years for St. Laurence to provide, cook and serve a spaghetti lunch to the many residents and homeless served by the Union Gospel Mission in Ft. Worth. Parishioners donate all of the food needed for the meal and then can volunteer as cooks, servers or even singers. It's a time not just to provide a meal, but to talk with and love on these people who are trying to make a new start.

Blessing Bag Distribution

Both the Jr. and Sr. High Youth and their families (plus anyone else in the Parish who wants to come) will distribute Blessing Bags to the homeless on the street outside Union Gospel Mission. We go to them with Blessing Bags, kind words, smiles and Jesus.

HOLY SATURDAY

MARCH 30

- 9:00am** **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) in Chapel and in the Children's Chapel Room in the Parish Hall**
- 8:00pm** **The Great Vigil of Easter (no nursery)**

Holy Saturday is a day of rest and mourning. Jesus' body was in the tomb, as He descended through death into hell to do battle for the salvation of all creation. As the sun sets this day, the Lord's Passover moves to its completion: the Day of the Resurrection (Easter Day) arrives!

The service will begin outside and the congregation will gather there. Please bring a flashlight as it will be helpful for navigating your way into the Church in the dark. Bells will be rung at the announcement of Easter. We will provide bells for the congregation so you can add your bells to the Church bell and all will be rung together in joyous celebration.

The Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday night is the most important of all Christian feasts and liturgies. It is the Church's most ancient way of celebrating our Lord's resurrection and is celebrated during the night which begins Easter Day.



On this most holy night our Lord Jesus Christ passed over from death to life. Thus the Church calls her children throughout the world to come together in vigil, prayer and celebration. Through the unique liturgy of this feast we celebrate not only Christ's Victory but our share in it.

The Vigil is comprised of four elements:

- **The Service of Light:** The Vigil begins outside the Church with a fire being kindled and blessed. From this fire, a very large candle, the Paschal Candle, is lit. This great candle represents the risen Christ, triumphing over darkness and death; it will burn throughout the fifty days of the Easter Season. From the light of this candle, the congregation's candles are lit, and then all go in procession following the Paschal Candle into the Church. The Church is dark, like a tomb. Except for the flickering of the candles, the Church remains dark until the Mass of the Resurrection. As the people enter, the darkness of the Church is pushed back, the power of Christ's resurrection to overcome death is seen, and we understand the words of St. John, "And the light shined in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it!" (John 1:5) The Service of Light concludes with the chanting of the *Exsultet* ("Rejoice!"), an ancient hymn in praise of our Lord's Passover victory.
- **The Vigil Readings:** We hear the record of God's saving deeds throughout history as we read several Old Testament Lessons.

- **The Baptismal Liturgy:** Easter and Holy Baptism are intimately connected. In “going down into the water” we are joined to Jesus’ death and in coming up, we are joined to His resurrection. Thus the Vigil proceeds to Baptism and the renewal of Baptismal Vows by all the faithful. For many centuries, this was the only time in the entire year when Baptism was administered.
- **The Mass:** The Vigil reaches its consummation in the glorious first Mass of the Resurrection. As the bells ring, the Celebrant says “Alleluia, Christ is Risen,” suddenly the darkness is dispelled as all the lights in the Church are lit. Then we hear the news of the Risen Christ.

EASTER DAY MARCH 31

Nursery provided from 8:15am-12:30pm

8:30am	Mass
10:00am	Easter Brunch in Parish Hall
10:00am	Easter Egg Hunt in Grass Lot North of Parish Hall
10:45am	Choral Mass
5:00pm	Evening Prayer

The *Alleluias* repeated again and again throughout the Masses of Resurrection Day signal the beginning of the Church’s fifty-day celebration of the Resurrection. This celebration culminates on the Day of Pentecost - the day on which our Savior’s life, His Holy Spirit, was poured out upon the Church. These fifty days are the great season of the Christian Year, just as Easter Day is the Queen of Feasts.



Easter Brunch

Join us Easter Morning for an incredible Easter Brunch complete with bountiful food tables and mimosas! Both indoor and outdoor seating will be available. Come celebrate our Risen Lord with your St. Laurence family.



Easter Egg Hunt

Our Easter Egg Hunt will be held in the grass lot to the north of the Parish Hall parking lot. Please bring 12-18 plastic eggs per child (filled with individually wrapped candy, stickers or trinkets) to one of the boxes in the Parish Hall or Church Narthex before Easter. The hunt is for all kids

5th grade and under and will be divided by age. Kids should bring a basket for their eggs and parents should be ready for some incredible photo ops! A special food table for the kids and their parents will be available so they don't miss out on anything.



HOLY WEEK

What a week! Begun in triumph as Jesus enters Jerusalem. Continued in gathering sadness, pain, and horror as Jesus moves into death. Fulfilled in glorious victory as He rises from the grave. And all of this for us! May we walk it well, to the honor and glory of Him who walked it well for us.