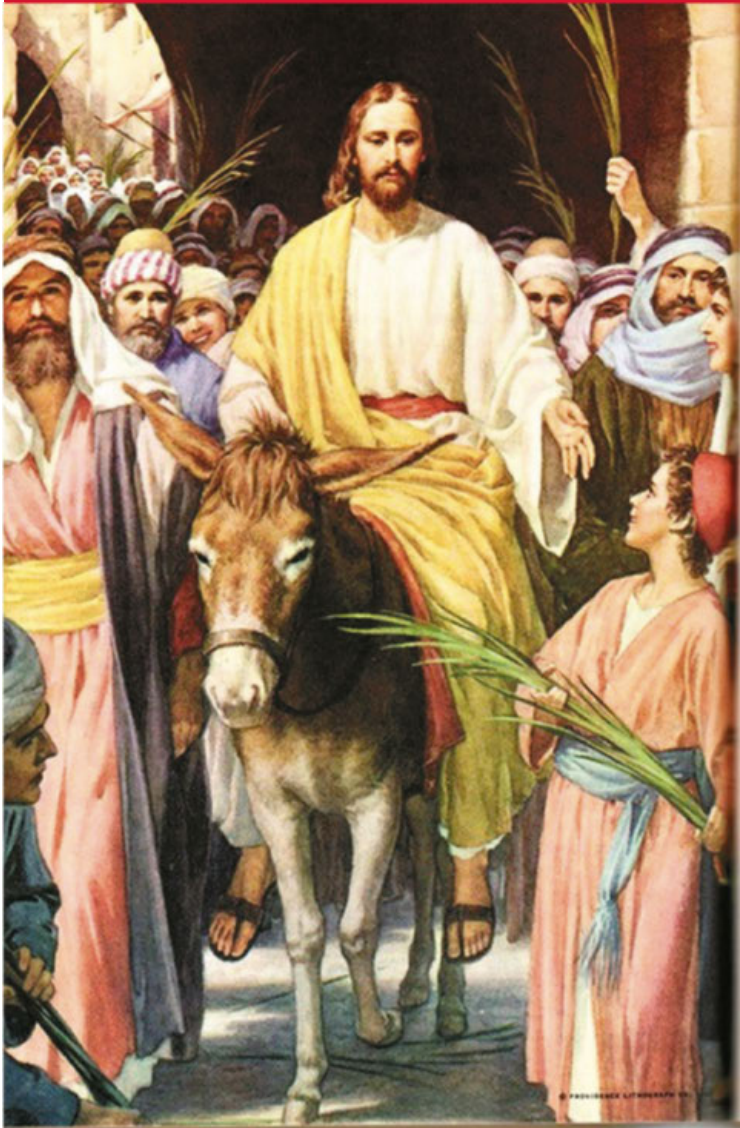


THE CATHOLIC FAMILY OF CHEEKTOWAGA

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, ST. JOSAPHAT, RESURRECTION, QUEEN OF MARTYRS, & MARIA HILF CHAPEL

March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS FAMILY CENTRAL OFFICE

4125 Union Rd., Cheektowaga, NY 14225

Phone: (716) 276-9288 + Email: olhc.chapel@gmail.com

www.cheektowagacatholicfamily.org

OLHC Parish and Cemetery Office Hours:

Mon. - Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. ; 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

+

ST. JOSAPHAT PARISH OFFICE

20 Peoria Ave., Cheektowaga, NY 14206

Phone: (716) 893-1086 Email: stjosaphat.office@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

St. Josaphat Food Pantry: (716) 893-1086

+

RESURRECTION PARISH OFFICE

130 Como Park Blvd., Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Phone: (716) 683-3712 + Email: rescheek@yahoo.com

Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

+

QUEEN OF MARTYRS PARISH OFFICE

180 George Urban Blvd., Cheektowaga, NY 14225

Phone: (716) 892-1746 + Email: qomParish@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Convent Phone: (716) 240-9159

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday (Vigil)

4:00 p.m. - OLHC Church

4:00 p.m. - Queen of Martyrs

5:30 p.m. - Resurrection

(2nd & 4th Saturday of the Month)

5:30 p.m. - St. Josaphat

(1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday of the Month)

Sunday

7:00 a.m. - OLHC Chapel

8:00 a.m. - Queen of Martyrs

9:00 a.m. - Resurrection

10:00 a.m. - OLHC Church

11:00 a.m. - St. Josaphat

12:30 p.m. - Latin (Tridentine Mass)

OLHC CHAPEL IS OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY 8 A.M. - 2 P.M. FOR PRIVATE ADORATION

INFORMATION FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

Baptisms: Every Sunday, during or after the weekend Eucharist. Please arrange two witnesses who will become the Godparents of your child. One of them must be a practicing Catholic and member of a Parish Church.

Faith Formation: Every child and youth need to be educated and continue to grow in faith by the help of parents, family members, and Church. Please call (716) 458-3130 to register your child for the Religious Education program.

Confessions: Our priests are available to administer this important Sacrament of Mercy 20 min. before every daily and vigil Masses. Also, call the office for a personal appt. Every Catholic needs to go to Confession at least once a year. Holy Communion can be received during the Mass only in the state of grace (without mortal sin).

Marriage: The Sacrament for women and men in love who want to create a new Christian family. All couples who are choosing to serve the Church through the vocation of marriage are invited to schedule the ceremony with us at least 6 months before the wedding day.

Anointing of the sick: We administer the Sacrament of healing every Tuesday, after 12 pm Mass at Resurrection Church. Also, call us to request a home or hospital visit. Please do not postpone contacting a priest at the very moment of death but request the Sacrament when the sick person is still conscious and aware of the approaching final journey.

Funerals: Please arrange with the funeral home of your choice. They will contact our Church for you to schedule this very important Liturgical celebration for our beloved departed.

R.C.I.A.: The program of Christian initiation to become a member of the Catholic Church. Please contact us if called by the Holy Spirit.

New Parishioners: Always welcome to register and support us through time, talent, and treasure. Registration Forms are available in the back of our Churches. Please visit or contact our office to register or notify us when moving out of the Parish.

Letter of Recommendation: This is a testimony to the fact that you are a practicing Catholic. Please use contribution envelopes to indicate attendance. To be a sponsor, a person needs to be confirmed, registered at our Parish, and attending Holy Mass. Please call the office of your membership to receive a letter of good stands to become a Godparent for Baptism or Sponsor for Confirmation.

Upcoming Events for Our Church Family

March 24th Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week. March 28-30 - Holy Triduum: Holy Thursday through Holy Saturday.

March 28th One Night + Seven Churches. Bus transportation will be provided by OLHC Holy Name & will depart following the 6:00 pm Mass of the Last Supper. To reserve your spot, call 716 471-1893.

March 31st Easter Sunday of The Resurrection of the Lord!

April 7th Sunday of Divine Mercy. From Good Friday until the Sunday of Divine Mercy, we will celebrate the Novena to the Divine Mercy with Chaplet and special prayers 10 minutes before every daily Mass. The special Hour of Mercy in the OLHC Chapel at **3 pm**.

April 7th First Reconciliation for the Second Grade children after the 9am Mass at Resurrection.

April 28th Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ. Sponsored by the OLHC Holy Name. Tickets are available after all OLHC weekend Masses and in our OLHC Parish Office.

May 5th Celebration of the First Holy Communion for the 3rd Grade children during the 9am Mass at Resurrection.

May 9th The Ascension of the Lord. 40 days after Easter. Holy Day of Obligation.

May 27th First outdoor Mass of the season. Memorial Day at 10 am in front of the OLHC Grotto.

LET US PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

James Hacker & Diane Gaynor
†

**WEEKLY INCOME
March 4 - March 10, 2024**

(Collections, Donations, Other)

- Resurrection— \$ 7,089.00
- OLHC—\$ 8,179.02
- St. Josaphat — \$ 4,094.00
- Queen of Martyrs—\$21,748.23

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Meetings for OLHC, Resurrection, St. Josaphat, & Queen of Martyrs

Chapel Seniors—March 28th at 1:00 pm—OLHC Parish Hall. All are Welcome!



All Parish Offices will be closed on **March 29th** in observance of Good Friday.

Blessing of Easter Basket

In Poland, *święconka* or “the blessing of the Easter baskets” is very important tradition on **Holy Saturday**. This tradition dates back to the 7th century, and was a form of a pagan ritual. Nowadays Easter baskets are traditionally lined with a white linen or lace napkin and decorated with sprigs of boxwood and filled with samples of Easter foods. The baskets are brought to church to be blessed on Holy Saturday. According to the tradition, blessed food remains untouched until Sunday morning, when served during Easter breakfast. The foods in the baskets have a symbolic meaning:

- colorful eggs** – symbolize life and Christ’s resurrection
- bread** – symbolic of Jesus
- lamb (made of butter or sugar)** – represents Christ

- salt** – represents purification
- horseradish** – symbolic of the bitter sacrifice of Christ
- ham or link of sausage** – symbolic of joy and abundance

Blessing of Easter Basket Schedule

- 9:00 am - OLHC Church
- 10:00 am - Queen of Martyrs
- 11:00 am - Resurrection
- 12:00 pm - St. Josaphat

MASS INTENTIONS**SATURDAY, March 23 Vigil of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

4:00 pm OLHC Church +Alice Nowicki—by Family

4:00 pm Queen of Martyrs +Victor Massalski Anniv. of Death—by Daughter, Barbara

5:30 pm Resurrection +Diane Hencinski—by Maryann Mucha

SUNDAY, March 24 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

7:00 am OLHC Chapel +Jill Niemiec—by Barry & Sandra Smith

8:00 am Queen of Martyrs +Nicholas Kowalski Anniv. of Death

9:00 am Resurrection +Alice Folaron—by Dolores Graczyk

10:00 am OLHC Church Members of the U-Crest Fire Dept. & Families

11:00 am St. Josaphat +Daniel Melody—by Family

12:30 pm OLHC Chapel +Susan & Michael Koehler—by Trish & Dan Hager

MONDAY, March 25

8:30 am OLHC Chapel +Deceased Members of the U-Crest Fire Dept. & Families

9:00 am—6:00 pm OLHC Chapel - Eucharistic Adoration

TUESDAY, March 26

8:30 am Queen of Martyrs +Genevieve & John Bak—by Estate

12:00 pm Resurrection +John Nowak—by Estate

WEDNESDAY, March 27

8:30 am OLHC Chapel Parishioners of OLHC, Resurrection, St. Josaphat, & Queen of Martyrs

12:00 pm St. Josaphat +Marcia Stachewicz—by Larry & Cathy Czwojidak

HOLY TRIDUUM AND EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE**THURSDAY, March 28 Holy Thursday**

6:00 pm OLHC Church +Rev. Michael, Herman, & Genevieve Burzynski

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm OLHC Chapel Silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 pm St. Josaphat +Gary Walters—by Family

8:00 pm - 10:00 pm St. Josaphat Silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 pm Queen of Martyrs +Samuel F. Zarcone 6th Anniv. Of Death—by Wife
Leanore, Children & Grandchildren

8:00 pm - 10:00 pm Queen of Martyrs Silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

FRIDAY, March 29 Friday of the Passion of the Lord

8:00 am - 10:00 am OLHC Chapel Sacrament of Confession

12:00 pm OLHC Church Stations of the Cross with Veneration of the Cross

12:00 pm Queen of Martyrs Stations of the Cross with Veneration of the Cross

3:00 pm Resurrection Liturgy of Good Friday - Main Celebration

7:00 pm St. Josaphat Stations of the Cross with Veneration of the Cross

SATURDAY, March 30 Holy Saturday

9:00 am OLHC Church - Easter Food Blessing

10:00 am Queen of Martyrs - Easter Food Blessing

11:00 am Resurrection - Easter Food Blessing

12:00 pm St. Josaphat - Easter Food Blessing

SATURDAY, March 30 Vigil Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

7:00 pm OLHC Church Blessing & Good Health of Ann Dillon & Her Family

7:00 pm Resurrection +Barbara Stites—by Son, Patrick

7:00 pm Queen of Martyrs +Lorraine Kurkowiak (Birthday)—by Peg Hillyard & Family

SUNDAY, March 31 Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

7:00 am OLHC Chapel +Rev. Michael Burzynski & all Priests buried in our Cemetery

8:00 am Queen of Martyrs +Elaine Siska—by Husband, William & Daughter, Bonnie Lou

9:00 am Resurrection Resurrection, OLHC, St. Josaphat, & Queen of Martyrs Parishioners

10:00 am OLHC Church +Audrey Cudzil—by Chapel Seniors

11:00 am St. Josaphat +Denis F. Marsh—by Marsh Family

12:30 pm OLHC Chapel +James Francis Gallagher—by Fr. Martin Gallagher

THEY DIED FOR CHRIST**1. Matthew.** Suffered martyrdom in Ethiopia, killed by a sword wound.**2. Mark.** Died in Alexandria, Egypt, after being dragged by horses through the streets until he was dead.**3. Luke.** Was hanged in Greece as a result of his tremendous preaching to the lost.**4. John.** Faced martyrdom when he was boiled in a huge basin of boiling oil during a wave of persecution in Rome. However, he was miraculously delivered from death. John was then sentenced to the mines on the prison Island of Patmos. He wrote his prophetic Book of Revelation on Patmos. The apostle John was later freed and returned to serve as Bishop of Edessa in modern Turkey. He died as an old man, the only apostle to die peacefully.**5. Peter.** He was crucified upside down on an X-shaped cross. According to Church tradition, it was because he told his tormentors that he felt unworthy to die in the same way that Jesus Christ had died.**6. James.** The leader of the church in Jerusalem, was thrown over a hundred feet down from the southeast pinnacle of the Temple when he refused to deny his faith in Christ. When they discovered that he survived the fall, his enemies beat James to death with a fuller's club. This was the same pinnacle where Satan had taken Jesus during the Temptation.**7. James the Son of Zebedee** was a fisherman by trade when Jesus called him to a lifetime of ministry. As a strong leader of the church, James was beheaded at Jerusalem. The Roman officer who guarded James watched amazed as James defended his faith at his trial. Later, the officer walked beside James to the place of execution. Overcome by conviction, he declared his new faith to the judge and knelt beside James to accept beheading as a Christian.**8. Bartholomew.** Also known as Nathaniel. He was a missionary to Asia. He witnessed for our Lord in present day Turkey. Bartholomew was martyred for his preaching in Armenia where he was flayed to death by a whip.**9. Andrew.** He was crucified on an X-shaped cross in Patras, Greece. After being whipped severely by seven soldiers they tied his body to the cross with cords to prolong his agony. His followers reported that, when he was led toward the cross, Andrew saluted it in these words, "I have long desired and expected this happy hour. The cross has been consecrated by the body of Christ hanging on it". He continued to preach to his tormentors for two days until he expired.**10. Thomas.** He was stabbed with a spear in India during one of his missionary trips to establish the Church in the subcontinent.**11. Jude.** He was killed with arrows when he refused to deny his faith in Christ.**12. Matthias.** The apostle chosen to replace the traitor Judas Iscariot. He was stoned and then beheaded.**13. Paul.** He was tortured and then beheaded by the evil Emperor Nero at Rome in A.D. 67. Paul endured a lengthy imprisonment, which allowed him to write his many epistles to the churches he had formed throughout the Roman Empire. These letters, which taught many of the foundational Doctrines of Christianity, form a large portion of the New Testament.**Sanctuary Lamp at Resurrection**

March 24th - March 30th

Robert & Ruth Pearce by Rosinski Family

ONE NIGHT + SEVEN CHURCHES

HOLY THURSDAY, March 28, 2024



THE CHURCHES

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, CHEEKTOWAGA + OUR LADY OF POMPEII CHURCH, LANCASTER
 ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION, LANCASTER + ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH, CHEEKTOWAGA
 BLESSED MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA, DEPEW + ST. MARTHA'S CHURCH, DEPEW
 SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH, BOWMANVILLE

OLHC's HOLY NAME SOCIETY is sponsoring the traditional visitation of the Blessed Sacrament at 7 area churches on March 28. The 7 visits represent the final 7 places or "stations" that Jesus visited between his arrest on Holy Thursday and his crucifixion and death on Good Friday. Upon entering each church, pilgrims visit the altar of repose, kneel, make the sign of the cross, and engage in private prayer and adoration.

Bus transportation will be provided and is scheduled to depart OLHC immediately following the 6:00pm Mass of the Last Supper and will return at approximately 10:30pm. Seats are limited. To reserve your spot, please call 716-471-1893 and leave your name, telephone number and the number of people in your group.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

Jesus asked that the Feast of the Divine Mercy be preceded by a Novena to the Divine Mercy which would begin on Good Friday. He gave St. Faustina an intention to pray for on each day of the Novena, saving for the last day the most difficult intention of all, the lukewarm and indifferent of whom He said:

"These souls cause Me more suffering than any others; it was from such souls that My soul felt the most revulsion in the Garden of Olives. It was on their account that I said: 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass Me by.' The last hope of salvation for them is to flee to My Mercy."

"On each day of the novena you will bring to My heart a different group of souls and you will immerse them in this ocean of My mercy ... On each day you will beg My Father, on the strength of My passion, for the graces for these souls."

Please start the Novena privately on Good Friday and continue on Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday. During the week, we will say the Chaplet & Novena every day 10 minutes before Mass. Everyone is encouraged to pick up a booklet from the back of the church. On **April 7th**, Sunday of Divine Mercy, we will participate in God's Love during our weekend Masses and also from **3 to 4 pm**. During the Hour of Mercy, The Eucharistic Adoration, Chaplet and Special Blessings of Healing will be given to all who will turn to Jesus for help. All are invited to our Chapel where we venerate Image of Divine Mercy in our side altar. **April 7th, Special Hour of Mercy in our OLHC Chapel from 3 to 4 pm.** All are invited. **Jesus, I trust in you!**

CHIAVETTA'S Chicken BBQ

Sunday, April 28 • 1-5 PM
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Includes: ½ Chicken, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Roll & Butter

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Faith Formation

OLHC, Resurrection, and St. Josaphat
4125 Union Rd., Cheektowaga, NY

Office Hours: Monday 1:30-5:30 pm

Office Phone: 716-458-3130

Email: Olhc.faithformation@gmail.com

(Renée is available to meet outside of office hours by appt.)

March is a busy month for Faith Formation so please make sure to check the calendar of events. Our Saturdays are scheduled with Family Lenten Confessions, Sacramental retreats for 2nd & 3rd grade, and 1st Reconciliation practice. All of us are working hard to prepare for the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday.

March 30 No FF Class - Spring Break

April 6 No FF Class - Spring Break

April 13 Class 9:30-10:30 am

April 20 Class 9:30-10:30 am

April 17 Class 9:30-10:30 am



Queen of Martyrs

180 George Urban Blvd., Cheektowaga, NY

Office Hours: Available by appt.

Office Phone: 716-895-2162

Email: qmre121@verizon.net

Confirmation Classes for Students

Religious Education Classes for the Sacrament of First Eucharist

Classes begin for the Sacrament of First Communion and will be held on Sunday mornings from 9:30 am to 10:45 am in the Music Room (School Building) next to the Religious Education Office. Sacramental classes will be held for 3rd Grade Religious Education students (ONLY) on **March 24 & April 7 and 14** from 9:30 am until 10:45 am. All classes are MANDATORY!!

Generations of Faith (Religious Education Program)

The eighth monthly session of our program begins on Saturday, **April 6**, with the 4:00 pm Mass. After Mass, the family meal and program will continue until 7:00 pm in the Church Hall (below the church). Pizza will be provided and families are asked to bring in a snack or dessert. The monthly topic is: New Life in Christ and Renee Boltri from Nardin Academy is our adult speaker. We will conclude with a friendly game of Jeopardy between our families.

OLHC CEMETERY

Mission Statement: Believing in the sanctity of the human body, the resurrection and eternal life, we are dedicated to the respectful care of God's people, who even in death remain a part of our Faith community.

The cemetery at OLHC has space available in our beautiful cemetery. If you would like to discuss purchasing a grave or columbarium, please call Joanna at the OLHC Parish and Cemetery Office at (716) 276-9288.

PALM SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK - SACRED TRIDUUM - EASTER

What is Holy Week?

Holy Week is an important time for Christians throughout the world. Holy Week, the final week of Lent, begins on Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Easter. Holy Week is a time when Catholics gather to remember and participate in the Passion of Jesus Christ. The Passion was the final period of Christ's life in Jerusalem. It spans from when He arrived in Jerusalem to when He was crucified.

How Do Catholics Celebrate Holy Week?

Four special ceremonies commemorate the events of Christ's Passion from His entrance into Jerusalem, when palm branches were placed in His path, through His arrest on Holy Thursday and Crucifixion on Good Friday, to Holy Saturday, the day that Christ's body lay in the tomb.

The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum—from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery.

The single celebration of the Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season, and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday.

The liturgical services that take place during the Triduum are:

- Mass of the Lord's Supper
- Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
- Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord

Palm Sunday recalls Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem. Palm Sunday is known as such because the faithful will receive palm fronds which they use to participate in the reenactment of Christ's arrival in Jerusalem with a procession. In the Gospels, Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a donkey to the praise of the townspeople who laid palms or small branches, in front of him as a sign of homage. This was a customary practice for people of great respect.

Holy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper, when Jesus consecrated bread and wine. In the morning, bishops typically gather with priests from their diocese for the Chrism Mass or a day near Holy Week that works best for the Diocese. The Chrism Mass for the Diocese of Buffalo will be celebrated on Holy Tuesday at 7 pm in our St. Joseph Cathedral. They bless holy oils during the Mass. The washing of the feet takes place during the Mass of the Lord's Supper in the evening.

Good Friday is one of the most deep and holy days of the year for Catholics. It covers Jesus' arrest, trial, and crucifixion. His death and burial are also memorialized. Good Friday is a day of fasting within the Church. Traditionally, there is no Mass and no celebration of the Eucharist on Good Friday. The Church celebrates the Liturgy of the Good Friday and venerates the Holy Cross of Jesus. The Holy Communion comes from Hosts consecrated on Holy Thursday. Church bells are silent. Altars are left bare. The solemn, muted atmosphere is preserved until the Easter Vigil.

Holy Saturday remembers the day which Jesus spent in the grave resting. The Easter Vigil takes place at the end of the day because the new liturgical day begins at sunset, the vigil begins at sunset on Holy Saturday outside the church, where an Easter fire is kindled and the Paschal candle is blessed and then lit. This Paschal candle will be used throughout the season of Easter, remaining in the sanctuary of the church and throughout the coming year at baptisms and funerals, reminding all that Christ is our life and light. After the conclusion of the Liturgy of the Word, the water of the baptismal font is solemnly blessed and any catechumens and candidates for full communion are initiated into the church.

EASTER SUNDAY

The Easter Vigil is the "Mother of All Vigils." Easter Sunday, then, is the greatest of all Sundays, and Easter Time is the most important of all liturgical times. Easter is the celebration of the Lord's resurrection from the dead, culminating in his Ascension to the Father and sending of the Holy Spirit upon the Church. There are 50 days of Easter from the first Sunday to Pentecost. It is characterized, above all, by the joy of glorified life and the victory over death expressed most fully in the great resounding cry of the Christian: Alleluia! All faith flows from faith in the resurrection: "If Christ has not been raised, then empty is our preaching; empty, too, is your faith." (1 Cor 15:14)

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