

Good Friday



What is Good Friday?

Good Friday commemorates the Passion of Christ. On this day, Jesus was denied by his friends, and handed over to die. At the three o'clock hour today, we honor Christ's death with prayer and silence. Today is called 'good' because we know this is not the end of the story.



Open the Word

So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." (John 18:37)

Read today's readings including the full account of the Passion of Jesus from the garden to the cross in **John 18:1-19:42**.



Holy Week At Home

Watch Good Friday Liturgy with Archbishop Gregory today at 1:00pm.

At the Liturgy for Good Friday, a large cross or crucifix is placed at the front of church. We walk forward to venerate the cross with a loving touch or kiss. The Veneration of the Cross is a beautiful gesture for us to physically embrace Jesus who died for our sins. Today, find a cross or crucifix and hold it in your hands. Place your hands on the nail marks in Jesus' hands and feet as a gesture of love and gratitude. Consider praying the **Stations of the Cross** in person or online with others.



For Children

Download the image of a cross in **English** or **Spanish**. Draw a picture of a crucifix, Jesus on the cross.



Spiritual Reading

"There is no evil to be faced that Christ does not face with us. There is no enemy that Christ has not already conquered. There is no cross to bear that Christ has not already borne for us, and does not now bear with us. And on the far side of every cross we find the newness of life in the Holy Spirit, that new life which will reach its fulfillment in the resurrection. This is our faith. This is our witness before the world."

- St. John Paul II, Homily at Oriole Park at Camden Yards, 1995



Did You Know?

Following ancient tradition, Good Friday is the only day of the year when Mass is not celebrated. The Church enters into this most solemn day by fasting from the celebration of the Eucharist (Mass) to enter more deeply into the passion and death of Jesus.



Let Us Pray

Loving God, We praise you in a special way today as we celebrate Good Friday. Be with us as we continue our journey through Holy Week, that we may more closely align our lives with yours, knowing that death never wins, and that life and love always prevail. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(Liturgical Press, ***Holy Week at Home***)



Archdiocese of Washington

#ADWHolyWeek

Prayer moves us to action. Contact your local parish or **Catholic Charities** if you are in need of assistance or would like to be of assistance to others.