



MAUNDY THURSDAY

**"I give you a new commandment,
that you love one another." (Jn. 13:34)**

CHECK-LIST FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY

Order of Service	Requirements	Animator
	Backdrop	
	Altar requirements	
	Altar decoration	
	Vestments	
Introduction	Commentary Sheet	
Procession	Ushers to guide	
Greetings	Missal	
I Confess	Missal	
Gloria	Missal	
Liturgy of the Word		
Introduction to 1 st Reading	Commentary Sheet	
1 st Reading	Lectionary in suitable languages	
Responsorial Psalm	Lectionary	
Introduction to 2 nd Reading	Commentary Sheet	
2 nd Reading	Lectionary in suitable languages	
Acclamation	Lectionary	
Introduction to the Gospel	Commentary Sheet	
Gospel	Lectionary/Book of the Gospels	
Homily		
Introduction to Washing of Feet	Commentary Sheet	
	Names of the People of God Chairs Bucket of water Jug with water Small jug for pouring water Towel/s Basin (Celebrant) Table Table Cloth Breads Buns	
Prayer of the Faithful	Commentary Sheet	
Liturgy of the Eucharist		
Offertory		
Holy Communion	Follow instructions of the ushers	
Commentary – Procession to the Altar of Repose (Follow instructions in New Roman Missal)	Lector to announce	
Timing of Good Friday Service	Lector to announce	

(Before Entrance Procession)

Introduction

Dear friends in Jesus Christ, today we celebrate the institution of the greatest Sacrament, the Most Holy Eucharist. Today we also celebrate the institution of the Christian priesthood to perpetuate the Eucharist for us and to give us spiritual help. Today, therefore, is a day of great rejoicing and thanksgiving. This Thursday is unique in the liturgical year.

Today's Liturgy has three main themes: the Eucharist, the Ministerial Priesthood, and Fraternal Love in the Christian community. The mandate given by the Lord, "Do this in memory of me," is the reason for our celebration of the Eucharist.

The Eucharistic celebration is made possible in the community through the priestly ministry. The Lord's command to do likewise, for the Son of man has come not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many. Today we rejoice in these great gifts of God - the Eucharist, the Church and the Priesthood, and give thanks to God for them. To welcome the celebrant let us all stand and sing the hymn...

(Tabernacle is empty before the Service begins. Bless sufficient hosts for Maundy Thursday as well as for Good Friday.)

Entrance Hymn

(Mass As Usual)

Glory to God

(Church bells ring)

Opening Prayer

(Commentary before First Reading)

First Reading (Exodus 12:1-8; 11-14)

In this reading we have God's instructions to Moses regarding the celebration of the paschal meal, which prefigures the Eucharist. On the eve of their departure from Egypt, the Israelites are ordered to eat a parting meal with roasted lamb, unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Let us reflectively listen to the first reading.

(Commentary before Second Reading)

Second Reading (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

The Corinthian community has a distorted understanding of the Eucharist and Paul corrects it by giving an account of the institution of the Eucharist. Let us attentively listen to the reading.

(Commentary before Gospel Acclamation)

Vested like a servant, Jesus washes the feet of his disciples at the Last Supper. The Lord is going to proclaim his Word to us. Let us concentrate on the reading while it is being proclaimed. Now, let us stand and sing the praises of God by singing the gospel acclamation.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel (John 13:1-15)

Homily

Washing of the Feet: Sign of Jesus' self-emptying love

The ministers or altar servers lead the men who have been chosen to chairs arranged in a suitable place. Then the priest goes to each person. With the help of the ministers, he pours water over each person's feet and wipes them with a towel.

During the Last Supper, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. Through this symbolic act he teaches us that he has come not to be served, but to serve. Washing the feet of his disciples is a loving, exemplary and a purifying act. It is the sign of unconditional and self-emptying love of God for us in Jesus.

Washing reminds us of our baptism so that we may participate in his death and resurrection. We are called to imitate the action of Jesus, washing of the feet and be of service to one another. Now, the celebrant will take off his vestment and tie a towel around his waist and wash the feet of the twelve persons chosen, as a sign of service to his brethren. Let us participate by singing the hymn...

(Note: There is no profession of Faith at this Mass)

General Intercessions

Celebrant: Dear brothers and sisters, we have come together to celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper. Jesus instituted the Eucharist during the Last Supper that he shared with his disciples. The Eucharist is the most complete form of prayer wherein believers experience union with the Lord. Let us now place our petitions before the Lord, saying,

Response: Lord, may the Eucharist enrich us.

1. For our Pope, our Bishop, the priests and the religious that in their pastoral ministry they may assume the attitude of humble service as Jesus showed at the Last Supper when he washed the feet of his disciples, for this we pray to the Lord.
2. For priests all over the world who celebrate their feast day that they may become shining examples of the divine light, for this we pray to the Lord.
3. For priests who work in parishes that in the difficult task of parish ministry they may be assisted by the Lord whose representatives they are, for this we pray to the Lord.
4. For vocations to priesthood and religious life that pastors may identify prospective candidates to these vocations and invite them to a dedicated service in the Church, for this we pray to the Lord.
5. For all of us present in this Eucharistic assembly that through active participation in the Eucharist we may grow closer to the Lord Jesus who offers his body and blood for our spiritual nourishment, for this we pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: God, our Father, we thank you for the gift of the Eucharist which your Son gave us as his parting gift. As Jesus is our living Lord we experience his presence every time we gather for the Eucharist. Give us the grace that by celebrating the Eucharist worthily we may obtain communion with our Lord and Saviour, we make this prayer through our Lord. Amen.

Procession of the Faithful with the Gifts for the Poor

(Normally, our monetary gifts are collected by passing baskets and symbolically presented by one or two people on our behalf. The Eucharistic elements of bread and wine are also presented at this time.)

Use the preface of the Holy Eucharist - I

Before Eucharistic Prayer/Preface

The Eucharist: Sign of Jesus' abiding love and presence

At the Last Supper, Jesus gave us his own body and blood through the symbolic means of the bread and wine. This symbolic self-gift of Jesus was completed and actualised by his death on the cross for our sake. The Eucharist is a constant reminder of the great sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Eucharist is the source of Christian life, as we participate in this Eucharist, may this Eucharist inspire us to break ourselves and share our goodness with others.

Priests: Representatives of Jesus in the Church

Today we remember with gratitude the institution of the priesthood by Jesus at the Last Supper. When Jesus said to his apostles, 'Do this in memory of me,' he wanted his apostles and their successors to perpetuate his memory and his ministry. It is Jesus himself, who extends his love and life through the pastoral ministry of the priests in the Church.

Priests are symbolic representatives of Jesus, and when they carry out their ministry in fidelity to Christ, it is Jesus himself who is made available and experiential to us. Today we recollect what God has done for us in Christ, God's love compels us to love him in return, to express our love and gratitude through various signs and symbols.

Eucharistic Prayer

(A ciborium with consecrated hosts for distribution on Good Friday is left on the altar.)

Communion Rite

Prayer after Communion

Today there is no blessing

Transfer of the Holy Eucharist

The celebrant incenses the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar.

Priest receives the humeral veil and covers ciborium with the ends of the veil.

Procession to the chapel of repose in this order:

Cross bearer

Candle bearers

Incense

Priest with ciborium

(Song during Procession: "Pange Lingua")

Place ciborium at the chapel of repose.

Under no circumstances may it be exposed in a monstrance.

The place where tabernacle or pyx is placed must not be made to resemble a tomb.

The priest kneels and incenses the Blessed Sacrament, while choir sings 'Tantum Ergo (Let us bow in Adoration). The tabernacle of reposition is then closed.

Period of Silent Adoration

Ministers silently bow and return to the Sacristy

The people remain in adoration (until Midnight)

Stripping of the Altar

After a period of silent adoration, the priest and ministers genuflect and return to the sacristy. The altar is stripped and, if possible, the crosses are removed from the Church. It is desirable to cover all crosses with red or purple veil, which remain in the Church. Unless they have already been veiled on Saturday before the fifth Sunday of Lent. Lamps should not be lit before the images of Saints.

Catechesis

1. No formal ending of the Eucharist

Today's Eucharist has no formal ending that is, it has no final blessing or dismissal. The Eucharist concludes with the prayer after communion. This is because soon after the Last Supper Jesus went to the garden of Gethsemane to pray. We too follow him with a prayer vigil or adoration before Blessed Sacrament.

2. The Stripping of the Altar

The Altar represents the body of Jesus. That is the reason we consecrate, incense and kiss the altar. Today's stripping is a symbolic expression of Jesus' own stripping of His dignity in the scourging and crucifixion. After the stripping the tabernacle is emptied and kept open.

When you recite Holy Rosary from today till Easter instead of the 'Glory be' you may say

Christ became obedient for us

Obedient unto death.

3. Easter Celebration Begins from Today

You will notice a joyful atmosphere in the liturgy, and yet underneath the joy there is an undertone of sorrow. The flowers on the altar, singing of Gloria and the white vestments are the outward signs and an indication that the environment is slowly changing to an Easter environment. This change is progressive culminating in the Easter Vigil.

All this once again shows that we celebrate passion and death (Good Friday) knowing very well that there is Easter (resurrection).

From today till Saturday night we do not celebrate the Eucharist. This is because all that takes place from this evening till the Easter celebration is considered as part of one continuous celebration.

Just like Palm Sunday today's liturgy is a blend of joy and sadness. We are joyful because Jesus instituted the Eucharist, the priesthood and gave us a new command. There is also sadness because his hour has come and this is the farewell meal.

4. Altar of Repose:

For the reservation of the Blessed Sacrament, a place should be prepared and adorned in such a way as to be conducive to prayer and meditation: that sobriety appropriate to the liturgy of these days is enjoined, to the avoidance of suppression of all abuses.