

Office of Divine Worship



The Catholic
Archdiocese
of Edmonton

March 31, 2020

Holy Week Observances – The Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton

This year, our celebrations of the Liturgies of Holy Week and the Sacred Paschal Triduum will be like no others. In accordance with the requirements set out by the Chief Medical Officer for Alberta and the directives of Archbishop Smith, priests will celebrate the liturgies privately, with no congregation present. In the case of concelebration, each priest will abide by physical distancing requirements and infection prevention protocols. We invite the faithful to join these celebrations 'virtually,' through video livestreaming from their own parish or from St. Joseph's Basilica with Archbishop Smith. Visit your parish website or caedm.ca to find links to the livestream events.

Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Palm Sunday)

April 5

Livestreamed from St. Joseph's Basilica at 10:30 a.m.

This liturgy commemorates the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem. It may include the blessing of palms, but the palms would be stored for distribution at a later date.

Thursday of Holy Week (Holy Thursday)

April 9

Chrism Mass: *Future Date and Time to be determined.*

Mass of the Lord's Supper

Livestreamed from St. Joseph's Basilica at 7 p.m.

The Mass will not include the usual ritual of the washing of feet or the procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose. The Blessed Sacrament will be reserved in the Tabernacle.

Good Friday

April 10

Livestreamed from St. Joseph's Basilica at 3 p.m.

The Passion of the Lord will be celebrated on this day, and the liturgy will include special prayers for those in distress, the sick, and the dead.

Holy Saturday

April 11

Livestreamed from St. Joseph's Basilica at 8 p.m.

The blessing of the fire does not take place, but the Easter Candle will be lit. This liturgy includes the renewal of Baptismal Promises. The Sacraments of Initiation are postponed until medical directives relative to the pandemic indicate it would be safe to celebrate them.

Easter Sunday

April 11

Livestreamed from St. Joseph's Basilica at 10:30 a.m.

We celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord. Special prayers will be said for those affected by the current pandemic, for our religious and government leaders, and for the dead.

Resources

Visit caedm.ca/covid for resources to help prepare for Holy Week, including:

- An Act of Spiritual Communion
- Archbishop Smith's teaching on Indulgences (video and print)
- Links to prayer resources and Mass texts
- Links to Archbishop Smith's homily texts
- Link to *Holy Week at Home*, a family prayer resource from Liturgical Press