

**April 2026**

***Triduum Reflection***

**Follow the Footsteps**

Sunday invites you to spend Holy Week. Near the start of that Mass, the priest explains why you are there. The penance and charitable works you adopted this Lent have prepared you for this week, the celebration of the Lord's Paschal Mystery.

The Sacred Paschal Triduum unfolds that mystery in slow motion. At Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, we recall that Jesus gave us his Body and Blood. On Good Friday, we hear John's account of the Passion. At the Easter Vigil, we are the first to celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord.

This isn't like Christmas, when we merely remember the birth of the Lord. This is the Triduum, when we personally share in the suffering and rising of Christ. We take part in these liturgies because the Paschal Mystery takes part in our lives.

Have you considered what you want the world to know before you die? Welcome to Holy Thursday.

Have you suffered in silence for the sake of someone you love? Welcome to Good Friday.

Have you wondered about life after death? Welcome to the Easter Vigil.

The liturgies of Holy Week make spectacular efforts to transport us into their meaning. With palm branches, bread, wine, a procession of the Blessed Sacrament, lengthy accounts of the Passion, the adoration of the cross, the lighting of fire, the first proclamation of the Resurrection, the baptism of new Christians, and the real presence of the Risen Christ in the first holy communion of Easter, we engage the Paschal Mystery. We don't just remember a past event. We share a present moment.

How will you respond to the invitation this week?

Do not miss these three days. Use your feet. Follow Christ.

Fr. Paul Turner

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