



EASTER

AT

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

*"I invite you to join us as we
commemorate the saving
Passion, Death and Resurrection
of Jesus Christ, celebrated in the
sacred Liturgies of Holy Week".*

Fr Don Richardson,
DEAN OF ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

PALM SUNDAY / 2 APRIL, 2023

7.00am: Mass
9.00am: Mass
10.30am: Procession & Solemn Mass
5.00pm: Solemn Vespers and Benediction
6.00pm: Mass

MAUNDY THURSDAY / 6 APRIL, 2023

10.30am: Chrism Mass
6.30pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper
9.00pm: Compline The Office of Night Prayer

GOOD FRIDAY / 7 APRIL, 2023

10.00am: Stations of the Cross
3.00pm: Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

HOLY SATURDAY / 8 APRIL, 2023

10.00am: Tenebrae The Office of Readings
6.30pm: Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY / 9 APRIL, 2023

7.00am: Mass
9.00am: Mass
10.30am: Solemn Mass
5.00pm: Solemn Vespers and Benediction
6.00pm: Mass



HOLY THURSDAY

On this day there is the morning Chrism Mass when the priests of the Archdiocese gather with the Archbishop to consecrate holy oils, which are used throughout the year for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders and the Anointing of the Sick. This ancient practice dates back to the fifth century and stresses the role of the bishop as a successor to the apostles.

There is only one other Mass on this day, the Mass of the Lord's Supper which is celebrated in the evening. This Mass commemorates the institution of the Eucharist and the Priesthood. After Mass the Blessed Sacrament is carried in procession to the Altar of Repose where it remains until the Communion on Good Friday. And for a time following mass there is the continued Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, just as the disciples stayed with the Lord during His agony on the Mount of Olives before the betrayal of Judas.

GOOD FRIDAY

Is a day of fasting and penance, commemorating Christ's crucifixion and death. Many mark the day by participating in the Stations of the Cross. The major Good Friday worship service begins in the afternoon at 3.00pm, traditionally marked as the time of Jesus' death. The celebration of Good Friday includes the reading of the Lord's Passion, the Veneration of the Cross and the distribution of Holy Communion.

SATURDAY EVENING

Service of Light and Easter Vigil - although celebrated on the night of Holy Saturday, it is the dramatic Easter liturgy that marks the official celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus and beginning of Easter. It is the most important Mass of the liturgical year as well as the first celebration of the Eucharist during the fifty-day long celebrations of Easter, and is marked by the first use since the beginning of Lent of the acclamation "Alleluia". Before the Easter Vigil, the holy water fonts are drained, all the lights are extinguished, and the tabernacle is empty. The service begins outside the church, where a new fire is lit and blessed and a new Paschal candle is prepared. The Archbishop lights the candle from the new fire and this processes into the church, lifting it three different times. Everyone lights their smaller candle from the Easter candle and continues in procession until the whole church is alight. The Paschal candle symbolises Christ, the Light of the world. The Exsultet, the Easter Proclamation, is sung at the commencement of Mass, proclaiming the Lord's Resurrection. During the Mass the Easter water is blessed, new members are brought into the Church through baptism and the faithful are blessed with water and renew their baptismal promises.

EASTER SUNDAY

A day of celebration commemorating the Resurrection of Christ. Unlike during the "desert" period of Lent, churches are usually filled with flowers and other symbols of life. It is the highest feast in the Church's calendar.