

HOLY THURSDAY



1st Reader

We begin today with the Triduum, the three great celebrations of our Catholic faith. Today, Thursday, we celebrate the Lord's gift of the Most Holy Eucharist. Tomorrow we will enter into the mystery of His Crucifixion. Saturday after sundown, we enter into the glory of His Resurrection.

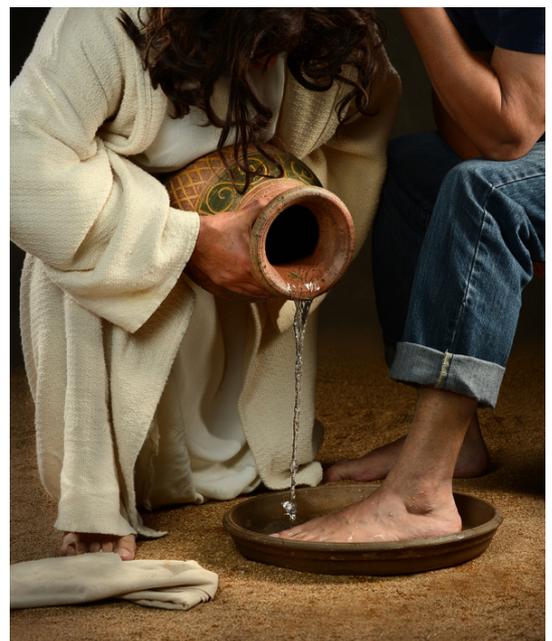
On the first Holy Thursday, Jesus demonstrated an example of perfect love, humility, and service that we are called to imitate as we become one with Him. Jesus washed the feet of His disciples and taught us that His Body and Blood are given to enable us to love as He loved. The Eucharist transforms us into true servants who are called to humility. We are called to the humble service of others. This service will take various forms, but it is what we are called to do.

2nd Reader

This degree of love and humility demands courage, inner freedom, and total emptiness. We witness some people in the world who commit themselves to love the way Jesus loved.

In our lives "We are all moved and filled with admiration by the extreme gestures or behavior of people who dare to give themselves beyond what is reasonable, beyond what is "logical", beyond what is humanly demandable: they risk their lives for others, they stand by those who are in high-risk situations, they do not take themselves into account and, without calculating or measuring, they give what they are and what they have, risking their own existence until they lose it. These are behaviors that, in the eyes of many, seem senseless, as this Sufi poem expresses: "They told me: You have gone mad because of the One you love. I answered them: The taste of life is only for the insane."

(Spiritual Journey, pg. 114)



So much to the mission of RSCJs!

3rd Reader

Let us pause to ask ourselves...

When was I last called to give myself in love beyond the reasonable, beyond that is logical, beyond that is humanly demandable? *(Pause for 5 minutes)*

Is there somebody or some situation in my life now that needs this gesture of total love and humility? *(Pause for 5 minutes)*

I bring this person or situation in this room to my memory as we symbolically wash each other's feet.

The leader does the gesture of washing feet.

Song is played simultaneously : [Brother, Sister, Let Me Serve You](#)

If possible leader breaks bread and shares with each member of the room as the passage is read:

“Then He took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me.” And likewise, the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you.”

~Luke 22:19–20



Song : [Ubi Caritas](#)

4th Reader

Closing Prayer and Blessing:

Lord, we thank You for the gift of Your Son. May our entry into the mysteries of His life, death, and resurrection give us the confidence to live with unshakeable faith in Your faithful and abiding love.

**We make this prayer to You in His name. May Almighty God bless us:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**



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