



WEST END CATHOLIC PARISHES OF COATESVILLE

ST. JOSEPH ++ ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA

SOLEMNLY CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4TH, 2007

7:00 p.m. LENTEN COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE will be conducted for both West End congregations in St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, with several priests available for the individual hearing of confessions.

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 5TH

Mass is not celebrated this morning.

7:00 p.m. SOLEMN MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER is offered, concluding with the Eucharistic Procession to the Repository. The congregations of both West End Parishes gather in St. Stanislaus Kostka Church for a singular, intimate celebration commemorating the Lord Jesus' institution of both the Holy Eucharist and the Priesthood. With this Mass, the three day period of the Paschal Triduum begins.

Eucharistic adoration before the Repository concludes at 12:00 midnight in both Churches.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 6TH

Religious Services are not offered this morning. Both Churches are opened at 9:00 a.m. for private devotion before the Repository.

11:45 a.m. AN ECUMENICAL WAY OF THE CROSS SERVICE is conducted on the streets of Coatesville this day. Participants are requested to assemble in the parking area adjacent to St. Cecilia Church, North Sixth Avenue at East Diamond Street. This Service will be moved indoors in the event of unsuitable weather.

In St. Stanislaus Kostka Church,

3:00 p.m. SOLEMN LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION AND DEATH, with Veneration of the Cross and Distribution of Holy Communion, is celebrated.

In St. Joseph Church,

7:30 p.m. SOLEMN LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION AND DEATH, with Veneration of the Cross and Distribution of Holy Communion, is celebrated.

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 7TH

Religious Services are not offered this morning.

The Saturday Evening Mass is not offered at the usual time this day, but at a later hour (as noted below), so that the Liturgy may begin in complete darkness.

2:30 p.m. BLESSING OF THE FIRST FOODS OF EASTER and the Children's Easter Baskets is conducted in St. Stanislaus Kostka Church.

(continued)

**HOLY SATURDAY (continued)**

7:30 p.m. **GREAT EASTER VIGIL** with the Service of Light, the Liturgy of the Word, the Service of Water and the Liturgy of the Eucharist is celebrated. The congregations of both West End Parishes gather in St. Joseph Church for a singular, solemn celebration of the Church's Night of Nights, joyfully hailing the victory of Jesus Christ, our Champion, over death.

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 8TH**

In St. Stanislaus Kostka Church,

8:00 a.m. **"SUNRISE" MASS OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION** featuring the Renewal of Baptismal Promises and Sprinkling with Blessed Water is celebrated.

9:45 a.m. **FESTIVE MASS OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION** featuring the Renewal of Baptismal Promises and Sprinkling with Blessed Water is celebrated.

In St. Joseph Church,

10:30 a.m. **FESTIVE MASS OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION** featuring the Renewal of Baptismal Promises and Sprinkling with Blessed Water is celebrated. At the conclusion of this holiday Mass, the children will be invited to approach the altar for the blessing of their Easter baskets and the presentation of an added treat.

*Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia*

Dear Parishioners,

The peace of the crucified, yet risen Lord be with you!

At the very heart of our Faith lie the saving events which we solemnly commemorate during Holy Week and at Easter. With love for us Jesus meets His fore-ordained destiny in Jerusalem, where He suffers and dies to win our freedom from sin and death. He champions our cause and shares with us His Easter victory, exchanging the cross of shame for the crown of glory.

With great beauty and meaning, the Sacred Liturgy gives expression to these saving events. In this way, we are placed in the company of Jesus Christ amidst the days of His Passion, Death and Resurrection. Assembled as believers, we allow our hearts to be moved by God's Suffering Servant who shows us that "there is no greater love than the love of One who is willing to lay down His life for His friends."

You and your families are urged to attend the Solemn Ceremonies of Holy Week and Easter. Please confer with the complete schedule, given above, for the time and place of these events, and retain the schedule for ready reference.

Thank you for your anticipated generosity to the Parish Easter Collection this year. With expenses increasing from all sides, your contribution is indeed most important to our financial well-being and related good works.

May you be caught up in the wondrous hope and joy that mark this Day of the Lord Jesus' Resurrection. Happy Easter!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Fr. John O'Leary*