

Celebrating Holy Thursday as a Family

Catechesis:

We begin the Triduum with the celebration of the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. During this liturgy we celebrate the mysteries of the institution of the Eucharist, the institution of the priesthood, and Christ's command of brotherly love. During this Eucharistic celebration, because of the absence of the faithful, due to the pandemic, the ritual washing of the feet will be omitted (but you can do one at home). As the liturgy comes to a close, we have the transfer of the Holy Eucharist to the place of reposition and a time for silent adoration.

Washing of the Feet:

[Why do we do it?](#)

Directions: After reading the gospel together, the head of household should invite the first person to come and have their feet washed. The head of household can continue to wash the entire families feet or each family member can take a turn washing one person's feet. Close the ritual by praying your favorite prayer together.

Materials Needed:

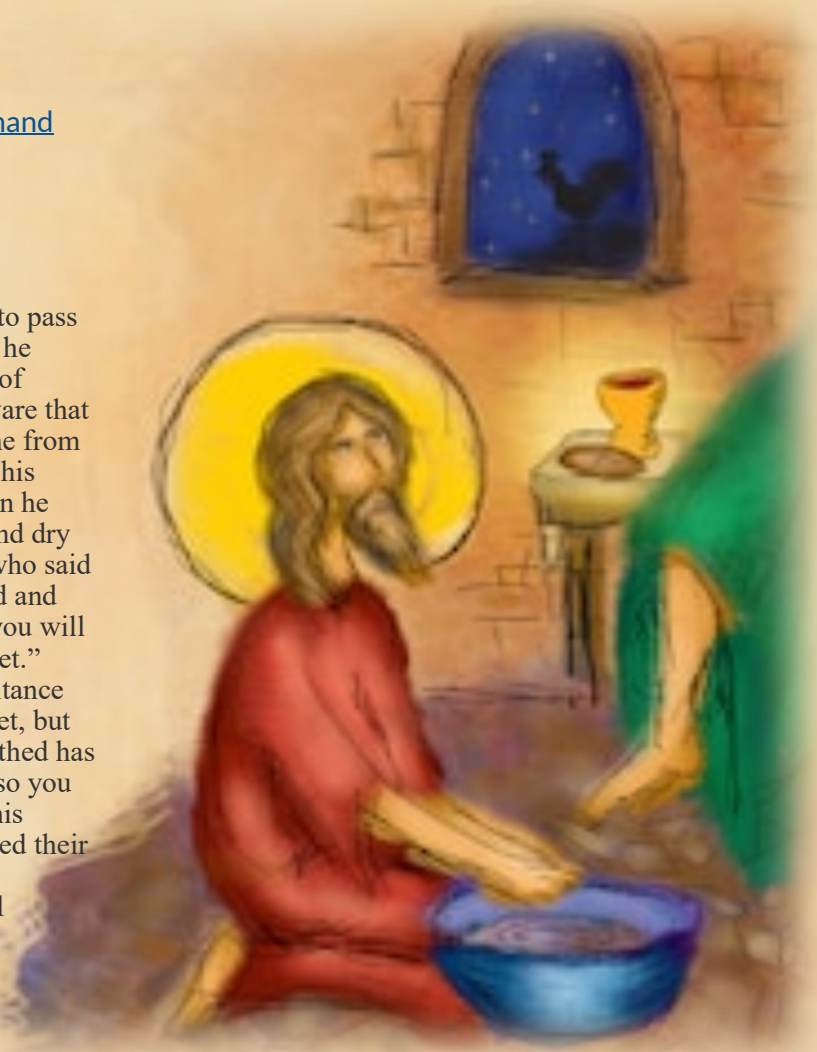
- ♦ Pitcher of Water
- ♦ Empty Bowl
- ♦ Towel
- ♦ Chair

Music:

[As I have Done for you](#)
[Song of the Lord's Command](#)

The Gospel of John 13:1-15

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father. He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end. The devil had already induced Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand him over. So, during supper, fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power and that he had come from God and was returning to God, he rose from supper and took off his outer garments. He took a towel and tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Master, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand later." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well." Jesus said to him, "Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed, for he is clean all over; so you are clean, but not all." For he knew who would betray him; for this reason, he said, "Not all of you are clean." So when he had washed their feet and put his garments back on and reclined at table again, he said to them, "Do you realize what I have done for you? You call me 'teacher' and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am. If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do."



Holy Thursday Reflections

Reflection

"Do you know what I have done for you?"

What does these words of Jesus make you think?

What did it feel like to wash one another's feet?

Why would Jesus ask this?

In what other ways have we served one another today?

How are some ways we can serve one another this week?

When this week might we find time for quiet time with Jesus at home?

