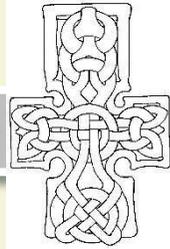


WHISPERS OF HOPE



Easter Triduum

The summit of the Liturgical Year is the

The **Easter Triduum** starts from the evening of Holy Thursday, The Mass of the Last Supper, through Good Friday, The Passion and Death of our Lord Jesus Christ, to the eve of Easter Sunday, the Easter Vigil: *"The night when Jesus Christ broke the prison-bars of death and rose victorious from the underworld."* (from the **Easter Proclamation**)

Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery.

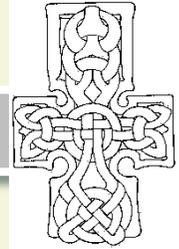
God the Father's response to moral evil is a great act of love through the sending of his only Son who offers his life, for all of us, to bring us back to God the Father:

"Who for our sake paid Adam's debt to the eternal Father, and, pouring out his own dear Blood, wiped clean the record of our ancient sinfulness."

O truly necessary sin of Adam destroyed completely by the Death of Christ. O happy fault that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!" (from the **Easter Proclamation**)

The presence of the Risen Lord and his saving works permeates the entire Liturgical Year: Advent, the Christmas Season, Lent, the Easter Season and Ordinary Time.

WHISPERS OF HOPE



Life is a journey,

In this season, of the
Church's calendar,
we journey
towards Easter:

Lent
Holy Week
Easter Triduum

when we stop, things don't go right.

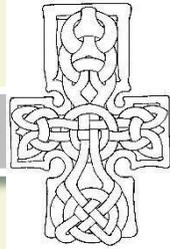
Pope Francis

Understanding Our Faith

St. Peter's Parish, Drogheda

Issue 1 - Lent / Easter 2017

WHISPERS OF HOPE



Lent

Spring is officially here and with that comes the "Holy Season of Lent."

We start Lent with "Ash Wednesday" a day of fasting. It occurs 46 days before Easter.

Ash Wednesday derives its name from the practice of blessing ashes made from palm branches blessed on the previous year's Palm Sunday and placing them on the heads to the accompaniment of the words "*Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.*"

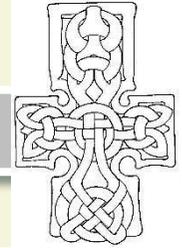
Why do we use purple for Lent?

Advent and Lent are periods of preparation and repentance and are represented by the colour purple.

Purple is used for two reasons:

1. It is associated with mourning and so anticipates the pain and suffering of the crucifixion.
2. Purple is the colour associated with royalty and celebrates Christ Resurrection and sovereignty.

WHISPERS OF HOPE



Holy Week

Palm Sunday

We celebrate the first joy of the season Our Lord's triumphant entrance into Jerusalem where he was welcomed by crowds worshiping him and laying down palm leaves before him. It is the beginning of Holy Week, a week to accompany our Lord who offers Himself for our salvation.

Spy Wednesday

Wednesday of Holy Week is known as Spy Wednesday because on this day Judas made a bargain with the High Priest to betray Jesus for 30 silver pieces.

This is also the day that Jesus was anointed with an expensive jar of alabaster by the woman at Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper.

Holy Thursday Morning

On this morning we have a Mass, called the Chrism Mass. It is the only Mass celebrated throughout the diocese and all are welcome to attend it.

The three oils which are ceremoniously blessed are:
Oil of Catechumens – Used in the Sacrament of Baptism
Oil of Chrism – Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders
Oil - for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Holy Week – An Invitation to Prayer

Holy Week can be a time for individual or small group prayer. It can be a time for silence in front of our Lord Jesus who is always present in the Adoration Chapel. It can also be a time for just spending time with the Lord Jesus, especially in the Holy Sacrament of Reconciliation.