

Triduum



Maundy Thursday

Jesus washes the feet of his disciples to show them that in God's Kingdom, leaders are really servants of all

The institution of the Eucharist

"Maundy" come from the Latin *mandatum*, meaning "command," because on this night Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another."

The altar is stripped and the sanctuary furnishings are removed, and a vigil follows

Good Friday

Jesus' trial, Crucifixion, and death

There is no celebration of the Eucharist; in some churches, communion is distributed from the Reserved Sacrament

The ancient Solemn Collects are prayed, and a large wooden Cross is venerated

Easter Vigil

The culmination of the Triduum story

Begins with the striking of new fire and chanting of the ancient Exsultet, (since at least the 5th century), followed by dramatic Bible readings telling the story of Salvation history

We celebrate being incorporated into Jesus' triumph over death through our baptism

The first Eucharist of Easter

The Pascal Triduum (pronounced "trih-doo-uhm") is the three-day period starting with Maundy Thursday evening through Easter Day. Triduum comes from the Latin for "three days." The various liturgies on these days are really one continuous celebration, one emotional and theological story arc that tells the drama of the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus.