

# PRAYER AT HOME ON HOLY THURSDAY

*when we cannot attend the Mass of the Lord's Supper*

*This year, due to Covid-19 regulations we cannot attend church during Holy Week. You can still be part of the worldwide praying Church by joining in prayer from your home.*

*Prepare your altar: candle, crucifix, bible, bowl of water, towel*

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

*Light the candle and pause for silent prayer to allow yourself to become fully present to the Lord on this evening of the Last Supper.*

A prayer for forgiveness for the times when we have failed in our life...

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God. Amen

*Readings from the sacred scriptures*

**READING:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
Brothers and sisters: I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread, and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same



way also the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

The Word of the Lord

**GOSPEL READING:**

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



*Jesus always sees service and table fellowship as one.*

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.”

*If you are with family you may want to take time to reflect with one another on these readings – if you are alone take time to pause and reflect on these words to you.*

## **PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

Let us turn now to God with all our needs.

### *For the Church*

That everyone who follows Jesus might grow in loving one another as he has loved us.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

### *For our world*

As we are in the midst of this pandemic we pray that God will grant to our leaders and health care officials wisdom and compassion in the decisions they are making.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

### *For all people*

That God will give all his children the grace they need to live in Christ’s love and peace.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

### *For all who are suffering*

That those who are sick, particularly those suffering from the Coronavirus, that they will know the healing touch of the Lord.



Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

*For all who are cut off from contact with loved ones*

That may know the presence and love of the saving Lord

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

*For scientists and researchers*

May they be granted the gifts needed to find a vaccine for this virus.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

*For all who are working in the essential services*

May they know the peace of the Lord in their hearts at this difficult time

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

*For our Bishops, priests, deacons and religious*

May they continue to find strength in the Eucharist and in prayer.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

*For all who have died*

That will share joyfully in the banquet of heaven with the Lord

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

And now, let us turn to God the Father confident that he will hear our prayer

OUR FATHER...

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Jesus said ‘A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another’. (John 13:34)

Lord God, we thank you for the gift of love that you have poured out on us in Jesus, your Son. Help us to grow each day as his followers, with great love for one another, and great love for our families. We make this prayer to you in Jesus’ name.

### **BLESSING**

And may Almighty God bless us: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

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Prepared by Diocese of Cork and Ross Pastoral Development Office.

Photo of Bishop Fintan by Brian Loughheed;

Kitchen Maid at Supper at Emmaus by Velazquez; Design by Tom Hayes.

apart but united