

March 2026

My dear parishioners,

Lent is passing quickly; Holy Week is just a week away. We mark so many dramatic events at this time: Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem; his poignant last meal with his friends; his trial and brutal execution. But the darkness of Good Friday leads inexorably to the glorious "Alleluia! The Lord is Risen!" of Easter Sunday. It is our annual pilgrimage into both the darkness of human existence and the life-giving light of the Resurrection.



Peace be with you All!

Pope Leo has this to say about Easter:

These are the first words spoken by the risen Christ, the Good Shepherd who laid down his life for God's flock. I would like this greeting of peace to resound in your hearts, in your families, among all people, wherever they may be, in every nation and throughout the world. It is the peace of the risen Christ. A peace that is unarmed and disarming, humble and persevering. A peace that comes from God, the God who loves us all, unconditionally. Allow me to extend that same blessing to the world, the whole world: Peace be with you!

God loves us, God loves you all, and evil will not prevail! All of us are in God's hands. So, let us move forward, without fear, together, hand in hand with God and with one another ever pursuing peace and justice, ever seeking to act as men and women faithful to Jesus Christ, in order to proclaim the Gospel without fear, to be missionaries. We are followers of Christ. Christ goes before us. The world needs his light. Humanity needs him as the bridge that can lead us to God and his love. Help us, one and all, to build bridges through dialogue and encounter, joining together as one people, always at peace. Happy Easter to All!

—Pope Leo XIV.

My prayer for you this Easter is that the light of the Resurrection will fill you once again and remain with you throughout the year. May the Risen Lord grant peace to our world.

Holy Week at the Cathedral

As always, the Cathedral will mark Holy Week with many special liturgies and musical events, described in the Lenten brochure sent to you last month and in the attached Holy Week schedule.

Several priests will hear Confessions in the Cathedral from 11am to Noon on Wednesday of Holy Week, **April 1** through Holy Saturday, **April 4**. On Tuesday, **March 31**, Fr. Sagastume will preside and preach at our Lenten Communal Penance Service at 12:10pm. Many priests from around the Archdiocese of Washington will hear Confessions in multiple languages, including Spanish, Italian, German and American Sign. This is a wonderful opportunity to reconcile with the Lord and his Church in time for Easter.

See the enclosed schedule of Holy Week and Easter liturgies (and Penn Parking Garage hours)— Monday’s Chrism Mass with the priests of the Archdiocese, Tuesday’s Communal Penance Service, Tenebrae on Wednesday, Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday, “Reflection on the Lord’s Passion” and Liturgies of the Lord’s Passion (English and Spanish) on Good Friday, the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday, and the great celebration of The Resurrection of the Lord on Easter Sunday!

Of course, I hope many of you will be able to attend the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday, **April 4**, a bilingual Mass (in English and Spanish) with **Cardinal McElroy** presiding. It is the greatest feast of the Church’s liturgical year, the great night on which we will welcome 44 new brothers and sisters into the Catholic community—**26 will be baptized, confirmed and celebrate their First Eucharist; 17 baptized will make their Profession of Faith, be confirmed and celebrate full communion with us; and 8 baptized Catholics will complete their Sacraments of Initiation.** Note that the Easter Vigil will begin at 8pm.



I look forward to seeing you as often as you can make the time to come.

Special Easter Offering and Easter Flowers



Special Easter Offering envelopes and Easter Flowers envelopes are in the pews. You may mail your offering to the rectory, drop it in the offertory basket, or give via ParishSOFT Giving (<https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/FD-284>). You also may donate via PayPal with debit and credit card options. Just scan the QR code at left or visit stmatthewscathedral.org/support. **We really need a healthy Easter collection to meet our budget. PLEASE help us out.**

You may be surprised to learn that only 1/3 of registered households contribute more than a penny for the entire year. If **each** household would give something to this Easter collection, we would meet our budget. There are many reasons for not giving. I understand that, but we want to continue to provide strong music and faith formation programs, to serve the least of our brothers and sisters, and to maintain this beautiful Cathedral. I will sincerely appreciate your Easter gift. You will be remembered at our Easter season Masses. Thank you so much. Muchas gracias.

Finally, Happy Easter! May this season bring you much joy, love and peace. This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. W. Ronald Jameson
Rector

CATHEDRAL OF ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE
1725 RHODE ISLAND AVE, NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20036



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2026

All are welcome!

Liturgies are open to the public with no tickets needed.

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29

The Cathedral opens at 6:30am and closes at 7:00pm. Masses with the distribution of palms:

- 5:30pm (Sat., March 28 Vigil) (Cantor)
- 7:00am
- 9:00am (Cantor)
- 11:00am with Blessing of Palms (Schola Cantorum)
- 12:15pm Vía Crucis y Procesión (en español) (después de las Misa a la 11:00am)
- 1:00pm (en español) con Bendición de Ramos, **MOST REV. EVELIO MENJIVAR**,
(Coro Hispano)
- 5:30pm (Contemporary Choir)

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK, MARCH 30

- 7:00am *The Cathedral opens.*
- 7:30am | Mass
- 8:30am *The Cathedral closes and reopens at 1:00pm.*
- 2:00pm | Chrism Mass, **CARDINAL ROBERT MCELROY** (Schola Cantorum) ([ADW LIVESTREAM](#))
- 5:30pm | Mass (*The Cathedral closes at 6:30pm.*)

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK, MARCH 31

The Cathedral opens at 7:00am and closes at 6:30pm.

- 7:30am | Mass
- 12:10pm | "Come Home for Easter," Communal Penance Service (Cantor)
- 5:30pm | Mass

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK, APRIL 1

The Cathedral opens at 7:00am and closes after the 7:30pm Tenebrae Service.

- 7:30am | Mass
- 11:00am – 12 Noon | Confessions
- 12:10pm | Mass
- 5:30pm | Mass
- 6:15 – 7:00pm | Confessions
- 7:30pm | Liturgy of Tenebrae (Schola Cantorum)

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 2

The Cathedral opens at 8:00am and closes immediately after Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

- 9:00am | Morning Prayer in the St. Anthony Chapel
- 11:00am – 12 Noon | Confessions
- 12:10pm | Mass of the Lord's Supper (Contemporary Choir)
- 5:30pm | Mass of the Lord's Supper with Washing of the Feet, **CARDINAL ROBERT MCELROY** (bilingual in English and Spanish) (Schola Cantorum) ([ADW LIVESTREAM](#))
- 7:00pm | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the St. Anthony Chapel
- 9:45pm | Night Prayer in the St. Anthony Chapel
- 10:00pm | Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3

The Cathedral opens at 8:00am and closes immediately after Stations of the Cross.

- 9:00am | Morning Prayer in the St. Anthony Chapel
- 11:00am – 12 Noon | Confessions
- 12 Noon | Reflection on the Lord's Passion, **L.J. MILONE** (Schola Cantorum)
- 1:00pm | Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, **CARDINAL ROBERT MCELROY** (Schola Cantorum) ([ADW LIVESTREAM](#))
- 4:00pm | Liturgia de la Pasión de N.S. Jesucristo, Adoración de la Santa Cruz, y Santa Comunción (en español), **MOST REV. EVELIO MENJIVAR** ([ADW TRANSMISIÓN EN VIVO](#))
- 7:30pm | Stations of the Cross (in English)

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 4

- 8:00am *The Cathedral opens.*
- 9:00am | Morning Prayer in the St. Anthony Chapel
- 11:00am – 12 Noon | Confessions
- 12 Noon *The Cathedral closes and reopens at 7:00pm.*
- 8:00pm | Easter Vigil, **CARDINAL ROBERT MCELROY** (bilingual in English and Spanish) (Schola Cantorum) ([ADW LIVESTREAM](#)) (*The Cathedral closes immediately after the Vigil.*)

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5

The Cathedral opens at 6:30am and closes at 7:00pm. Masses:

- 7:00am
- 9:00am (Schola Cantorum)
- 11:00am (Schola Cantorum)
- 1:00pm (en español) (Coro Hispano)
- 5:30pm (Contemporary Choir)

Penn Parking Garage Hours:

March 29, Palm Sunday – 8:00am - 7:00pm
April 1, Wednesday of Holy Week with Tenebrae – 7:00am - 9:00pm
April 2, Holy Thursday – 7:00am - 8:00pm
April 3, Good Friday – 7:00am - 8:30pm
April 4, Holy Saturday – 6:00pm - 11:00pm
April 5, Easter Sunday – 8:00am - 7:00pm
April 26, Sunday Lessons & Carols Service – 8:30am - 7:00pm

