



## DIOCESE OF METUCHEN - HOLY WEEK AND TRIDUUM 2020 *In time of COVID-19 Pandemic*

In light of further restrictions by Governor Murphy and the Decree of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, Bishop Checchio promulgates the following regarding the liturgies of Palm Sunday 2020 and Holy Week 2020 throughout the Diocese of Metuchen to assist the clergy and the faithful in the spiritual celebration of the Paschal Mysteries. Therefore, religious activities are not allowed by the state at this time.

### **PALM SUNDAY**

No public gatherings (inside or outside Churches, in cars, etc.).

**In Christ the Redeemer parish, the Mass for Palm Sunday will be celebrated without a congregation at 10:00 am on Sunday, April 5, 2020.** Blessed palms will be made available for distribution later once restrictions are lifted – more details will be provided at that time.

### **CHRISM MASS**

The Chrism Mass will be postponed and re-scheduled for another date. Oils/chrism currently in use may continue to be used until a new supply is blessed/consecrated and made available.

**PASCHAL TRIDUUM:** the following liturgical directives are to be observed in accordance with the “Decree in Time of COVID-19” issued on March 19, 2020 by the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments by mandate of the Supreme Pontiff for the year 2020 only. The Paschal Triduum **cannot** be transferred to another time.

### **HOLY THURSDAY**

No public gatherings (inside or outside Churches, in cars, etc.).

**In Christ the Redeemer parish, the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper may be celebrated without a congregation at 7:00 pm on Thursday, April 9, 2020.**

Churches will **NOT BE OPEN** at this time.

### **GOOD FRIDAY**

No public gatherings (inside or outside Churches, in cars, etc.).

**In Christ the Redeemer parish, the Stations of the Cross will be celebrated without a congregation at 10:00 am on Friday, April 10, 2020.** Then the **Commemoration/Celebration of the Lord’s Passion will be celebrated without a congregation at 3:00 pm on Friday, April 10, 2020 followed by Lenten Lamentations (Gorzkie Żale).**

Churches **will NOT BE OPEN** at this time.

### **HOLY SATURDAY**

No public gatherings (inside or outside Churches, in cars, etc.).

**Holy Saturday Morning:** A communal Lauds/morning prayers will be said at 8:00 am on Saturday, April 11, 2020 without a congregation along with holy rosary at 10:00 am. Holy Saturday food blessing is canceled. Food Blessing prayer will be posted on parish website that you can use on Easter Sunday Morning while you pray before Easter breakfast.

**In Christ the Redeemer parish, the Easter Vigil will be celebrated without a congregation at 8 pm on Saturday, April 11, 2020.**

Churches **will NOT BE OPEN** at this time.

### **EASTER SUNDAY**

No public gatherings (inside or outside Churches, in cars, etc.).

Mass for Easter Sunday will be celebrated by the Bishop **without a congregation** and broadcast via the live-stream internet on the Cathedral web site at <https://www.stfranciscathedral.org/> at 10:30 am on Sunday, April 12, 2020.

**In Christ the Redeemer parish, Mass for Easter Sunday may be celebrated without a congregation at 10:00 am on Sunday, April 12, 2020.**

Churches **will NOT BE OPEN** at this time.

**\*\*At this time all public worship is suspended** until further notice. We will continue to monitor the status of when masses and other services may begin again according to the directives from civil authorities.

This decree is given by mandate  
of the Most Reverend James Francis Checchio,  
Bishop of Metuchen,  
March 26, 2020  
for the Diocese of Metuchen