

Adoration Opportunities on Holy Thursday 2024

St. Paul VI Parish

Mater Christi Church 2401 S. 10th Ave., North Riverside

• Mass (SM) at 7pm, Adoration until Midnight St. Mary Church

126 Herrick, Riverside

• Mass at 7pm, Adoration until Midnight

Holy Guardian Angels Parish

St. Barbara Church 4008 Prairie Ave., Brookfield

• Mass at 7pm, Adoration until 10pm

Mary, Mother of Divine Grace Parish

Divine Infant Jesus Church 1601 Newcastle Ave., Westchester

• Mass at 7pm, Adoration until 10pm

St. Cletus Parish

600 W. 55th St., LaGrange

• Mass at 7:30pm, Adoration until 5am

St. Francis Xavier Parish

124 N. Spring Ave., LaGrange

• Mass at 7pm, Adoration until 10pm

St. John of the Cross Parish

5005 S. Wolf Rd. Western Springs

• Mass at 7pm, Adoration until 11pm

Blessed Miguel Pro Parish

St. Leonard Church

3318 S. Clarence Ave., Berwyn

• Mass at 7:30pm, Adoration until Midnight

Ascension & St. Edmund Parish

Ascension Church

808 S. East Ave., Oak Park

• Mass at 7:30pm, Adoration until 11:45pm

St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy & St. Giles Parish

St. Giles Church

1025 S. Columbian Ave., Oak Park

• Mass at 7pm, Adoration until Midnight

St. Mary Francis of the Five Wounds Parish

St. Frances of Rome Church 1428 S. 59th Ct., Cicero

• Mass at 7pm, Adoration until Midnight

Our Lady of Czestochowa and Charity Parish

Our Lady of Czestochowa Church 3010 S. 48th Ct., Cicero

• Mass (English) at 5pm & Mass (Polish) at 7pm, Adoration until 11pm

Our Lady of Charity Church

3620 S. 57th Ct. Cicero

• Mass (Spanish) at 7pm, Adoration until 11pm

Our Lady of the Mystical Rose

Our Lady of the Mount Church

2400 S. 61st Ave., Cicero

• Mass at MQH at 7pm, Adoration at OLM until 5am

St. Luke & St. Bernardine Parish

St. Bernardine Church

801 S. Elgin, Forest Park

• Mass at 7pm, Adoration until 10pm

Sacred Heart & St. Eulalia Parish

Sacred Heart Church

819 N. 16th St., Melrose Park

• Mass at 7pm, Adoration until Midnight St. Eulalia Church

1825 S. 9th Ave., Maywood

 Mass (Spanish) at 7pm, Adoration until Midnight

Queen of All Nations Parish

St. Domitilla Church

4940 Washington St., Hillside

• Mass at 6:30pm, Adoration until 5am

St. Daniel the Prophet Parish

5300 S. Natoma Ave., Chicago

• Mass at 7pm, Adoration until 11:30pm

St. Vincent Ferrer Parish

1530 Jackson Ave., River Forest

• Mass at 7pm, Adoration until 9pm

Why do Catholics visit seven churches on Holy Thursday?

Each visit calls on the faithful to reflect on the seven final places Jesus went from his arrest on Holy Thursday to his death on Good Friday.

At each church, pilgrims kneel before the altar of repose, meditate on a scriptural excerpt, and offer prayers and adoration.

How do pilgrims going on this seven-church journey meditate on the passion of Christ? Here are the Scripture excerpts to reflect on at each church:

- 1) Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane (Lk 22:39-46)
- 2) Jesus before Annas (Jn 18:19-22)
- 3) Jesus before Caiaphas (Mt 26:63-65)
- 4) Jesus before Pilate (Jn 18:35-37)
- 5) Jesus before Herod (Lk 23:8-9; 11)
- 6) Jesus before Pilate again (Mt 27:22-26)
- 7) Jesus's crucifixion and death (Mt 27:27-31)

Reflecting on the passion of Christ

Every Holy Thursday, groups of Catholic faithful across the country and world embark on what's known as the Seven Churches Visitation.

In this special tradition, pilgrims adore Christ in seven different altars of repose while praying and reflecting on the passion of Christ.

At the end of each Holy Thursday Mass, the priest strips the altar and removes the Eucharist from the tabernacle to place it in repose on another nearby altar.

At the first church, the faithful recall Jesus going from the upper room, where he celebrated the Last Supper with his disciples, to the Garden of Gethsemane, where he earnestly prayed and sweated blood in his agony over what was about to take place.

In the second church, the pilgrims meditate on Jesus being taken from the Garden of Gethsemane by the armed crowd to the house of Annas, the father-in-law of Caiaphas the high priest, where he was interrogated and slapped in the face.

In the third church, the prayer focuses on Jesus being brought to the house of Caiaphas, where he was beaten, spat upon, insulted, and endured a painful night in captivity.

The focus of the reflection for the fourth church is the first time Jesus was brought before Pilate, the Roman governor of the region. There Jesus was accused by the Jewish religious authorities of being a rival king to Caesar.

In the fifth church, the pilgrim follows the Lord as he is taken to King Herod, who along with his guards mock him.

The sixth church recalls Jesus being taken from Herod and brought before Pilate for the second time and then scourged, crowned with thorns, mocked, and condemned to death.

The last church commemorates Christ carrying the cross on his shoulders from the Praetorium, where Pilate yielded to the crowd's demand for his crucifixion, to Mount Calvary where he suffered excruciating pain, died, and was laid to rest in a nearby tomb until his resurrection from the dead on Easter Sunday.

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