



Holy Week is soon upon us. The week celebrates the incredible mercy that God pours out in unmatched abundance on the people He loves. Palm Sunday remembers the grandeur of Christ entering the city of Jerusalem to songs of praise. What a contrast to just a few days later, when He bends humbly before His apostles and washes their feet and pours out His grace in His own Body and Blood, when He willingly accepts the wood of the cross, and when after three days, He is raised from the dead. We walk with Christ, ourselves knowing the glory that sometimes comes in life, along with the beauty of self-sacrificing service, taking up our cross and following, and the darkness of the death of sin and loss in our own lives. And yet, these days culminate in the Church singing exultantly the Easter hymns, rejoicing in light that pierces the darkness, light that is undimmed.

The Easter Vigil is further proof of God's mercy. In our diocese, nearly 250 people will present themselves for the Easter Sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and eucharist. They will experience the wisdom of the scripture: 'Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. New life abounds in our new sisters and brothers as well.

Maybe this week, we might all find a few moments to ask the Lord of Glory to break open any hardness of heart we have: grudges, anger, broken relationships, meanness, fear, faithlessness, persistent doubt. Just as darkness is shattered by a single, piercing light at the beginning of the Great Vigil, we can also welcome the transforming light of mercy into our lives — for our own sins, and in

our hearts for those who have sinned against us.

Very soon, our forty days of conversion will be consumed by the light of resurrection. It's still not too late for us to turn away from sin, to embrace Good News, and to become disciples of Jesus known for our emerging holiness, known for our own merciful response to others. May our good God make it so!

LENT 2026

FISH



FRY

FRIDAYS

"CAST THE NET ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF

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**LIST OF PARISHES OFFERING
THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS
DURING THIS LENTEN SEASON**

Check the list [HERE](#).



The Chrism Mass will be celebrated by
Most Reverend Mitchell Rozanski, Archbishop of St. Louis.
During the Mass, the archbishop will bless three types of oils that will be used in the
administration of sacraments for the coming year:

Sacred Chrism: A mixture of olive oil and balsam, consecrated only by the bishop.
It is used in **Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders**, and the dedication of churches and altars.
The fragrant balsam symbolizes the "aroma of Christ" and the sanctifying presence of the Holy
Spirit.

Oil of Catechumens: Blessed for use in **Baptism**, it strengthens those preparing to enter the Church and helps them resist sin and evil.

Oil of the Sick: Used in the **Anointing of the Sick** to bring healing, strength, and comfort to the ill.



