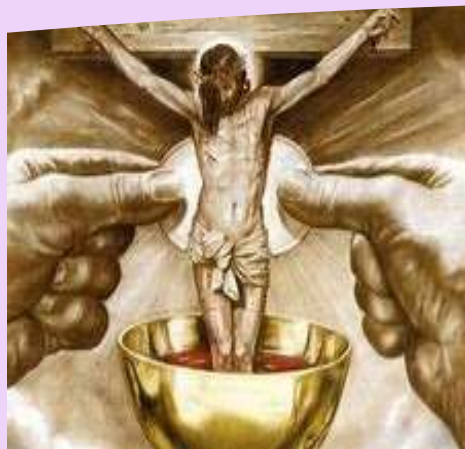




# Family Faith Formation News



## Family Devotionals & Sacrament Schedule

### Eucharistic Adoration

St. Anne's Chapel at  
St. Louis Bertrand, Foreston  
Monday at 8:00 a.m. until  
Saturday at 7:00 a.m.

St. Mary's, Milaca following  
Daily Mass each Thursday until  
5:00 p.m. Except the Thursday  
before First Friday, then Adoration  
closes after Reconciliation at  
5:45 p.m.

### Reconciliation

#### **Saturdays**

Confession at 3:00 p.m. in  
Foreston and after 6:00 p.m. Mass  
in Ogilvie.

#### **Sundays**

Confession upon request before  
Mass in Milaca and Mora.

#### **Second Friday of Each Month**

Confession at St. Mary's, Mora  
from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

#### **Thursday before First Friday**

Confession at St. Mary's, Milaca  
from 4:45 to 5:45 p.m.

### Family Rosary

Sundays at St. Mary's, Milaca  
at 6:00 p.m.

### First Friday

Mass at St. Mary's, Mora each  
First Friday at 7:00 a.m.

### First Saturday Mass & Devotions begin May 7 at St. Mary's, Milaca

Mass followed by prayers and  
devotions on the first Saturday of  
each month will be held at St.  
Mary's, Milaca at 9:00 a.m.

*"Remember ... If the priest is a saint, his people will be holy. If the priest is holy, his people will be good. If the priest is good, his people will be fair. If the priest is fair, his people will be mediocre. If the priest is mediocre, his people will be bad. Pray for your priest!"*  
(Dom Jean-Baptiste Chautard)

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## April is Dedicated to The Holy Eucharist

*"For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink." John 6:55*

The simplest way to express what Christ asks us to believe about the Real Presence is that the Eucharist is really *He*. The Real Presence is the *real Jesus*. We are to believe that the Eucharist began in the womb of the Virgin Mary; that the flesh which the Son of God received from His Mother at the Incarnation is the same flesh into which He changed bread at the Last Supper; that the blood He received from His Mother is the same blood into which He changed wine at the Last Supper. Had she not given Him His flesh and blood there could not be a Eucharist.

We are to believe that the Eucharist is Jesus Christ - simply, without qualification. It is God become man in the fullness of His divine nature, in the fullness of His human nature, in the fullness of His body and soul, in the fullness of everything that makes Jesus, Jesus. He is in the Eucharist with His human mind and will united with the Divinity, with His hands and feet, His face and features, with His eyes and lips and ears and nostrils, with His affections and emotions and, with emphasis, with His living, pulsating, physical Sacred Heart. That is what our Catholic Faith demands of us that we believe. If we believe this, we are Catholic. If we do not, we are not, no matter what people may think we are.

Servant of God, Father John A. Hardon, S.J.

### **Liturgical Colors**

The first fifteen days of April fall during the season of **Lent** which is represented by the liturgical color violet or purple - a symbol of penance, mortification and a contrite heart. The remainder of April falls during the **Easter** season which is represented by the liturgical color white - a symbol of joy, purity and innocence.

### **April 4 - Begin 33-Day Preparation for Marian Consecration on May 7**

Marian Consecration is inviting Mary to form Christ in us - that is, to make us a saint, a friend of God. As our Mother, she wants this more than anything else. This is the mission she's been given by God.

Through consecration to her, we surrender everything to Mary. We become dependent on her. Marian Consecration takes nothing away from Jesus, but on the contrary, magnifies Him. The Total Consecration is all about Jesus.

### **How do you consecrate yourself?**

The Marian Consecration consists of 33 days of preparing oneself for consecration. For this preparation, you can use one of several books.

- *33 Days to Morning Glory* by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC
- *True Devotion to Mary* by St. Louis de Montfort
- *Preparation for Total Consecration* by St. Louis de Montfort
- *Marian Consecration for Children*

Mass to renew or make the Consecration will be held on May 7, 9:00 a.m. at St. Mary's, Milaca.

### **April 7: The Chrism Mass at 7:00 p.m. at the Cathedral, St. Cloud**

The Chrism Mass is celebrated only once a year usually during Holy Week. Two significant things happen at this unusual Mass:

1. All the priests from the diocese come to renew their promise of obedience to their bishop. At this Mass, there may be more priests than people in the congregation.

2. The holy oils that are used for the coming year are blessed or consecrated, that is, set apart for sacred use.

The three oils that are blessed are: *The Oil of the Sick*, used in the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, for those who are seriously sick, infirm, or near death. The *Oil of Catechumens*, normally used in the Sacrament of Baptism for an infant and in preparation for Baptism as an adult. The third is the *Oil of Chrism*, used in the Sacrament of Baptism of infants (to show the connection of Baptism to the Sacrament of Confirmation), in the Sacrament of Confirmation, and the Sacrament of Holy Orders. (ACM)

### **April 10: Palm Sunday Begins Holy Week, the Heart of the Church Year**

On this day, we commemorate the triumphant entry of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, into Jerusalem. On that day people laid palms before Him, a gesture reserved for triumphant leaders. We celebrate this at Mass by distributing palms to the faithful. Because these palms are blessed, they are sacramentals and cannot be thrown away. They must either be burned or buried to be disposed of, as it honors their sacred purpose and returns them to earth in a dignified way. Many are returned to the church to be burned and used for ashes next Ash Wednesday. Many of the faithful have used palm branches to place behind a religious picture or crucifix. *Monday - Wednesday of Holy Week are preparation days, both spiritually and physically, for the holy days to come later in the week.*

### **April 14: Holy Thursday Begins the Triduum**

It commemorates the historical Gospel events surrounding the Last Supper and the institution of the Holy Eucharist and His institution of the priesthood. The Last Supper is celebrated daily in the Catholic Church as part of every Mass for it is through Christ's sacrifice that we have been saved. The Holy Thursday ritual has included a ceremonial washing of feet by the presider and it imitates Jesus' Last Supper action of humility and service. Usually, twelve participants are chosen from the parish.

At the end of the Holy Thursday liturgy, consecrated Hosts are carried in procession, with incense and song to a chapel of adoration, to an altar of repose. (The altar where the Sacred Hosts, consecrated in the Mass on Holy Thursday, are reserved until the Good Friday Liturgy.) After placing the Hosts in the tabernacle, an atmosphere of quiet watching with the Lord begins.

After supper, Jesus went to the Mount of Olives and prayed. From this event comes inspiration for our practice of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration, where we are invited to spend one hour in prayer with Jesus, truly present in the Eucharist, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. The church is stripped of its ornaments, the altar bare, and the door of the empty tabernacle standing open as if in mourning.

If the Hosts are reserved in a separate chapel, we do not genuflect when leaving on Holy Thursday and returning on Good Friday because the tabernacle is empty, Jesus is not there. The proper gesture towards the altar, which is the sign of Christ standing in our midst, is a profound bow or a bow from the waist.

### **April 15: Good Friday**

The second day of the Triduum is the Passion of the Lord, known as Good Friday, the anniversary of the death of Jesus on the cross just outside the walls of Jerusalem. On this one day of the entire year, the Mass is not celebrated. The Church's Good Friday emphasis of the liturgy is on Scripture readings and prayers, veneration of the cross and reception of the Eucharist from the Hosts consecrated on Holy Thursday. The theme of this day throughout history has been one of quiet sadness and mourning for the crucified and dead Jesus.

### **April 16: Holy Saturday**

The daytime hours continue the atmosphere of Good Friday and have been observed as a time of quiet and fasting. The day has no liturgy or religious traditions of its own.

**Easter Vigil: The Evening of Holy Saturday** is the night of all nights and is the primary celebration of Jesus' Resurrection. The late 20<sup>th</sup> century restoration of the adult catechumenate (RCIA), the Baptism of adults, and reception of the other sacraments of initiation by them and by already-Baptized adults being received into full communion with the Church. The Easter Vigil has four clearly defined parts: the service of light, the Liturgy of the Word, the celebration of the sacraments of initiation, and the Eucharist. (ACM)

### **April 17: Easter Sunday, The Resurrection of the Lord**

The theme of Easter morning continues the triumphant joy of the Easter Vigil. It remembers and celebrates the very foundation of Christianity: Jesus is raised from the dead and is Lord. This theme will continue for the next fifty days of the Easter Season, which does not end until Pentecost Sunday.

**What is the Octave of Easter?** *This is the "eight-day" period from Easter Sunday (this year, April 17) through Divine Mercy Sunday (this year, April 24). Each day in the octave is considered a solemnity, as if Easter is repeated for eight days.*

**Solemnity:** *The highest liturgical rank of a feast in the ecclesiastical calendar.*

### **April 24, 2022: Divine Mercy Sunday**

A very special Sunday (the first Sunday after Easter) when the Divine Floodgates from Heaven are wide-open and Jesus offers us the total forgiveness of all sins and punishment to any soul, who goes to Confession and receives Him in Holy Communion, on that day. For more information visit: [divinemercy.org/message](http://divinemercy.org/message).

### **Why is Divine Mercy Sunday Important?**

Divine Mercy Sunday focuses on the gift of mercy and love given through Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. As Pope John Paul II stated, "Divine Mercy reaches human beings through the heart of Christ crucified." To help us prepare for the Feast of the Divine Mercy, we pray the Solemn Novena to The Divine Mercy beginning on Good Friday and each day until Divine Mercy Sunday.

**Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday at St. Mary's, Milaca on Sunday, April 24 from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

### **The Priesthood**

"Without the priesthood we would be deprived of the Holy Eucharist; we would never have the consolation of hearing in the name of God, "Thy sins are forgiven thee" (Mt. 9:2). If there were no priests, the churches would be deserted, schools would become secularized, there would be no nuptial blessings, the dying would be deprived of final consolation, children would be abandoned to evil; all men would become totally immersed in misery, with no one to raise them up and lead them to God, with no one to pray to Him in their name and for their welfare. But Jesus, the sole Mediator between God and man, willed to institute the priesthood to perpetuate among us, in a visible manner, His work of mediation, salvation and sanctification. The priest accompanies us at every step of our life. Soon after our birth, he welcomes us at the baptismal font; he administers the Sacraments to us, he helps us to understand divine truths, he shows us how to lead a good life, blesses our efforts, sustains our footsteps, and strengthens us in our last agony. He often works unseen and unknown, misunderstood, never sufficiently appreciated; yet his apostolic work is priceless, indispensable. Every Christian ought to be grateful for the gift of the priesthood: in the first place, we should be grateful to Jesus who instituted it, and to those who perform its sublime duties. We must express this gratitude, not only by showing reverent respect and filial docility to God's ministers, but also by assiduously offering our prayers and good works for priestly vocations."

(Divine Intimacy)

"Only in Heaven will he (the priest) know his dignity. After God, he is all." (St. John Vianney)