

THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

For use in Parish Churches of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee
To be used with the *Roman Missal, Third Typical Edition*

April 1, 2021

The Mass of the Lord's Supper is celebrated in the evening.

There is no need for the preparation of an altar of repose, since the Transfer of the Most Blessed Sacrament, and all that is connected to the procession and reposition, is OMITTED.

The tabernacle should be entirely empty; but a sufficient amount of bread should be consecrated in this Mass for the Communion of the Faithful the following day.

While the rubric does not say so explicitly, the **sanctuary light should be extinguished** and the **doors of the empty tabernacle should be flung open**, sending a clear visual that this Eucharist is different than any other. Whatever remains of the Blessed Sacrament before this Mass should be stored in a ciborium in the sacristy so that it is both out of sight and out of reach. All participants receive from the bread consecrated at this Mass, *never from a previous sacrifice*. This is a celebration of the Lord's Supper – there was no tabernacle at the Last Supper.

Introductory Rites

Mass begins in the usual way.

The Gloria in excelsis returns for this Mass. Bells may be rung during the Gloria, and then are put away as they **remain silent** until the Gloria in excelsis at the Easter Vigil.

Liturgy of the Word

The Liturgy of the Word is carried out in the usual way through the homily (no. 9)

Washing of Feet

The Washing of Feet, as it is optional, is **strongly discouraged** this year because of COVID-19 (nos. 10-12).

Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful)

Following the homily, the Universal Prayer is prayed (no. 13). The Creed is not said. Please consider including one intercession for those who are sick or otherwise affected by the COVID-19.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Liturgy of the Eucharist continues as shown in the *Roman Missal* (nos. 14-32).

Following the distribution of Communion, a ciborium with hosts for Communion the following day is placed on the altar, and remains there until after the **Prayer after Communion**. The Priest, standing at the chair, says the Prayer after Communion.

**Grant, almighty God,
that, just as we are renewed
by the Supper of your Son in this present age,
so we may enjoy his banquet for all eternity.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.**

After Communion

Following the Prayer after Communion, the Priest places the ciborium in the tabernacle and closes the door. Incense is not used and there is **no procession of the Blessed Sacrament** through the church.

The priest then returns to his chair for a moment of prayer. After a period of silence, he rises, genuflects to the tabernacle, and departs in silence. There is no greeting, blessing or dismissal.

At an appropriate time, the altar is stripped and, if possible, the crosses are removed from the church. Any crosses that remain are to be veiled in red or violet.

Rubric 44 from the *Roman Missal* says, **“If the celebration of the Passover of the Lord on the following Friday does not take place in the same church, the Mass is concluded in the usual way and the Blessed Sacrament is placed in the tabernacle.”** This rubric refers to a celebration in a hospital chapel or some other remote region of a diocese where the local bishop has granted permission for an additional Holy Thursday Mass. This rubric does not apply to Holy Thursday during a global pandemic emergency.