

## ***Rite for Washing of Feet in the Home on Holy Thursday***

1. On this most Sacred Night before our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and died on the cross for the salvation of us all, his desire was to Celebrate the Passover with his disciples
2. Since we are unable to gather as a together to commemorate this mystery of the first Eucharist it is appropriate that they in some way be celebrated in the home.
3. At an appropriate time in the evening either before or after supper the family may gather in a room of the house appropriate for prayer. A pitcher filled with warm water, a bowl and towels are to be prepared.
4. The father of the family is to be the leader, if he is absent then the oldest son present is the leader. This should be looked over and parts are to be assigned before starting so that it may be fluent for prayer. \*\*This does not replace watching or listening to the Mass of the Lord's Supper\*\*

5.The father begins with:

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

All respond:

**Amen**

6.The father greets the family:

The Lord be with you

All respond:

**And also, with you**

7. The father continues:

Let us pray,

O God, who have called us to participate  
in this most sacred Supper,  
in which your Only Begotten Son,  
when about to hand himself over to death,  
entrusted to the Church a sacrifice new for all eternity,  
the banquet of his love, grant, we pray,  
that we may draw from so great a mystery,  
the fullness of charity and of life,  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

## **8. Then a family member reads the Gospel**

### **A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John**

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come  
to pass from this world to the Father.  
He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end.  
The devil had already induced Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand him over.  
So, during supper,  
fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power  
and that he had come from God and was returning to God,  
he rose from supper and took off his outer garments.  
He took a towel and tied it around his waist.  
Then he poured water into a basin  
and began to wash the disciples' feet  
and dry them with the towel around his waist.  
He came to Simon Peter, who said to him,  
"Master, are you going to wash my feet?"  
Jesus answered and said to him,  
"What I am doing, you do not understand now,  
but you will understand later."  
Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet."  
Jesus answered him,  
"Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me."

Simon Peter said to him,  
“Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well.”  
Jesus said to him,  
“Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed,  
for he is clean all over;  
so you are clean, but not all.”  
For he knew who would betray him;  
for this reason, he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

So when he had washed their feet  
and put his garments back on and reclined at table again,  
he said to them, “Do you realize what I have done for you?  
You call me ‘teacher’ and ‘master,’ and rightly so, for indeed I am.  
If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet,  
you ought to wash one another’s feet.  
I have given you a model to follow,  
so that as I have done for you, you should also do.”

The Gospel of the Lord

#### **R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

9. The family is seated and removes their foot wear except the father. The father then prepares the bowl and the water and towels. Both feet are to be washed. Then kneeling at the feet of his wife, and each of his children he washes their feet and dries them. He may also choose to kiss them once he has dried them.

10. While the father is washing the feet silence is to be observed. Giggling is to be avoided. Another option may be for those who are finished or those who are waiting to have their feet washed to pray a psalm out loud. Three are provided here. They may be repeated. They may be prayed until the father finishes washing all the feet. You do not have to pray all of these I have provided. It depends on how large the family is.

#### **Psalm 116**

I love the LORD, who listened  
to my voice in supplication,  
2Who turned an ear to me  
on the day I called.

3I was caught by the cords of death;<sup>\*a</sup>  
the snares of Sheol had seized me;

I felt agony and dread.  
4Then I called on the name of the LORD,  
“O LORD, save my life!”

5Gracious is the LORD and righteous;  
yes, our God is merciful.<sup>b</sup>  
6The LORD protects the simple;

I was helpless, but he saved me.  
7Return, my soul, to your rest;  
the LORD has been very good to you.<sup>c</sup>  
8For my soul has been freed from death,  
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.<sup>d</sup>  
9I shall walk before the LORD  
in the land of the living.<sup>\*e</sup>

10<sup>\*</sup>I kept faith, even when I said,  
“I am greatly afflicted!”<sup>f</sup>  
11I said in my alarm,  
“All men are liars!”<sup>g</sup>  
12How can I repay the LORD

for all the great good done for me?  
13I will raise the cup of salvation<sup>\*</sup>  
and call on the name of the LORD.  
14I will pay my vows to the LORD

in the presence of all his people.  
15<sup>\*</sup>Dear in the eyes of the LORD  
is the death of his devoted.<sup>h</sup>  
16LORD, I am your servant,  
your servant, the child of your maidservant;<sup>i</sup>

you have loosed my bonds.  
17I will offer a sacrifice of praise  
and call on the name of the LORD.<sup>i</sup>

18I will pay my vows to the LORD<sup>k</sup>  
in the presence of all his people,  
19In the courts of the house of the LORD,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

## Pslam 22

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Why so far from my call for help,  
from my cries of anguish?<sup>a</sup>

3My God, I call by day, but you do not answer;  
by night, but I have no relief.<sup>b</sup>

4Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One;  
you are the glory of Israel.<sup>c</sup>

5In you our fathers trusted;

they trusted and you rescued them.

6To you they cried out and they escaped;  
in you they trusted and were not disappointed.<sup>d</sup>

7<sup>\*</sup>But I am a worm, not a man,  
scorned by men, despised by the people.<sup>e</sup>

8All who see me mock me;

they curl their lips and jeer;  
they shake their heads at me:<sup>f</sup>

9“He relied on the LORD—let him deliver him;  
if he loves him, let him rescue him.”<sup>g</sup>

10For you drew me forth from the womb,

made me safe at my mother’s breasts.

11Upon you I was thrust from the womb;  
since my mother bore me you are my God.<sup>h</sup>

12Do not stay far from me,

for trouble is near,  
and there is no one to help.<sup>i</sup>

13Many bulls<sup>\*</sup> surround me;  
fierce bulls of Bashan<sup>\*</sup> encircle me.

14They open their mouths against me,

lions that rend and roar.<sup>i</sup>  
15Like water my life drains away;

all my bones are disjointed.

My heart has become like wax,  
it melts away within me.

16As dry as a potsherd is my throat;  
my tongue cleaves to my palate;  
you lay me in the dust of death.<sup>\*</sup>  
17Dogs surround me;  
a pack of evildoers closes in on me.

They have pierced my hands and my feet  
18I can count all my bones.<sup>k</sup>  
They stare at me and gloat;  
19they divide my garments among them;  
for my clothing they cast lots.<sup>l</sup>  
20But you, LORD, do not stay far off;  
my strength, come quickly to help me.

21Deliver my soul from the sword,  
my life from the grip of the dog.  
22Save me from the lion's mouth,  
my poor life from the horns of wild bulls.<sup>m</sup>

23Then I will proclaim your name to my brethren;  
in the assembly I will praise you:<sup>\*n</sup>  
24“You who fear the LORD, give praise!

All descendants of Jacob, give honor  
show reverence, all descendants of Israel!

25For he has not spurned or disdained  
the misery of this poor wretch,  
Did not turn away<sup>\*</sup> from me,

but heard me when I cried out.

26 I will offer praise in the great assembly;  
my vows I will fulfill before those who fear him.

27 The poor<sup>\*</sup> will eat their fill;  
those who seek the LORD will offer praise.  
May your hearts enjoy life forever!”<sup>o</sup>

28 All the ends of the earth  
will remember and turn to the LORD;  
All the families of nations  
will bow low before him.<sup>p</sup>

29 For kingship belongs to the LORD,  
the ruler over the nations.<sup>q</sup>

30<sup>\*</sup> All who sleep in the earth  
will bow low before God;  
All who have gone down into the dust  
will kneel in homage.

31 And I will live for the LORD;  
my descendants will serve you.  
32 The generation to come will be told of the Lord,  
that they may proclaim to a people yet unborn  
the deliverance you have brought.<sup>r</sup>

## Psalm 18

I love you, LORD, my strength,  
3 LORD, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer,  
My God, my rock of refuge,  
my shield, my saving horn,<sup>\*</sup> my stronghold!<sup>b</sup>

4 Praised be the LORD, I exclaim!  
I have been delivered from my enemies.  
5 The cords of death encompassed me;  
the torrents of destruction terrified me.

6 The cords<sup>\*</sup> of Sheol encircled me;

the snares of death lay in wait for me.<sup>c</sup>

7In my distress I called out: LORD!

I cried out to my God.<sup>d</sup>

From his temple he heard my voice;

my cry to him reached his ears.

8<sup>\*</sup>The earth rocked and shook;

the foundations of the mountains trembled;

they shook as his wrath flared up.<sup>e</sup>

9Smoke rose from his nostrils,

a devouring fire from his mouth;

it kindled coals into flame.

10He parted the heavens and came down,

a dark cloud under his feet.<sup>f</sup>

11Mounted on a cherub<sup>\*</sup> he flew,

borne along on the wings of the wind.

12He made darkness his cloak around him;

his canopy, water-darkened stormclouds.

13From the gleam before him, his clouds passed,

hail and coals of fire.<sup>g</sup>

14The LORD thundered from heaven;

the Most High made his voice resound.<sup>h</sup>

15He let fly his arrows<sup>\*</sup> and scattered them;

shot his lightning bolts and dispersed them.<sup>i</sup>

16Then the bed of the sea appeared;

the world's foundations lay bare,<sup>j</sup>

At your rebuke, O LORD, at the storming breath of your nostrils.

17He reached down from on high and seized me;

drew me out of the deep waters.<sup>k</sup>

18He rescued me from my mighty enemy,

from foes too powerful for me.

19They attacked me on my day of distress,

but the LORD was my support.



20He set me free in the open;  
he rescued me because he loves me.  
21The LORD acknowledged my righteousness,  
rewarded my clean hands.<sup>l</sup>  
22For I kept the ways of the LORD;

I was not disloyal to my God.  
23For his laws were all before me,  
his decrees I did not cast aside.  
24I was honest toward him;

I was on guard against sin.  
25So the LORD rewarded my righteousness,

the cleanness of my hands in his sight.  
26Toward the faithful you are faithful;  
to the honest man you are honest;<sup>m</sup>  
27Toward the pure, you are pure;

but to the perverse you are devious.  
28For humble people you save;  
haughty eyes you bring low.<sup>n</sup>  
29For you, LORD, give light to my lamp;  
my God brightens my darkness.<sup>o</sup>  
30With you I can rush an armed band,

with my God to help I can leap a wall.  
31God's way is unerring;  
the LORD's promise is refined;  
he is a shield for all who take refuge in him.<sup>p</sup>

**11. When the father has finished washing all the family's feet, he puts aside the washing equipment. Once everyone has replaced their foot wear the father says:**

At the Saviors command and formed  
by divine teaching we dare to say.....

**Our Father .....**

**The father then says:**

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

**Amen**

**The Father then says:**

Let us praise the Lord

**The family responds:**

**And give him thanks!**