



CELEBRATING AT HOME
HOLY THURSDAY

*Washing feet, sharing bread and wine:
Love poured out in service*



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For those who cannot attend Mass, perhaps the best time for this liturgy is as you gather for your evening meal around the dining room table. You could light a candle as a reminder that being at table with each other is a sacred time. You can decide which parts to use before you eat and which to use afterwards. You could share a sign of peace with each other at the end of the meal.

Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord is here, present among us.

**We are gathered with the whole Church in
this moment of prayer.**

Remembering

We remember that on this night
the Lord Jesus shared a final meal with his friends
before his passion, death and resurrection.

**We remember that during that meal
he washed the feet of his friends,
broke bread and shared wine.**

He commanded us to do all this in his memory.

Blessing the Meal

May your blessing, Lord, be on us,
on our family, and friends,
on those who grew, provided and prepared
this food.

**May we be truly grateful for all that we
receive from your goodness.**

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Scripture Reading (1Cor 11:23-26)

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn
passed on to you: that on the same night he was
betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and
thanked God for it and broke it, and he said: 'This is my
body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me.' In

the same way he took the cup after supper, and said,
'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever
you drink it, do this as a memorial of me.' Until the
Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread
and drink this cup, you are proclaiming his death.

Reflection

On this night we recall Jesus' commandment to love
one another, his washing of the disciples' feet and the
breaking of the bread of his own life, not just at table,
but also on the altar of the Cross, for the healing and
nourishment of the world.

The liturgy on Holy Thursday is a meditation on the
essential connection between the Eucharist and
Christian love expressed in serving one another. Christ
is not only present in the Eucharist but also in the
deeds of loving kindness offered to others through us.

We are the ones who make 'real' the presence of Jesus
in every smile, kind word and loving action.

Lord's Prayer

Jesus himself taught us how to pray,
so with confidence we say:

**Our father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

Thy kingdom come.

**Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

Closing Prayer

May your blessing be upon us, O Lord.
Keep us strong in our love for you
and for one another, through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Journey into the Light

This resource is presented by the Carmelites for use by individuals, families and small groups as a prayerful celebration of the Word of God to help prepare us to celebrate the Eucharist with our worshipping communities. We are conscious that Christ is present not only in the Blessed Sacrament but also in the Scriptures and in our hearts. We are also conscious of the many people who, for various reasons including sickness and infirmity, cannot physically attend the Eucharist. Even when we are on our own we remain part of the Body of Christ.

In the room you decide to use for this prayer you could have a lighted candle, a crucifix and the Bible. These symbols help keep us mindful of the sacredness of our time of prayer and can help us feel connected with our local worshipping communities.

This text is arranged with parts for a leader and for all to pray, but the leader's parts can be shared among those present.

As you use this prayer know that the Carmelites will be remembering in our prayer all the members of our family.



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