



ENTERING INTO HOLY WEEK (with help from the Roman Missal)

With our Palm Sunday remembrance of the Lord's Passion, the Church is led by the Spirit into Holy Week: the final week of the Holy Season of Lent. Yes, "the days of His saving Passion and glorious Resurrection are approaching, by which the pride of the ancient foe is vanquished and the mystery of our redemption in Christ is celebrated" (Roman Missal, Preface II of the Passion of the Lord).

If we are to have an experience of that saving Passion and glorious Resurrection where-in we do not simply remember it with gratitude as we must, but where we are *raised to newness of life* by that *remembrance in memory of Him* as well (cf. Romans VI:4), then we need to consider: "what I have done and what I have failed to do" during these forty days of Lent; a Sacred time given to God's children "for the renewing and purifying of their hearts, that freed from disordered affections, they may so deal with the things of this passing world as to hold rather to the things that eternally endure" (Roman Missal, Preface of Lent II).

It may happen that when we consider: "what I have done and what I have failed to do" we will discover that we held on more tightly to the things of this passing world than we did to the things that eternally endure, and that we weren't *more eagerly intent on prayer and on the works of charity explaining why we aren't awaiting the Sacred Paschal Feasts with the joy of minds made pure* (cf. Roman Missal, Preface of Lent I). If that is in fact the case for us we should not despair. *Our self-denial can still give God thanks, humble our sinful pride, contribute to the feeding of the poor, and so help us imitate God in His kindness* (cf. ibid. Preface of Lent III). While time may be running out for (in the words of Bishop Barres) "every active Catholic of every age in the Diocese of Rockville Centre between January 31st and (Easter Sunday, 16 April 2017) to invite one inactive Catholic friend or family to come with you to Mass", there is always time for every active Catholic to invite one inactive Catholic back home, there is always time for *God through bodily fasting to restrain our faults, raise up our minds, and bestow both virtue and its rewards, through Christ our Lord* (cf. ibid. Preface of Lent IV).

Easter Novena of Holy Masses



The Solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection will be celebrated at the Altar of Our Holy Redeemer with an Easter Novena of Holy Masses.

This Solemn Novena will be offered for nine consecutive days beginning 16 April through 24 April 2017.

This Novena is for both the living and the deceased.

Your remembrances will remain by the Altar throughout the Easter Novena.

You may place the enrollment envelope in the collection basket at Mass or bring it to the rectory no later than 14 April 2017.

