

MARCH 24, 2016



# THURSDAY OF HOLY WEEK EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER



EXODUS 12:1-8, 11-14

PSALM 116:12-13, 15-16BC, 17-18

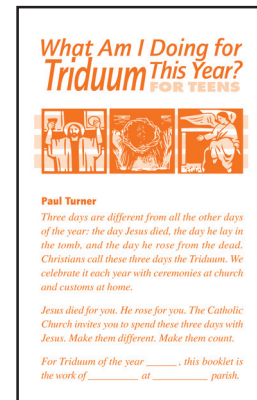
1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-26

JOHN 13:1-15

## REFLECTION

On Holy Thursday, many parishes celebrate the ritual of washing feet, just as Jesus washed the disciples' feet in the Gospel. Why do you think Jesus washed their feet? Is it a lesson about serving others? Is he telling us that we are supposed to take on the messy roles that no one wants to? Could it be a reminder that even leaders aren't above any type of honest work?

All of these are reasonable interpretations, but there is symbolism in the washing of feet, too. In his lifetime, Jesus preached about the need to have a clean heart. Soon, he will be spending time in prayer, preparing for the events to come. But he also does something. His ministry is not just prayer and not just service; it's a blend of both. Perhaps Jesus is reminding us that we need to do something with our faith. Going to the soup kitchen once a month may not be as interesting as going on a mission trip once a year, but it helps others. That type of ordinary, humble service is what Jesus models for us in this Gospel.



What Am I Doing for  
Triduum This Year? For Teens  
**PAUL TURNER**

## ACTION

Today, look at your calendar and see what you have scheduled in the month ahead. Choose one type of activity (perhaps a sport, musical, or club) that meets regularly. Think about your role with that group. What would be the equivalent of "washing feet": an ordinary, humble, perhaps messy job that needs to be done but no one wants to do. Take responsibility for that job without complaining or telling the rest of the group.

With Holy Thursday, we begin the three-day period of preparation for Easter known as Triduum. The days of Triduum are among the most important days of the Church year. You may want to use these days as a time of deep reflection. You can do this by participating in Church services or through personal prayer and reflection. You may want to obtain a copy of *What Am I Doing for Triduum This Year? For Teens* to aid your reflection.

## JOURNALING QUESTIONS

● How do I feel when someone else "washes my feet" or does an act of service for me?