

**The Historic Church of Saint Patrick  
and Immaculate Conception  
Holy Week Schedule 2023**

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**Saturday - April 1**

4:00 pm @ Immaculate Conception - Blessing & Distribution of Palms/Mass

**Palm Sunday - April 2**

8:00 am @ Historic St. Patrick - Blessing & Distribution of Palms/Sunday Mass

10:00 am @ Historic St. Patrick - Blessing & Distribution of Palms/Sunday Mass

11:00 am @ Immaculate Conception - Blessing & Distribution of Palms/Sunday Mass

**Tuesday - April 4**

11:00 am Chrism Mass at Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral  
(2 people only to pick up the oils)

**Wednesday - April 5**

7:30 pm Tenebrae at Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral

**Holy Thursday - April 6**

7:00 pm @ Historic St. Patrick - Mass of the Lord's Supper

7:00 pm @ Immaculate Conception - Mass of the Lord's Supper

**Good Friday - April 7**

**Historic St. Patrick**

12:00 Noon @ Historic St. Patrick - Stations of the Cross

12:40 pm @ Historic St. Patrick - Rosary

1:00 pm @ Historic St. Patrick - Meditative Music

1:30 pm @ Historic St. Patrick - Celebration of the Lord's Passion

**Immaculate Conception**

12:00 pm @ Immaculate Conception - Stations of the Cross

12:30 pm @ Immaculate Conception - Rosary

1:00 pm @ Immaculate Conception - Celebration of the Lord's Passion

**Holy Saturday - April 8**

11:30 am @ Historic St. Patrick - Blessing of Easter Food

8:30 pm @ Immaculate Conception - Easter Vigil

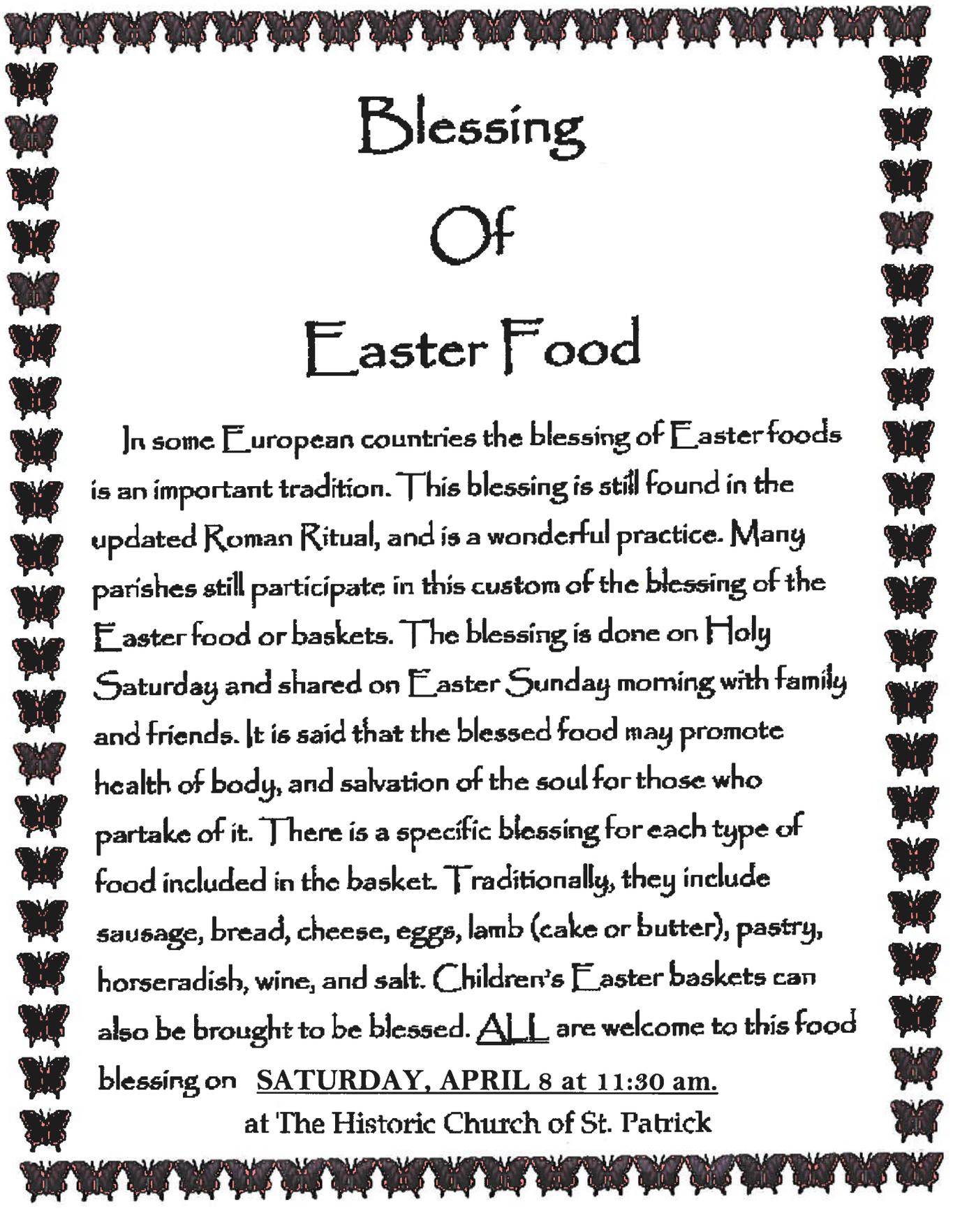
**Easter Sunday - April 9**

8:00 am @ Historic St. Patrick - Easter Mass

10:00 am @ Historic St. Patrick - Easter Mass

11:00 am @ Immaculate Conception - Easter Mass

**All are welcome! Please join us.**



# Blessing Of Easter Food

In some European countries the blessing of Easter foods is an important tradition. This blessing is still found in the updated Roman Ritual, and is a wonderful practice. Many parishes still participate in this custom of the blessing of the Easter food or baskets. The blessing is done on Holy Saturday and shared on Easter Sunday morning with family and friends. It is said that the blessed food may promote health of body, and salvation of the soul for those who partake of it. There is a specific blessing for each type of food included in the basket. Traditionally, they include sausage, bread, cheese, eggs, lamb (cake or butter), pastry, horseradish, wine, and salt. Children's Easter baskets can also be brought to be blessed. ALL are welcome to this food blessing on SATURDAY, APRIL 8 at 11:30 am.

at The Historic Church of St. Patrick

# Potluck with the Pastor!

## Cinco de Mayo

Wednesday, May 3

(after the 5:30 pm Mass)

Come and join us in the rectory for  
food, fun and fellowship.



**BYOB**

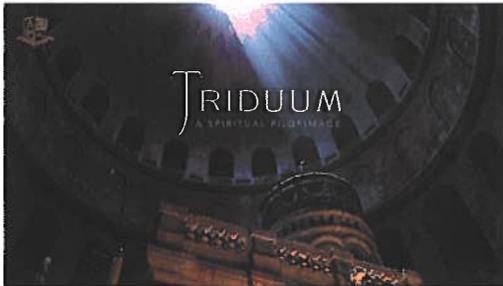
Please bring your own  
drinks/margaritas

There are sign up sheets  
in the back of church for  
# of people and food.



# THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of April 02, 2023



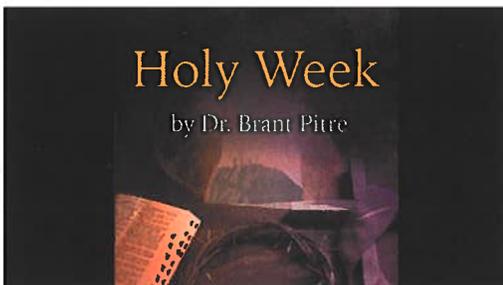
## Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage

Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage, cinematically walks through the locations of the Holy Week story, representing the most important days of human history. Immersed in the real and sacred places of the Holy Land, the pilgrim faithful is brought tangibly nearer to the story, the landscape, and the reality of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.



## The Faithful Departed | Eternal Rest | Episode 4

What is left for the living to do after someone dies? In this session, we talk about the final ways in which those still living on earth care for the body and soul of the dead. We discuss the work that remains for the living to do as we grieve for the deceased and as we turn to the work of preparing for our own death, and the hope in which we live and die as Christians.



## Holy Week by Dr. Brant Pitre

Join Dr. Brant Pitre, author and Scripture scholar, as he walks us through the events of Holy Week. Pitre's insights and clarity allow the listener to enter into a deeper appreciation of the most important events of Christ's earthly ministry.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.  
Visit [signup.formed.org](https://signup.formed.org) and select our parish name.

# Leading the FLOCK

BY BISHOP DANIEL E. THOMAS



## “Prudent Intentional Planning for the Future”

*“Straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 3:14).*

Do you remember the first time you had to make an important decision? Maybe it was whether or where to attend college. Perhaps it was discerning if you should get married, move to another state, or buy a house. When faced with an important decision, it is always prudent to be intentional: to look at the issue from every angle, study any data available, listen to trusted advisors, spend plenty of time in prayer asking the Lord for guidance, and then making a decision that is right for you and your family. And every person knows that every important decision always requires sacrifice.

Every day, we work together with our 122 parishes to make prudent intentional decisions that are best for the Catholics across the Diocese of Toledo. We want every parish to flourish and build a community of faith and love centered around the Eucharist. As a result of our 2019 Diocesan Strategic Plan, we started an Intentional Planning Ministry, which is part of our Department of Discipleship and Family Life. The ministry helps support parishes through an Intentional Planning Process that focuses on the future, on the pastoral and spiritual health and development of the parish. For every parish “is envisioned as a response to a precise pastoral need, namely that of bringing the Gospel to the People

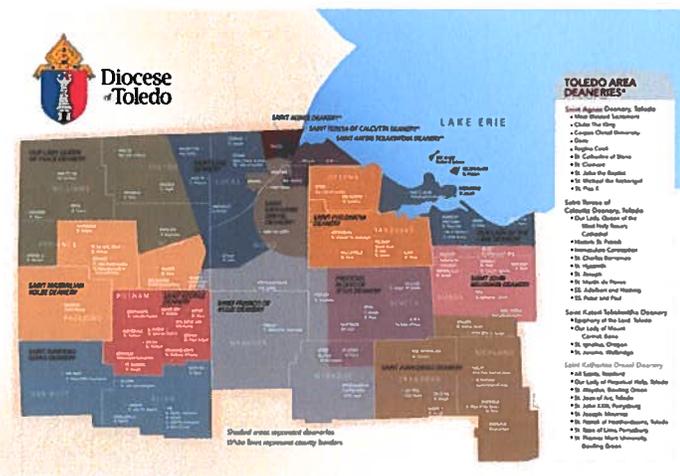
through the proclamation of the faith and the celebration of the Sacraments.”

Many of our parishes have already engaged in this process with significant results, becoming healthier parishes that will maintain vibrancy into the future.

Some parishes have changed their Mass schedules, others have developed collaborations with nearby parishes to maximize use of personnel and resources, and some have built strong strategic plans to focus efforts for growth into the future. Still others have “twinned” or become “tri-parish

groupings” by establishing a collaboration of two or three separate parishes that share a pastor, parish priests and deacons. These collaborative groups of parishes can explore creative ways to maximize resources. The purpose of prudent intentional planning is not, as some would like to think, focused on closing parishes, but instead on assisting parishes, through the process, to become more vibrant, more evangelical, more missionary.

As in making any important decision, we consider carefully both diocesan and parish data points when working through the Intentional Planning Process. On the diocesan side, we have fewer men being



ordained to the priesthood each year than we have reaching retirement age. In the last ten years, the total number of active Toledo Diocesan priests has dropped from 92 to 76. Therefore, we are not only concerned about having a sufficient number of priests to serve our parishes, but conscious that many younger priests are asked to become pastors sooner than in the past; we are grateful to senior status (retired) priests who generously continue actively to exercise their priestly ministry; we realize that for our pastors the balance of time spent on administrative tasks versus ministry is a constant struggle. We continue to strive to involve our generous laity who exercise their vocation in close collaboration with their pastor and in valuable service to the parish. We also analyze data regarding demographics like population, now and with projections into the future; the proximity of parishes/churches to one another (drive time); and the communities in which the parishes are located.

On the parish side, we consider data on the engagement of parishioners, Sunday Mass attendance, number of sacraments performed (baptisms, funerals, weddings), the structural integrity of buildings, financial health, etc. While some dioceses have used this data to make a unilateral decision to close a significant percentage of their parishes or assign a pastor to up to even eight parishes or more, with the support and counsel of our consultative groups, I am convinced this is not the right approach for our diocese. Together, we want the parish and the community to provide feedback to help make the decision of what is right for them using the information and resources available and to look at ways to engage and grow the Catholic faith in their area. Not all the decisions reached will be popular with every member of the parish community, but those decisions are not lightly taken, and they are based on current diocesan data, current parish data, listening to the parishioners, and a desire to have vibrant, faithful and joy-filled parish communities.

So deeply grateful for all the parish communities that have already engaged in the Intentional Planning Process, I would ask that if your parish goes through this process that you would proactively and productively participate with an open mind and heart, by thoughtfully considering the information that is published about the process and providing feedback in the manner that it is requested.



The parish “should put into action that ‘outgoing dynamism’ that, through collaboration among different parish communities, and a reinforced communion among clergy and laity, will orient it effectively toward an evangelizing mission, the task of the entire People of God, that walks through history as the ‘family of God’ and that, in the synergy of its diverse members, labors for the growth of the entire ecclesial body.”

Prudent intentional planning for the future means that with important decisions come sacrifices for the common good. We can no longer operate as in bygone years when parishioners of one ethnic group were vehement in not relating to parishioners of another ethnic group in the parish just down the block. We can no longer place our convenience as the highest good, as echoed in comments like “how dare they change my Mass time!” We can no longer operate in silos when parish ministries and catholic education programs will suffer unless parishes collaborate to offer the best possible pastoral service to the faithful. We can no longer presume that we’ll have enough parish priests, but instead must be actively praying for and encouraging vocations to the priesthood. What we **can do** is embrace the present with lively faith and deep hope, trusting in the Lord and praying with Saint Paul: “Straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 3:14).

For more information about Intentional Planning, go to [toledodiocese.org/intentional-planning](https://toledodiocese.org/intentional-planning).

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads “+ Daniel E. Thomas”.

Most Rev. Daniel E. Thomas  
Bishop of Toledo  
March 20, 2023