

GUIDELINES - II

Guidelines for the Holy Week Celebrations during the Corona Virus Pandemic (2020)

The existing extraordinary situation arising because of the pandemic (*COVID-19*) calls for certain modifications in our usual Holy Week celebrations. The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments has issued decrees requesting the Episcopal Conferences and Bishops to issue particular guidelines for Easter Celebrations and for the Holy Week services. In line with these directives, with the authorization of the diocesan authority, the following guidelines are given:

1. Holy Week:

- 1.1 In the Holy Week, the Church celebrates the Mysteries of Salvation accompanying Christ in the last days of His earthly life, from His Messianic Entry into Jerusalem, until His blessed Passion and His Glorious Resurrection.
- 1.2 Due to the national lockdown in force, all the Holy Week services are to be held without a congregation. Further, they are to be planned at times most convenient to the people. The faithful should be informed of the time of the celebration / transmission so that they can prayerfully unite themselves with the liturgical celebrations from their homes. Given the importance of the liturgical celebrations during the Holy Week, live-streaming / live telecasting them would be of great importance.
- 1.3 The faithful should be exhorted to participate in the transmitted celebrations with devotion and decorum.
- 1.4 The prescribed social distancing, hygiene protocols and sanitation of the spaces of the liturgical celebrations should be strictly followed.
- 1.5 **The Diocesan Centre for Liturgy will also provide appropriate prayer services for the various days of the Holy Week in order to enable the people to pray from their homes.**

2. Chrism Mass:

- 2.1 The anticipated Chrism Mass that was scheduled for 2nd April 2020 is postponed. The fresh date will be made known later.
- 2.2 Priests are requested to continue using the Holy Oils blessed during the last Chrism Mass, till instructions to the contrary.
- 2.3 In case the pastors run short of the Holy Oils, they could request the neighbouring parish/es or the Diocesan Centre for Liturgy.
- 2.4 In case of a necessity, the Oil of the Sick that is used in the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick could be blessed by the priest within the celebration of the Sacrament (cf. *Rite of Anointing of the Sick*, nos. 21, 22 and 75). Any blessed oil which remains after the celebration of the Sacrament should be soaked in cotton and burnt. The container must be sanitised after the celebration of the Sacrament.

3. Palm Sunday:

- 3.1 Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, a day on which the Church enters upon the mystery of the Death, Burial and Resurrection of the Lord, brings together the triumphal procession of Christ as King and the proclamation of His Passion.
- 3.2 The entire service should be held in the Third Form (cf. Roman Missal, 16-18).
- 3.3 A branch of a palm or that of any other tree that is available in the Church compound can be blessed. This will ensure that the branch is free of any contamination. The blessed branch is not to be distributed; it is to be preserved in the Parish Church for making ashes for Ash Wednesday of the following year.
- 3.4 The palm / branch is to be blessed at the beginning of the Mass.

4. Maundy Thursday:

- 4.1 On this day, three mysteries are commemorated: the Institution of the Eucharist, the Institution of the Priesthood and the Commandment of Love.
- 4.2 The rite of the washing of the feet, otherwise optional, is omitted
- 4.3 The procession with the Blessed Sacrament at the end of the Holy Eucharist is omitted; the Blessed Sacrament is to be placed directly in the Tabernacle.
- 4.4 The priest/s should continue in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament for a suitable length of time, but not after midnight.
- 4.5 The faithful are to be invited to adore the Lord from their homes.
- 4.6 The pastors are not to take Holy Communion to the home-bound during the Holy Week. However, Holy Communion in the form of Viaticum is not to be refused.

5. Good Friday:

- 5.1 On this day, when Christ our Paschal Lamb was sacrificed, the Church contemplates and adores the Cross of our Lord and Spouse, commemorating her own coming forth from the side of Christ as He slept on the Cross, and intercedes for the salvation of the world.
- 5.2 Abstinence and fasting are to be observed on this day.
- 5.3 The celebration of the Lord's Passion is to take place in the afternoon, around 03:00 p.m. If, however, genuine pastoral reasons require, the celebration may take place at a more suitable time, but not before noon and not after 09:00 p.m.
- 5.4 The Gospel Narrative should be proclaimed with the minimal number of participants or by a single person.
- 5.5 A special prayer, provided in the *Annexure I*, is to be added in the Universal Prayers given in the Missal.
- 5.6 The Adoration of the Holy Cross, by kissing it, shall be limited solely to the Celebrant. The Holy Cross could then be held elevated higher for a brief time for adoration by others. The celebrant ends the service with the Communion Rite.

5.7 At some moment of the day, the faithful are encouraged to pray the Stations of the Cross or celebrate the Liturgy of the Hours or commemorate the Sorrows of Our Lady or recite the Rosary or the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

6. Holy Saturday:

6.1 The faithful should be encouraged to celebrate the Liturgy of the Hours or recite the Rosary or any other pious devotion that recalls the Passion of Our Lord and the Sorrows of Our Lady.

6.2 The faithful could be exhorted to spend the day in silence and meditation, following the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who silently pondered these mysteries in her heart.

7. Easter Vigil:

7.1 By a most ancient tradition, this night is dedicated to the Lord and the Vigil celebrated during it, commemorating that holy night when the Lord rose from the dead, is regarded as the “Mother of all Holy Vigils”. In this night, the Church awaits in vigil the Resurrection of the Lord.

7.2 The whole celebration of the Easter Vigil should take place by night, in such a way that it does not begin before sunset and does conclude by dawn on Sunday.

7.3 The entire service should be held in a single place.

7.4 The celebration of a Mass without the rites of the Easter Vigil is not allowed.

7.5 The Easter Vigil comprises of four parts: the Solemn Beginning of the Vigil or *Lucernarium*; the Liturgy of the Word; the Baptismal Liturgy; and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

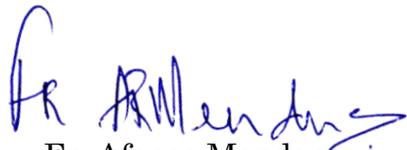
7.6 The Paschal Candle is lit without the blessing of the fire and the procession, after which the *Exsultet* (Easter Proclamation) is sung. The number of Scripture Readings for the Liturgy of the Word may be reduced, as prescribed in the Missal. For the Baptismal Liturgy, only the “Renewal of Baptismal Promises” is done. The Liturgy of the Eucharist then follows.

8. Easter Sunday:

8.1 On Easter Sunday, priests may celebrate Masses without a congregation, as indicated in the Roman Missal.

8.2 The home blessings stand suspended for the moment, till further directives.

Diocesan Centre for Liturgy, Pastoral Institute St. Pius X, Old Goa,
dated 28th March, 2020.


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Director

ANNEXURE I

Prayer to be inserted in the Universal Prayer for Good Friday

XI. “Corona Virus” pest-piddek lagun dogdovtoleam, sanddloleam ani meloleam pasot

Atam magum-ia ami “Corona Virus” he marekar pest-piddek sampddun koxttovtoleam, sanddloleam vo nirxel’leam ani meloleam pasot:

He piddek sampddun torekvar koxttancho bhar vhortoleank, Devachi khuxi zalear, tanche veli hi pest-pidda pois kor mhonn, nam tor, he piddek fuddo korunk tankam ani tanchea kuttumbank ilaz-buzvonn-ghottai di mhonn, he piddecher obheas kortoleam vidnean-xastreank veginuch vokod mellunk nirmi mhonn, piddevontanchi seva-chakri kortoleank pidde-xidde mekllim samball mhonn ani he piddek boli poddloleank sorginchi xanti favo kor mhonn Bapa lagim magum-ia.

Oginch ravun magnem kortat. Uprant Yadiik mhonnta:

Sorvpodvedara ani Kaklutsara Deva,

Tujea ogonnit mogan sorv mon’xanchem jivit Tum rochtai ani Tunch tem samballtai.

Amchea osoktayantlim ubarunk ani amcheo pidda-xidda kaddun uddouk, Tuje konvallayen Tujea Puta Jezuk hea sonvsarant Tunvem dhaddloi.

“Corona Virus” – hi marekar pest-pidda hea disamni sonvsarant ximpddon mon’xachem jivit akantache doxek sampoddlam.

Amam somestancher ani kherit bhaxen he pest-piddek sampoddloleancher Tuji doyall nodor ghal ani Tujea devik bollan amche veli hi pest-pidda pois kor.

Jim bhavam-bhoinnam he piddek sampoddleant tankam Tuzo pekovnecho hat laboi, nam tor, bhavarthan, bhorvanxean ani sosnnikayen hi pidda sonsun vhorunk Tuje kurpecho adar tankam di. Apleakuch visrun piddevontanchi disrat seva kortoleam voizank, norsink ani bholaiki-niga ghetoleam sevokank Tujea doyall huskeachim hatiarom kor ani tankam Tujea subham’ axirvadan bhor. He piddecher zoit vhorunk vavurtoleam vidnean-xastreank ek gunnadik vasin veginuch mello-xem kor. He piddek boli poddloleam bhavam-bhoinnank Tuje kaklutin sasnnache xantik ubar ani tanchea kuttumbank buzvonnecho sangat favo kor. Jezu Krista amchea Somia vorvim.

Z. Amen.

XI. For all those suffering, those who feel lost and those who have died due to the Corona Virus pandemic

Let us pray also for those suffering, those who feel lost or dismayed and those who died due to the fearful corona virus pandemic:

For those burdened by the weight of suffering in various ways due to this pandemic, that, if it be the will of God, they be freed from this disease, or else, they and their families may receive treatment, comfort and strength to face it, that the scientists doing research may speedily find a vaccine to combat the disease, that those rendering service to the afflicted may be spared from the illness, and that those who have fallen victims to this virus may be granted eternal rest, let us pray to God.

Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:

Almighty and merciful God,

In Your great love You create and sustain the life of every human being.

In your compassion You sent Your Son Jesus to lift us up from our frailties and to free us from our infirmities.

Due to the mortal "Corona Virus" disease spreading around the world, human life has reached a state of deep anxiety and fear.

Look with mercy on all of us, especially those afflicted by this disease and cast away from us this pandemic with Your divine power.

Give your healing touch to those affected by the disease, or else, give them the grace to bear it with faith, hope and patient endurance. Make all doctors, nurses and health care workers who, forgetting self, serve the sick night and day, instruments of Your merciful concern and fill them with Your abundant blessings. Enable scientists to soon find an effective vaccine to combat this disease. In Your mercy grant eternal rest to our brethren who have fallen victims to this virus and to their families Your comforting presence.

Through Christ our Lord.

Z. Amen.

ANNEXURE II

Some useful Prayers

1 a. **Otmik Komunheanv**

Mhojea Jezu, bhov Povitr Sonvskarant Tum sodam hajir asai mhonn hanv sotman'tam. Sogttam poros Tuzo hanv mog kortam Jezu, ani Tuka mhojea otmeant xevunk hanv axetam. Hea vellar Tujem bhov omolik Mas-Rogot mhojean xevunk zainam dekhun, otmikponnan tori mhojea kallzant ye mhonn hanv magtam. Mhojea kallzantuch aslolea porim hanv Tuka veng martam ani soglloch mhaka Tuka ekvott'tam. Tuje sorxilo koddSORUNK kodinch mhaka nirmum naka. Amen.

1 b. **Act of Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

2 a. **COVID-19, pidda sostoleank amcho sangat diunk magnnem**

Doyall Deva, soglle rochnnek tum tuzo mog dakhoitai. Sonvsarantlea veg-veglea svatancher, Corona Virus piddek sampoddloleam khatir, amchem magnnem doyen aikun ghe.

Hi pidda ailea ti veginuch nopoit kor. Hi pidda zal'leank pekovnni, piddek sampoddloleank ani tanchea kuttumbank favo ti ghottai di.

Sodpus kortoleam voizank, he pidde add zhuzunk, veginnuch vasin sodun kaddunk tanchea monant ghal.

Porje khatir favo toslim pavlam marunk, serkari ani bholaike odhikaream pasot ami magtanv.

Hem magnnem ami kortanv, teach krista amchea Somia vorvim, Amen.

2 b. **Prayer of Solidarity (COVID-19)**

Almighty and merciful God, who show your love to all creation everywhere, hear graciously the prayers we make for all those affected by the Corona Virus in various parts of the world.

We come before you asking for a quick control of the outbreak, for a healing of those affected, for the victims and their families.

We pray for the doctors who are doing research that an effective vaccine to combat the sickness be speedily found.

We pray for the Government and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

3 a. Mariek, Amche Mogall Avoik, Pap Saib Fransiskachem Magnnem (COVID-19)

O Maye, khunna soddvonnechi ani bhorvanxeachi koxi, tum amchea rostear sodanch chokchoktai. Je porim tuzo bhavarth ghott dovrin, khursa mullim, Jezuchea koxttamni tunvem vantto ghetloi piddestanche bholaicheche Maye, tech porim ami amkanch, tujea hatant ghaltanv.

Mogall Maye, amkam kiteachi goroz ti tum zannoi ani tum amkam ditolich mhonn amkam khatri asa, Galileiachea Cana ganvant zal'le porim, he topasnecho vell somptoch ami novean sotosan ani khuxalkayen Tujexim porot yeunk. Amkam adar di, Deivik Mogache Mate, Bapache khuxek raji zaunk ani Jezun sanglam toxem korunk Tannem Apnnacher amchem dukh ani koxtt ghetle, tech porim khursam udexim, punorjivontponnak ami pavunk, Amen.

Tuje rakhne khal ami asro soddtanv, Devache Bhagevont Maye. Amchea magnneank poro ghali nakai, punn mhoimevont ani Bhagevont Marie, sogllea vaitta-vignantlim amkam nivar.

3 b. Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary, Our Blessed Mother (COVID-19)

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

O dear Mother, you know what we need, and we are sure you will provide it to us, so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows, to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of us who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.