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**April 3, 2026**

*Good Friday*

*The Seven Last Words of Christ*



**SAINT JOHN'S  
CATHEDRAL**  
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF FLORIDA

## HOURS & INFORMATION

### EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE, APRIL 5

6am The Great Vigil: Easter Vigil begins in the darkened Cathedral, and culminates with the Great Noise and Holy Eucharist.

7:30am Easter Breakfast in Taliaferro Hall

9am Family Service, with the Flowering of the Cross and Holy Eucharist: Dean Kate will preach, and the space will be filled with glorious music. Children are invited to take part in the beloved tradition of the Flowering of the Cross. Bring fresh-cut flowers and help transform the cross into a beautiful symbol of new life and hope.

10:30am Easter Egg Hunt: Children from infant age through 5th grade are invited to hunt for hundreds of eggs hidden throughout the beautiful interior gardens of the Cathedral. Bring your basket!

11:15am Holy Eucharist, with Incense: Experience the fullness of Easter joy at this grand celebration of the Resurrection! Featuring incense, bells, and soaring music, this service invites you into a rich and reverent worship experience. Come and rejoice!

### Vestry

John Sefton, *Chancellor*; Martha Cox, *Sr. Warden*; Patrick Kimball, *Jr. Warden*; Paul Arrington, *Treasurer*; John Bass, John Erstling, Glenn Guiler, T. R. Hainline, Paige Hakimian, Lewis Hunt, Lisa McKenna, Laura Jane Pittman, Louis Russo, Adam Smith, Shane Williams

### Clergy

The Very Rev. Kate Moorehead Carroll, *Dean*; The Rev. Canon Mark S. Anderson, *Vicar*; The Rev. Dr. Linda Privitera, *Associate Priest of Theology and the Arts*; The Rev. Thomas O'Dell, *Associate Priest for Welcome and Engagement*; The Rev. Sandra Kidd, *Deacon for Pastoral Care and Outreach*

### Music

Timothy Tuller, *Canon for Music*

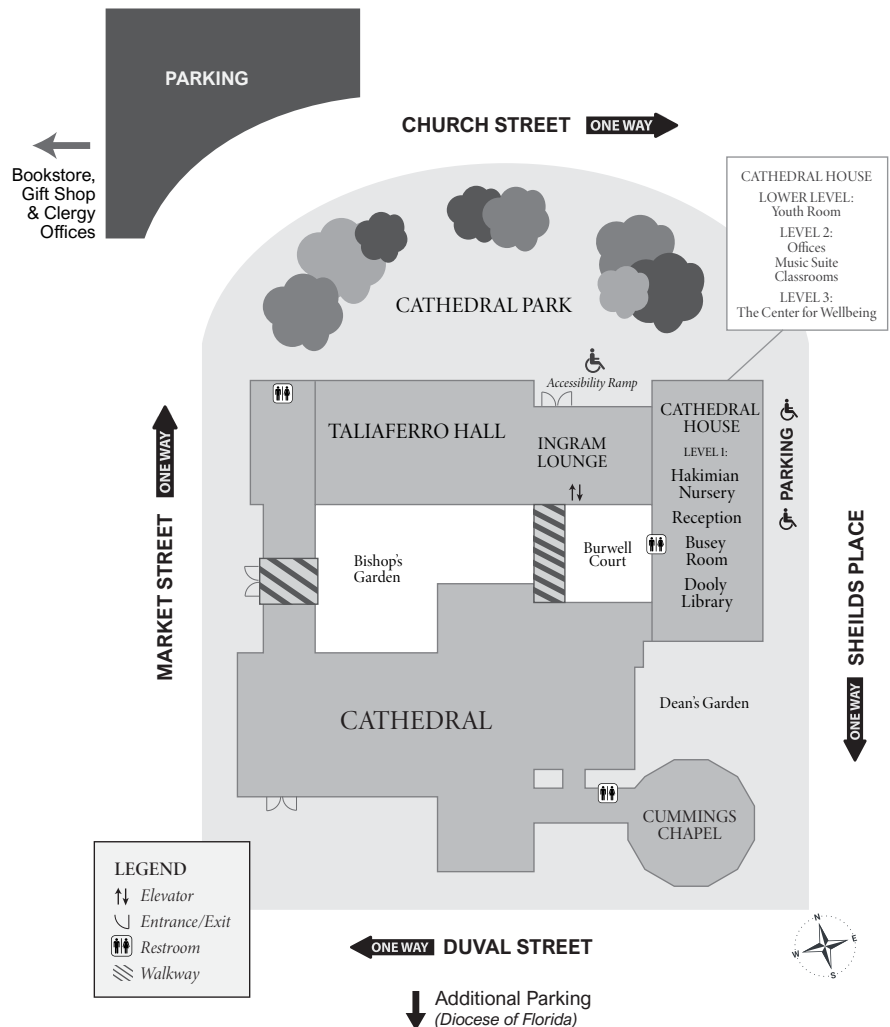
## WELCOME

Whether you're visiting for the first time or you've been worshipping here for years, our welcome ministry, **Engage@JaxCathedral**, is here to help you make a home for your faith at St. John's Cathedral.

Fill out the Welcome card in the pew back and place it in the offering plate, or complete the form online at [jaxcathedral.org/welcome](http://jaxcathedral.org/welcome) (or scan the QR code) so we can get to know you.



## MAP



# THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

Blessed be our God.  
**For ever and ever. Amen.**

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**  
Lord, have mercy.

**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.**

I. *“Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”* Luke 23:32-38

A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself.” There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

Homily The Rev. Thomas O’Dell  
*Associate Priest, St. John’s Cathedral*

Music Is it nothing to you?, Frederick A. Gore Ouseley

Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by?  
Behold and see, if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow,  
which is done unto me, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted me  
in the day of his fierce anger.

II. *“Woman, here is your son.” “Here is your mother.”* John 19:25b-27

A Reading from the Gospel according to John.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

*This service will last three hours, as Jesus hung on the cross from 12-3 p.m. Those attending this service are free to come and go as needed.*

*Throughout this service, items in **bold** are spoken by the congregation in unison.*

*There will be extended periods of silence during this service. Please take this time to meditation on the cross.*

*All sit.*

*English composer F. A. Gore Ouseley (1825-1889) was an ordained priest and Oxford Professor of Music. “Is it nothing to you?” is a brief but poignant four-part setting of Lamentations 1:12.*

*John Bull (1562-1628) was an English composer best remembered today for his keyboard compositions. "In the departure of the Lord" is a rare example of his choral work that has maintained its place in the sacred repertoire down through the centuries. It is an a cappella (meaning unaccompanied) setting of words by Sir William Leighton referencing Christ's Passion.*

Homily

The Rev. Dr. Victor D. Cole  
Pastor, Historic Mt. Zion AME Church

Music

In the departure of the Lord, John Bull

In the departure of the Lord, of mortal body's vital breath,  
There lies a mystery worth record, which he did show us here on earth:  
Who doth prepare to die each hour must follow Christ our Saviour.

III. "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Matthew 27:45-54

A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

Homily

Edward Daniels, Jr.  
Seminararian, St. John's Cathedral

Music

O crux ave, G. P. Palestrina

*"O crux ave," while often sung on its own, is actually a portion of Palestrina's larger setting of the of the Vexilla Regis hymn. It has a melodic and harmonic simplicity and directness that has made it one of Palestrina's most well-known pieces for centuries.*

*O Crux ave, spes unica  
hoc Passionis tempore  
piis adauge gratiam  
reis que dele crimina.*

O cross, our one reliance, hail  
so may thy power with us prevail  
to give new virtue to the saint,  
and pardon to the penitent.

IV. "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Luke 23:39-43

A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Homily

The Rev. Dr. Linda Privitera  
Associate Priest, St. John's Cathedral

Music Drop, drop, slow tears, Orlando Gibbons, arr. Philip Ledger  
*The Gilded Echo Ensemble*

*“Drop, drop, slow tears” is a 17th-century penitential hymn, with text from English poet Phineas Fletcher (1633). While referencing Mary Magdalene’s washing of Christ’s feet, the text is a solemn plea for forgiveness and mercy.*

Drop, drop, slow tears, and bathe those beauteous feet,  
Which brought from heaven the news and Prince of peace.

Cease not, wet eyes, His mercies to entreat;  
To cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.

In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears;  
Nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.

V. *“I am thirsty.”* John 19:28-29

A Reading from the Gospel according to John.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), “I am thirsty.” A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

Homily The Rev. Dr. Kenneth J. Meyers  
*Baptist Minister, Retired*

Music Cease Sorrows Now, Thomas Weelkes  
*The Gilded Echo Ensemble*

*“Cease Sorrows Now” is a poignant secular madrigal by English Renaissance composer Thomas Weelkes. With its intense expression of grief and mortality, the piece exemplifies the despair and resignation of Christ’s death on the cross.*

Cease sorrows now, for you have done the deed,  
Lo care hath now consumed my carcass quite,  
No hope is left, nor help can stand instead,  
For doleful death doth cut off pleasure quite,  
Yet whilst I hear the knolling of the bell,  
Before I die, I’ll sing my faint farewell.

VI. *“It is finished.”* John 19:30-37

A Reading from the Gospel according to John.

When Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, “None of his bones shall be broken.” And again another passage of scripture says, “They will look on the one whom they have pierced.”

Homily The Rev. Catherine Montgomery  
*Vicar, St. Mary’s Church*

VII. *“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”*

Luke 23:44-49

A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun’s light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, “Certainly this man was innocent.” And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Homily

The Rev. Dr. Bob Dannals  
*Episcopal Priest, Retired*

Music

Were you there?, Traditional Spiritual  
*Byron Rowe, soloist*

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they pierced Him in the side?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Solemn Prayers

Dear People of God, Jesus was sent into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved; that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death and become heirs with him of everlasting life. We pray, therefore, for people everywhere according to their needs.

Let us pray for the people of this world who feel lost and alone. For those who have suffered trauma in war, school shootings, human trafficking or any other acts of violence. For those who have never known your love and peace. For those who doubt that there is anyone out there who would care for them.

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit, the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all who suffer and yearn for your peace. **Amen.**

*The Solemn Prayers have been spoken on Good Friday in churches all over the world since the 3rd century.*

Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those in authority among them;

for all peoples of the Middle East

for Ukraine

for Sudan

for Congo

for Haiti

for this Country and this City

for Justice and Peace on the earth

that by God's help all the peoples of the earth may seek justice and truth and live in peace.

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility your dominion may increase, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all who suffer in body or in mind;

for the hungry, the homeless, the immigrant and refugee

for the sick, the wounded and those who are differently abled

for those who are lonely and afraid

for those who battle addiction

for those who face despair

that God will comfort and relieve them, grant them fullness of grace and strengthen us to minister to their needs with patience and understanding.

Gracious God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: let the cry of those in misery and need come to you, that they may find your mercy present with them in all their afflictions; and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them for the sake of him who suffered for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all who do not know the love of God;

for those who seldom hear a kind word

for those who have lost their faith

for those hardened by indifference

for the contemptuous and the scornful

for those who oppress and persecute others

that God will open all their hearts to forgive themselves and others.

Merciful One, you know the hearts of every one of us. You shower your love down upon us, but often we cannot open our hearts to receive that love. Awaken us to the miracle of your abounding mercy and forgiveness, that we may know the sustaining power of your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus, who loved us so much that he gave his life for us. **Amen.**

Merciful God, creator of all the earth and lover of souls, awaken us to the needs of this beautiful planet that you have made. Help us to understand that this earth is living and fragile, responsive and holy. Help us to curb our desires and appetites, that we may reduce our consumption and cease our pollution of your creation. For the love of your son Jesus, who walked this earth and loved your creation. **Amen.**

Let us commit ourselves to God and pray for the grace of a holy life, that, with all who have departed this world and have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone, we may be accounted worthy to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord, and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection. **Amen.**

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on all human life, that wonderful and sacred mystery, and help us with grateful hearts to receive the fullness of your grace. Let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by God through whom all things were made. We pray in the holy name of your son Jesus who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

#### Closing Prayer

**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, we thank you for the gift of your passion, cross and death. We thank you that you come to us both in life and in death, both in pain and in comfort, both in sorrow and in joy. Give mercy and grace to the living, pardon and rest to the dead; to this troubled world peace; and to all people everlasting life, for the majesty, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*At three o'clock the bell is tolled thirty-three times. This is to signify that the 33 years of Christ's life ended at three o'clock with his death on the cross. The tolling of the bell ends the service. All may leave in silence or remain for silent prayer and meditation.*

#### Tolling of the Bell

† † †

We invite you to join us this evening for a special service of the Stations of the Cross. Walk with Jesus on the road to Calvary while reflecting on the experiences of immigrants today. Stories of hardship, hope, and resilience will be shared in English and Spanish, accompanied by music and moments of silent reflection. **The service will be held at 6 p.m. in the Cathedral.**