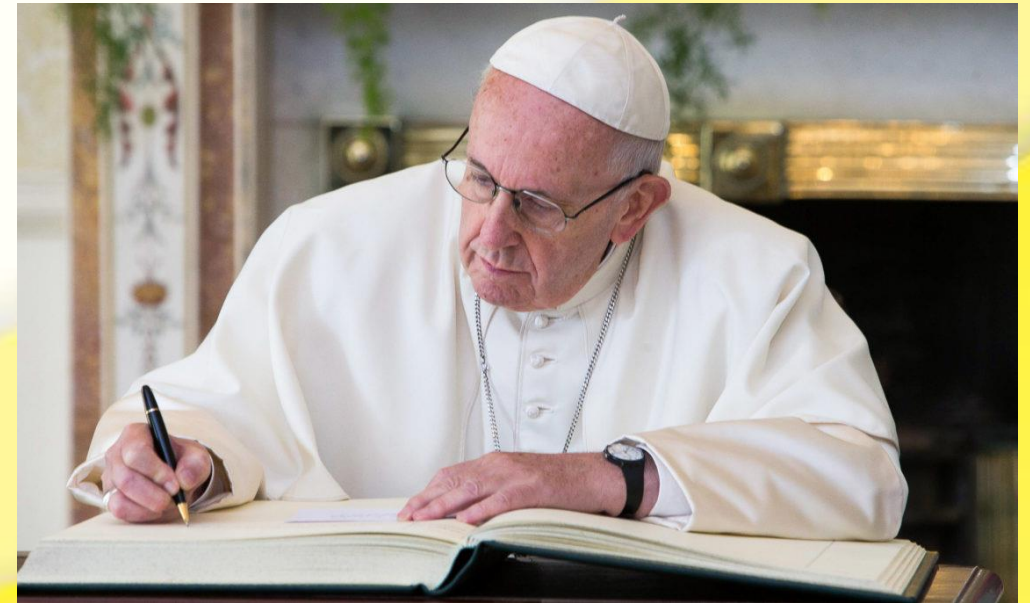


Exhortations from Pope Francis during the outbreak of Corona Virus



**And Catechetical Instructions
from Nitika Don Bosco, Kolkata**

1. General Absolution



- ✓ It is up to the bishop to grant this possibility to his priests due to Corona break.
- ✓ Eg. A priest unable to enter the hospital or go near a patient.
- ✓ The grant is possible even to give general absolution 'without prior individual confession'.
- ✓ In case of emergency, *collective absolution* is permitted with the obligation to inform the bishop at the earliest.

2. What is Plenary Indulgence?



- ✓ An indulgence is remission from temporal punishment due to one's sins with the prescribed conditions set by the Church.
- ✓ Indulgences are of two kinds: **partial** and **plenary**. A partial indulgence removes part of the temporal punishment due for sins. A plenary indulgence removes all of it.
- ✓ Any faithful can gain indulgence, or apply it to any dead.
- ✓ **Acts of Plenary Indulgence:** Adoration (1/2 hour) , Rosary, Prayerful reading of the scripture (1/2 hour) , Way of the cross, etc.
- ✓ **Conditions:** State of Grace, Confession, Communion, Prayer for the Pope (1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary).

3. Plenary Indulgence for sick and health workers



- ✓ **Granted to the faithful suffering from the COVID-19 sickness, health workers, their relatives and all those who take care of them in any capacity.**
- ✓ **Conditions:** 1. In a spirit detached from sin, 2. United in prayer (Holy Mass through Media, *Via Crucis*, Rosary, Creed, or any pious practices.) 3. Will to fulfil normal conditions later (Confession, Communion and prayer for the Pope)

4. Plenary Indulgence for the Faithful



- ✓ **Granted also to the faithful who pray for the epidemic to end by way of visit to the Bl. Sacrament, *Via Crucis*, Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet or Eucharistic Adoration.**
- ✓ ***Conditions:* 1. In a spirit detached from sin, 2. United in prayer (Holy Mass through Media, *Via Crucis*, Rosary, Creed, or any pious practices.) 3. Will to fulfil normal conditions later (Confession, Communion and Prayer for the Pope)**

5. Plenary Indulgence at the point of death without having *Anointing of the Sick*



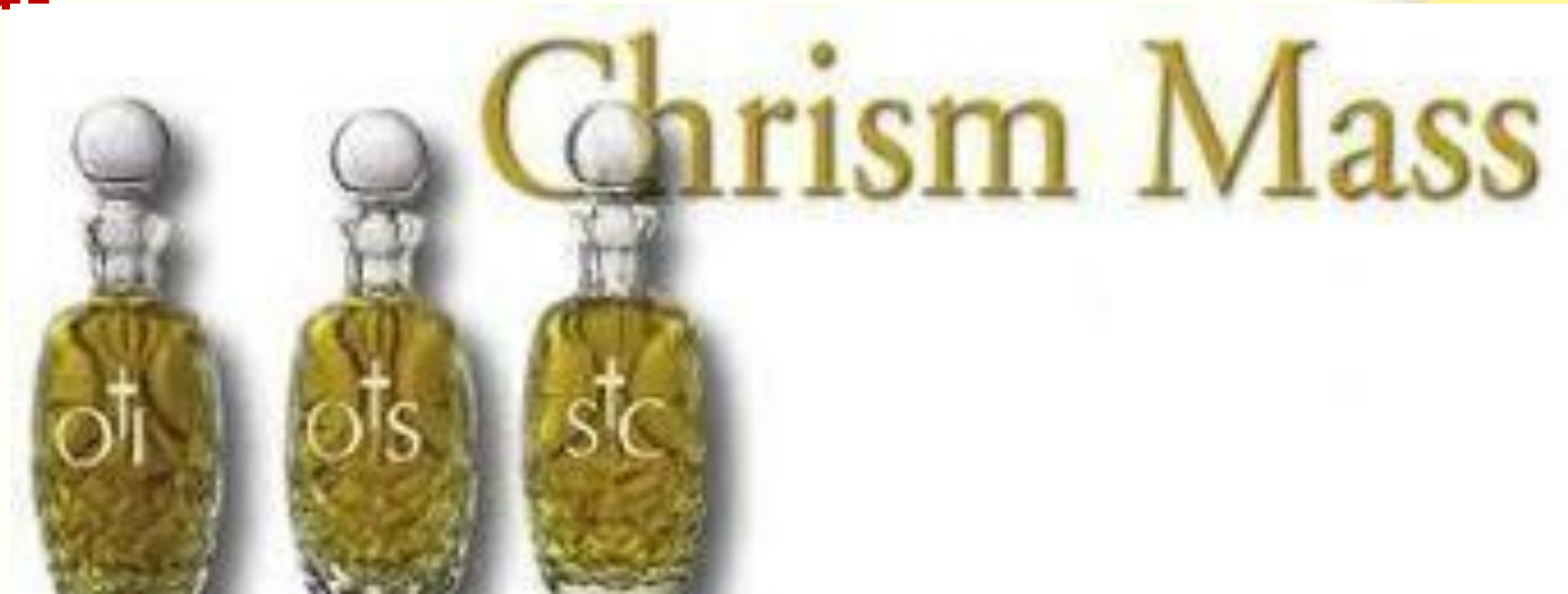
- ✓ **Granted to the dying without the possibility of anointing of the sick and viaticum.**
- ✓ **Three Conditions of Plenary Indulgence fulfilled any time in their life are sufficient: 1. Confession, 2. Communion 3. Prayer for the Pope.**
- ✓ **A crucifix or cross recommended at the time of dying.**

6. Date of Easter cannot be changed.



- ✓ **Easter is the biggest feast in the liturgical Year. It is not one of the feasts. It is the heart of the entire year.**
- ✓ **It is the culmination of Easter Triduum, preceded by Lent and crowned by Pentecost.**
- ✓ **Hence, Easter cannot be transferred to another date.**

7. Chrism mass can be postponed.



- ✓ **The bishop has the faculty to postpone to a later date after evaluating the situation of Corona in his diocese and country.**

8. Easter Triduum without people but in the Church

Easter Triduum



Holy Thursday



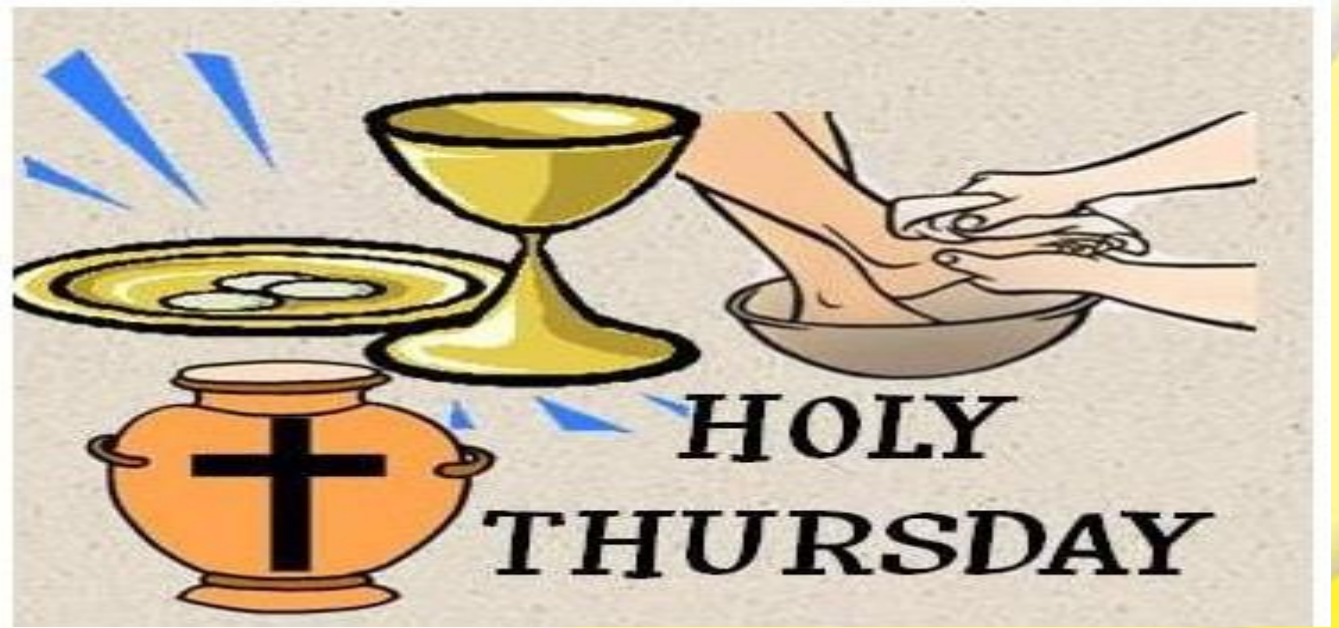
Good Friday



Easter Sunday

- ✓ The diocese has to abide by the restrictions set by civil and ecclesial authorities with regard to Corona Virus.
- ✓ If there are restrictions, in agreement with the episcopal conference, the bishop and parish priests can celebrate Easter Triduum in the churches without the physical participation of the faithful.
- ✓ The faithful should be informed of the timing, and be united with the parish priest in their homes.
- ✓ The possibility of live broadcast (not recorded) can be made available.
- ✓ Decisions regarding seminaries and religious communities shall be made by the diocesan bishop.

9. Holy Thursday



- ✓ The rite of **Washing of the Feet** is optional in the liturgy. Hence, it can be omitted.
- ✓ Procession to the **Altar of Repose** after the mass of the Lord's supper can be omitted.
- ✓ Blessed Sacrament has to be kept in the Tabernacle.
- ✓ Priests who are unable to celebrate the mass, should pray the vespers.

10. Good Friday



- ✓ **Special prayers for the sick and dead due to Corona Virus to be added to the prayers of the Faithful.**
- ✓ **Popular pieties on this day (way of the Cross, procession of the Crucifix, veneration of the Cross) to be avoided.**
- ✓ **Some of the popular pieties held during Good Friday and Holy Saturday can be transferred to 14 and 15 September.**

11. Easter

- ✓ **The Rite of Fire to be omitted.**
- ✓ **The Paschal Candle to be lit. No procession**
- ✓ **Easter Proclamation (Exsultet) to be done.**
- ✓ **For Baptismal Liturgy, only renewal of baptismal promises is sufficient.**



A Prayer to the Sleeping St. Joseph to protect us from Corona Virus



O Saint Joseph, you are a man greatly favoured by the Most High. The angel of the Lord appeared to you in dreams while you slept, to warn you and guide you as you cared for the Holy Family. You were both silent and strong, a loyal and courageous protector. Dear St. Joseph, as you rest in the Lord, confident of his absolute power and goodness look upon me. Please take my need (mention your request) into your heart, dream of it, and present it to your Son. Help me then, good Saint Joseph, to hear the voice of God to arise and act with love. I praise and thank God with joy. St. Joseph, I love you. Amen.

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