



ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE STATE OF HAWAII
DIOCESE OF HONOLULU
WITNESS TO JESUS

Memo Regarding the Liturgical Considerations upon the Death of Pope Francis

We join with the whole Church in praying for the repose of the soul of the Holy Father, Pope Francis. He passed to eternal life on April 21, 2025, at 7:35 AM (Rome Time) at his residence, the Domus Sanctae Marthae in Vatican City. May he rest in peace. Well done, good and faithful servant.

- Bishop Larry is asking all the parishes and parochial schools for the immediate prayers for the deceased Pontiff. The custom of praying the *Our Father*, *Hail Mary*, and *Glory be* is to be encouraged, especially with school children. The deceased Pontiff should be prayed for in the recitation of the Rosary.
- Church bells may be tolled for one minute, though no particular length of time is specified.
- Masses should be offered for the late Pope's intention.
- Upon the death of Pope Francis, he is not named in the Eucharistic Prayer.

-In Eucharistic Prayer I and II, delete the words, "your servant N. our Pope and

-In Eucharistic Prayer II, delete the words, "N, our Pope and"

-In Eucharistic Prayer IV, delete the words "your servant N. our Pope"

-In EP MVNO-I, "...Strengthen the bond of unity between the pastors of your people, together with N., ____ our Bishop, and the whole Order of Bishops..."

- It is the custom that the nine days following the funeral of a Pope are observed as official days of mourning in Rome and throughout the Church. The Novemdiales, as they are called, may be observed in different ways in the various Particular Churches. In addition to the celebration of Mass, we encourage public prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours, Eucharistic and other devotional prayer, lectures on the teaching and legacy of the Pope, activities for the relief of the poor offered for the intention of his soul, or other such initiatives.
- In the United States, the vestment colors violet, white, or black may be used in Masses and Offices for the Dead (see GIRM, no. 346e). However, it is customary for red vestments to be worn at a Mass for the Dead offered for a Pope since we are mourning the death of the successor of the Apostle Peter.
- Naturally, special petitions can be offered in the Universal Prayer at Masses celebrated for the repose of the. The following are provided as examples:
 - That Pope Francis, called to the heavenly kingdom by the Lord, may rejoice forever at the heavenly banquet, we pray to the Lord.

- That Pope Francis, who served the Church as Supreme Pontiff for twelve years, may rejoice with the Saints in the heavenly Jerusalem, we pray to the Lord.
- That the tireless efforts of Pope Francis, now called to the Lord, may bear fruit in unity, peace, and love among all men and women, we pray to the Lord.
- For Pope Francis, who boldly proclaimed the Gospel to all the ends of the earth, that he may rejoice forever in heaven, we pray to the Lord.

- ENVIRONMENT

- In the church sanctuary, a fitting picture of the deceased Pontiff might be discreetly placed on an easel. A bouquet of flowers and a large votive candle may be placed near it. The Paschal Candle may be used instead.
- If there is time, memorial cards might be printed with the deceased Pope's picture and a brief biography on the back.
- Black bunting may be hung around the main door of the exterior of the church building. This should be removed after the Pope's funeral. Yellow and white bunting may be hung when the new Pope is named.

The Office of Worship will send more resources as they are made available. **A Memorial Mass on April 28, 2025 is currently being planned. Time and location to be determined. Stay tuned.**

Sincerely in the Lord,

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