## Handout #1

## Symbols of Our Faith

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| Symbols | Meaning for Me | Meaning for Usas Catholics |
| Light & Fire  |  |  |
| Water |  |  |
| Oil |  |  |
| Shared Meal |  |  |
| Bread |  |  |
| Wine |  |  |
| Ashes |  |  |
| Palm Tree |  |  |
| Cross |  |  |
| Thorns |  |  |
| Lily |  |  |
| Desert |  |  |

## Handout #2

## Lent in Word and Symbol

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|  | Word  | Symbols |
| Ash Wednesday | Joel 2:12-182Corinthians 5:20—6:2Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18 | Ashes |
| First Sunday of Lent | Matthew 4:1-11 (A)Mark 1:12-15 (B)Luke 4:1-13 (C) | Desert |
| Second Sunday of Lent | Matthew 17:1-19 (A)Mark 9:2-10 (B)Luke 9:28-36 (C) | Easter (new) clothes |
| Third Sunday of Lent  | John 4:5-42 | Water |
| Fourth Sunday of Lent | John 9:1-41 | Light |
| Fifth Sunday of Lent | John 11:1-45 | TombResurrection, new life |
| Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday Processional) | Matthew 21:1-11 (A)Mark 11:1-10 (B)Luke 19:28-40 (C) | Palms  |
| Holy Week Chrism Mass | Isaiah 61:1-3, 6:8-9Revelation 1:5-8Luke 4:16-21 | Oil |
| Holy Thursday(Mass of the Lord’s Supper)  | Exodus 12:1-8, 11-141Corinthians 11:23-26John 13:1-15 | Shared mealBread and wineWater (washing feet) |
| Good Friday | Isaiah 52:13-53, 12Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9John 18:1—19:42 | ThornsCross |
| Easter Vigil | Genesis 1:1-2 and 2Genesis 22:1-18Exodus 14:15—15:1Isaiah 54:5-14Isaiah 55:1-11Baruch 3:9-15, and 3:32—4:4Ezekiel 36:16-28Romans 6:3-11Matthew 28:1-10 | FireLightWaterOilEaster (new) clothes Shared mealBread and wine |
| Easter Sunday  | Acts 10:34, 37-43Colossians 3:1-4 or 1Corinthians 5:6-8John 20:1-9 | LightWater |

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| Symbol | Liturgy | Meaning for Us  |
| Ashes | Ash Wednesday | * mortality, sorrow, and penance
* acknowledgment of sinfulness, our need for God and for conversion of heart
* repentance—turning away from sin and evil
 |
| Desert | Gospel of First Sunday of Lent | * withdrawal for prayer and fasting
* sin and temptation
 |
| Light and Fire | * Gospel of Third Sunday of Lent
* Easter Vigil
* Easter Sunday
 | * Christ’s presence
* new life in Christ
* Christ, the light, overcomes the darkness of sin
* resurrection, victory over death
* reverence and a sign of a joyous celebration
 |
| Water | * Gospel of the Fourth Sunday of Lent
* Baptism at Easter Vigil
* Holy Thursday
 | * washing feet as a sign of service and self-sacrificing nature of Jesus’ love
* Baptism
* cleansing from sin, purification
* new life emerges from the water—resurrected life
* incorporation into Christ’s death and resurrection
 |
| Palm Branches  | Palm Sunday | * a show of honor, a symbol of victory
* Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem and his ultimate victory over death
 |
| OilAnointing | * Chrism Mass
* Baptism and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil
 | * our need for God’s help and strength
* spiritual strength, receiving God’s grace
* empowered for mission as a follower of Jesus
* healing and comfort (Anointing the Sick)
* sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit
* bonding us to the person of Jesus Christ
 |
| Shared Meal | Holy Thursday  | * Jesus’ everlasting presence—the Eucharist
* sharing in the saving effects of Jesus’ sacrifice: his paschal mystery, his death and resurrection
* giving thanks and praise
 |
| Bread | Holy Thursday | * Jesus feeds us, fills our hunger
* the body of Christ, broken for us
* strength to take up the cross and live the Gospel—to become bread for the world
 |
| Wine | Holy Thursday | * Jesus quenches our thirst
* the blood of Christ, given for us
* the new covenant
 |
| Cross | Good Friday | * crucifixion / suffering and pain
* sacrifice of Jesus, giving one’s life for one’s friends
* death as the instrument of salvation
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| Thorns | Good Friday | * suffering and pain
* crown of the suffering Messiah
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## Handout #3

## Lenten Scripture Readings

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|  | Cycle A | Cycle B | Cycle C |
| **Ash Wednesday** | Joel 2:12-182Corinthians 5:20—6:2Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18 | Joel 2:12-182Corinthians 5:20—6:2Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18 | Joel 2:12-182Corinthians 5:20—6:2Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18 |
| **First****Sunday** **of Lent** | Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7Romans 5:12-19Matthew 4:1-11 | Genesis 9:8-151Peter 3:18-22Mark 1:12-15  | Deuteronomy 26:4-10Romans 10:8-13Luke 4:1-13 |
| **Second Sunday of Lent** | Genesis 12:1-42Timothy 1:8-10Matthew 17:1-19 | Genesis 22:1-2, 9:10-13,15-18Romans 8:31-34Mark 9:2-10 | Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18Philippians 3:14—4:1Luke 9:28-36 |
| **Third** **Sunday of Lent**  | Exodus 17:3-7Romans 5:1-2, 5-8John 4:5-42 | Exodus 20:1-171Corinthians 1:22-25John 2:13-25 | Exodus 3:1-8, 13-151Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12Luke 13:1-9  |
| **Fourth Sunday of Lent** | 1Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13Ephesians 5:8-14John 9:1-41 | 2Chronicles 36:14-17,19-23Ephesians 2:4-10John 3:14-21 | Joshua 5:9, 10-122Corinthians 5:17-21Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 |
| **Fifth** **Sunday** **of Lent** | Ezekiel 37:12-14Romans 8:8-11John 11:1-45 | Jeremiah 31:31-34Hebrews 5:7-9John 12:20-33 | Isaiah 43:16-21Philippians 3:8-14John 8:1-11 |
| **Passion Sunday** **(Palm Sunday)** | Matthew 21:1-11Isaiah 50:4-7Philippians 2:6-11Matthew 26:14—27:66 | Mark 11:1-10Isaiah 50:4-7Philippians 2:6-11Mark 14:1—15:47  | Luke 19:28-40Isaiah 50:4-7Philippians 2:6-11Luke 22:14—23:56 |
| **Chrism Mass of Holy Week** | Isaiah 61:1-3, 6:8-9Revelation 1:5-8Luke 4:16-21 | Isaiah 61:1-3, 6:8-9Revelation 1:5-8Luke 4:16-21 | Isaiah 61:1-3, 6:8-9Revelation 1:5-8Luke 4:16-21 |
| **Holy Thursday****Lord’s Supper** | Exodus 12:1-8, 11-141Corinthians 11:23-26John 13:1-15 | Exodus 12:1-8, 11-141Corinthians 11:23-26John 13:1-15 | Exodus 12:1-8, 11-141Corinthians 11:23-26John 13:1-15 |
| **Good Friday** | Isaiah 52:13-53, 12Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9John 18:1—19:42 | Isaiah 52:13-53, 12Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9John 18:1—19:42 | Isaiah 52:13-53, 12Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9John 18:1—19:42 |
| **Easter Vigil** | Genesis 1:1-2 and 2Genesis 22:1-18Exodus 14:15—15:1Isaiah 54:5-14Isaiah 55:1-11Baruch 3:9-15, 3:32—4:4Ezekiel 36:16-28Romans 6:3-11Matthew 28:1-10 | Genesis 1:1-2 and 2Genesis 22:1-18Exodus 14:15—15:1Isaiah 54:5-14Isaiah 55:1-11Baruch 3:9-15, 3:32—4:4Ezekiel 36:16-28Romans 6:3-11Mark 16:1-8 | Genesis 1:1-2 and 2Genesis 22:1-18Exodus 14:15—15:1Isaiah 54:5-14Isaiah 55:1-11Baruch 3:9-15, 3:32—4:4Ezekiel 36:16-28Romans 6:3-11Luke 25:1-12 |
| **Easter Sunday**  | Acts 10:34, 37-43Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6-8John 20:1-9 | Acts 10:34, 37-43Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6-8John 20:1-9 | Acts 10:34, 37-43Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6-8John 20:1-9 |