

The word "Lent," is from the Anglo-Saxon word *Lencten*, meaning Spring; *Lencten faestes*, meaning Spring fast.

Why was Lent instituted?

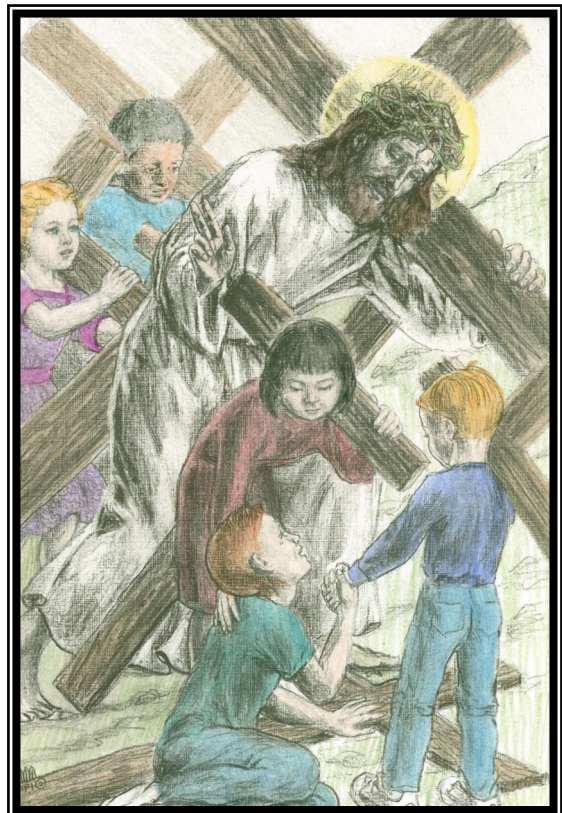
In order to honor the fast of our Lord in the desert and to help the faithful prepare for the mysteries of Christ's death and Resurrection.

How long is the Lenten fast? It lasts for 40 days, beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing through Holy Saturday.

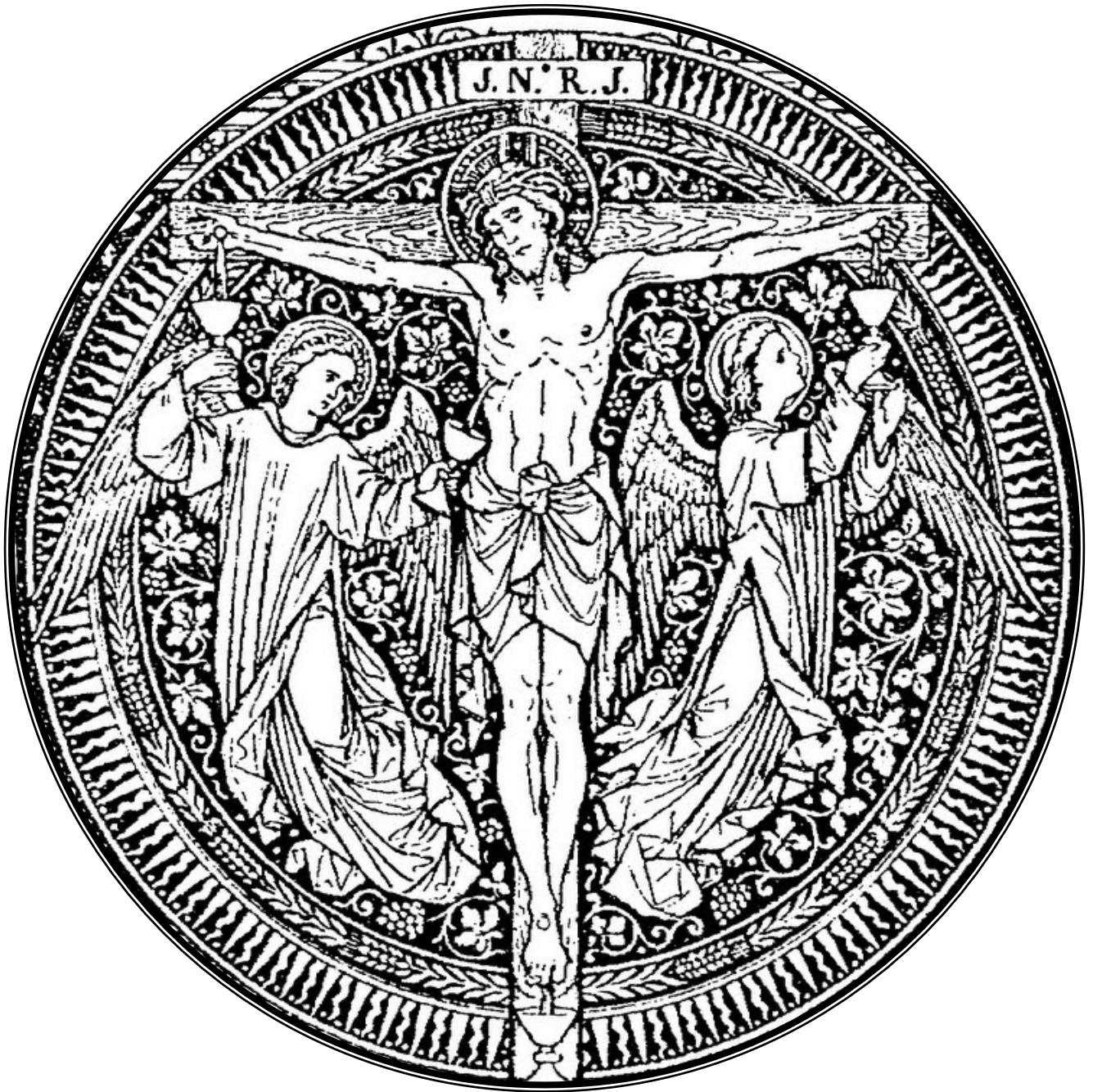
I will do more:

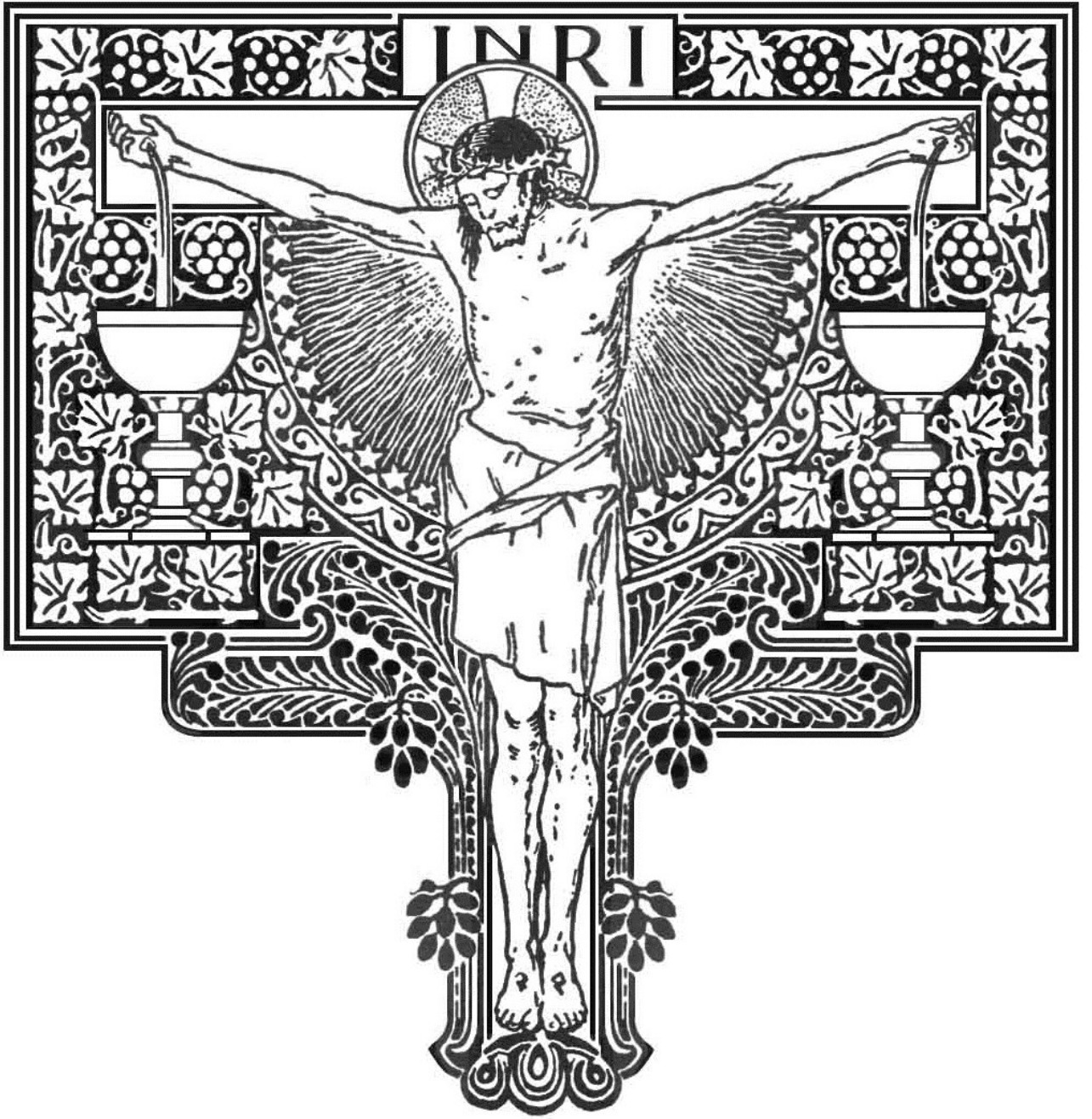
I will do less:

The History Of Lent



All for Jesus





			1 Ash Wed.	2				
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			33	34				
			35	36				
			37	38 Holy Thursday				
			39 Good Friday	40 Holy Saturday				



Maunder Thursday



Palm Sunday



Good Friday



Holy Saturday

PALM SUNDAY

Today is the first day of Holy Week. It was on this day that Our Lord entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey as the people threw palms in His path saying, "Hosanna to the King." The palms are blessed before the High Mass today. Then carried in procession around the Church before the Mass and given to the faithful at the Communion rail. Some of the blessed palms are saved for next year to be burned to make the ashes for the next Ash Wednesday. The palms symbolize triumph, and the ashes, symbolize death and penitence.

HOLY OR MAUNDY THURSDAY

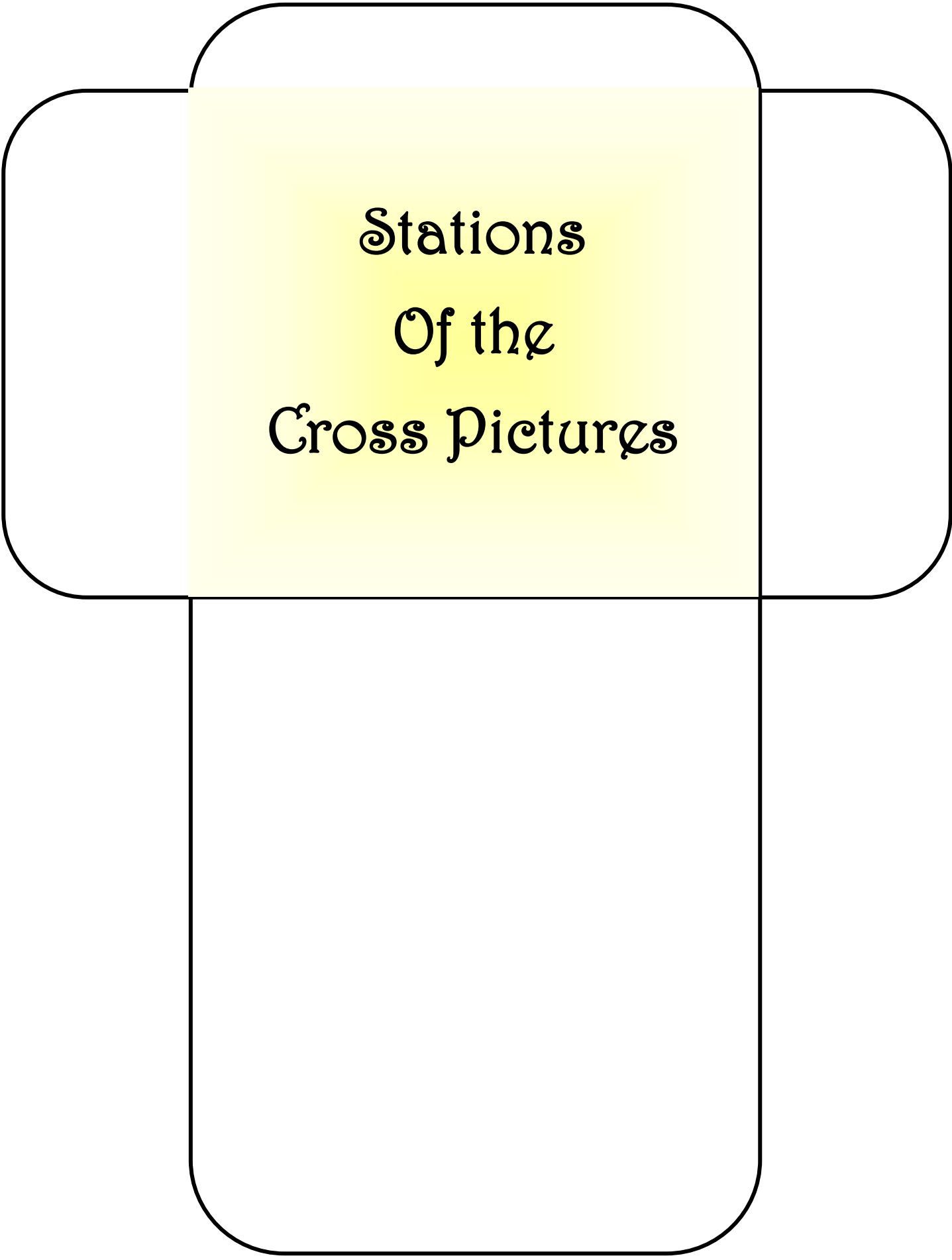
It was on this day that Our Lord gathered together His twelve Apostles for the Last Supper. It was then that He instituted the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. After the Last Supper He went to the Garden of Gethsemani and it was here that He suffered the Agony in the Garden and where Judas betrayed Him with a kiss. During Mass on this day the Bishop blesses the oils used in Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders and Extreme Unction. After the Gloria in the evening Mass the bells are rung no more until the Easter Vigil.

HOLY SATURDAY

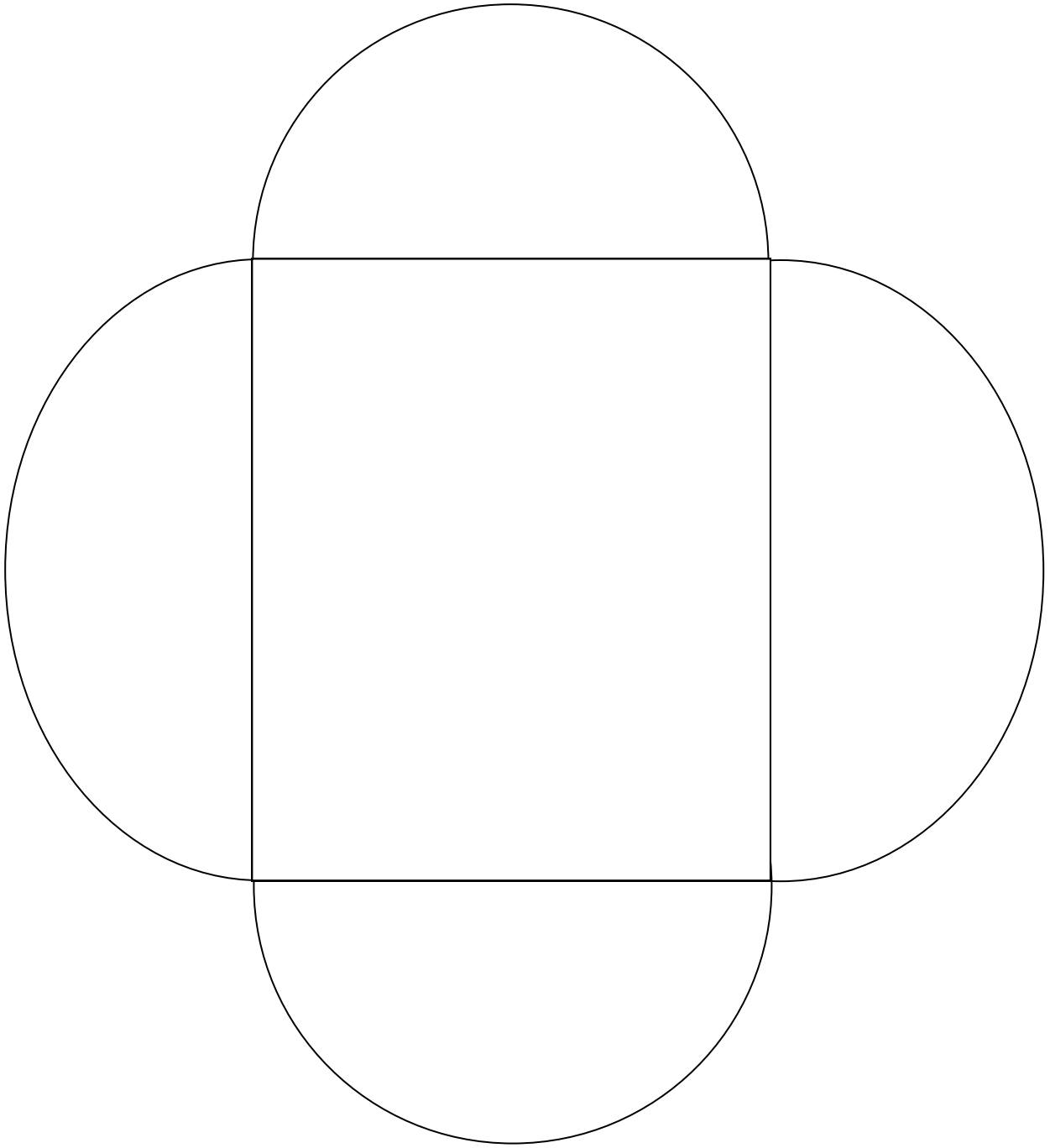
Christ is in His tomb. Rather, His Body is in the tomb, but His Soul left His Body to release the just that were in limbo and Purgatory. Because of this great silence, today there will be no Mass (until the Vigil Mass tonight, which technically is Easter); instead there is a solemn service. Very late in the evening -- there will be a true Mass, the Vigil Mass that begins Easter -- a most joyous Mass during which Catechumens are baptized into the Church and the alleluia returns. It is a very long service, but so beautiful, and when it is finished, Easter is here and the somberness that began on Good Friday is over. The Vigil Mass starts in darkness; the lights of the church are extinguished. Then comes the Blessing of the New Fire and Blessing of the Paschal Candle. This new fire is a symbol of Christ Who enlightens us.

GOOD FRIDAY

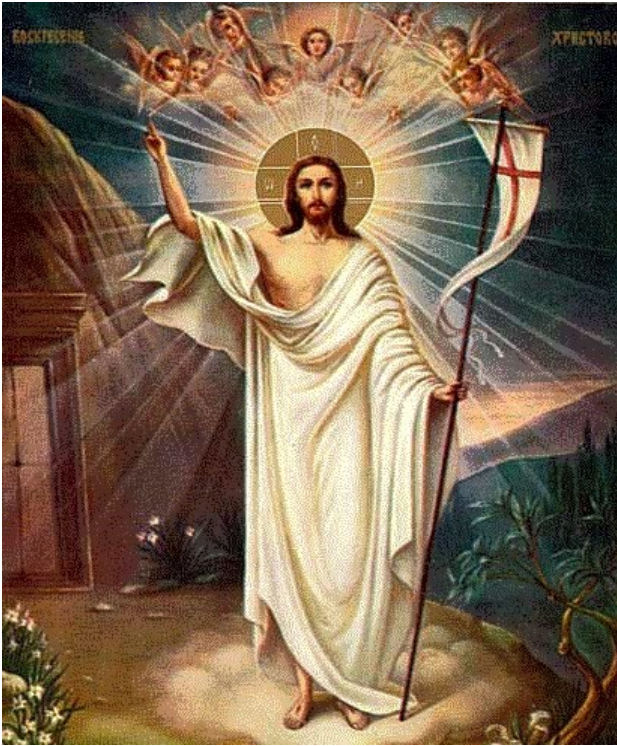
On this day Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ died on the Cross for us. It is the most somber day of the entire year. A silence pervades, socializing is kept to a minimum, things are done quietly; it is a day of mourning; it is funeral. Because Jesus was on the Cross between the hours of Noon and 3:00 PM, these three hours today are considered the most sacred of all. Draw the curtains, take the phone off the hook, turn off televisions and radios, quiet your environment and yourself, and meditate on what Christ has done for you. At 3:00, "The Hour" He died, the atmosphere should be as if you are standing next to the deathbed of your father who died a moment ago. No true Mass is offered today instead a liturgy called the "Mass of the Presanctified" is offered, which is not a true Mass because no consecration takes place.



Stations
Of the
Cross Pictures



Template for Resurrection picture



*Prayer in Commemoration of
Our Lord's Passion, to be said at
three O'clock on Fridays:*

I bless Thee, O Thou Lord of heaven!
Whose life for sinful man was given.

Let not Thy cross and bitter pain
Have been for me borne all in vain.



Passion Sunday

PASSION SUNDAY

The two weeks of Passiontide begin today, the first week being known as "Passion Week," and the second week being known as "Holy Week." Today, statues and sacred images (except for the Stations of the Cross) are veiled with purple cloth beginning at the Vespers of Passion Sunday, and they remain covered

until the Gloria of Holy Saturday, at which point Lent ends and Easter-tide begins. Catholics cover statues and icons, etc., in their homes for the same time period. This veiling of the statues and icons stems from the Gospel reading of Passion Sunday (John 8:46-59), at the end of which the Jews take up stones to cast at Jesus, Who hides Himself away. The veiling also symbolizes the

fact that Christ's Divinity was hidden at the time of His Passion and death. At the Vespers Mass on Holy Saturday, Lent ends and Easter begins: the statues are unveiled at that time in one of the most glorious liturgical moments of the entire Church year, a moment that affirms Christ's divinity and proclaims that "He is risen!"

