

What is a Vigil?

To be on a vigil is to be wakeful for a purpose. To the ancient Romans, that could be to stand guard, spy on the activities of a possible enemy, or prepare for a holy occasion.

Many congregations, following their Maundy Thursday liturgy (Agapé meal, washing of feet, and/or stripping of the altar) hold a vigil. This can occur at the church or in people's homes.

For prayer, you may read portions of the Psalms or any of the Gospels of the readings for Holy Week. Additionally, you may pray in whatever way the Holy Spirit guides you.

Gospels for Holy Week:

Mark 14:1-15:47

Mark 15:1-39, [40-47]

John 12:1-11

John 12:20-36

John 13:21-32

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

John 18:1-19:42

Matthew 27:57-66

John 19:38-42

We wish you many blessings during your time of prayer.