



## “FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JONATHAN”

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**MARCH 20, 2016**

Today we enter the holiest of weeks. It is time for silent prayer. It is time for contemplation of what Jesus was willing to do for us, in order that we might re-enter right relationship with God. Let's pray with and for one another.

On a practical note, I wanted to explain a change that we will make this year on Holy Thursday in the rite of the "washing of the feet". Pope Francis has asked that the twelve people selected to have their feet washed by the priest be representative of all of the people of God, not just men. Pope Francis explained that the change is being made throughout the world, "so that the rite might express more fully the meaning of Jesus's gesture in the Cenacle, His giving of Himself unto the end for the salvation of the world, His limitless charity".

The Pope continues: "After careful consideration, I have decided to make a change to the Roman Missal. I therefore decree that the section according to which those persons chosen for the washing of the feet must be men or boys, so that from now on the Pastors of the Church may choose the participants in the rite from among all the members of the People of God."

How blessed are we as Catholics to have a Pope who guides us with such care and love.

**Father Jonathan**