

The Chrism Mass: A Moment of Grace and Unity

Every year during Holy Week, something deeply powerful happens in cathedrals around the world: the Chrism Mass — a liturgy rich in meaning, beauty, and the quiet strength of our faith.

It's at this Mass that the Bishop blesses the oils that will be used in sacraments throughout the year: the Oil of the Sick, the Oil of Catechumens, and the Sacred Chrism. These oils will touch the lives of so many — in moments of joy, like Baptism and Confirmation, and in moments of suffering, like the Anointing of the Sick.

In a way, this Mass quietly reaches into the most sacred and vulnerable moments of our lives as Catholics.

One of the most moving parts of the Mass is when our priests from across the diocese gather to renew their promises. Watching them stand together, recommitting themselves to serve Christ and His Church, is a powerful reminder of the gift of the priesthood — and of how much our spiritual shepherds give of themselves.

The Chrism Mass is more than a ceremony. It's a sign of unity — of the Church gathered as one Body under Christ. It's a reminder that we are all part of something much larger, something holy and enduring.

If you've never been to the Chrism Mass, please do come along this year and share in this rich and truly blessed rite of the Church - it will be held at St Mary's Cathedral on Wednesday 16th April at 7pm.

It's not just a tradition — it's an experience of beauty, tradition, and deep grace.

