

Media Alert

Holy Week Celebration of Chrism Mass will be on April 20 at St. James Cathedral

Bishop Noonan will Bless the Oils – an Important Symbol of our Faith **“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me” (Luke 4:18).**

- WHO:** Bishop John Noonan, over 100 priests from the Diocese of Orlando, religious sisters, seminarians and Catholic parishioners from throughout the Diocese of Orlando
- WHAT:** Chrism Mass - for the blessing and consecration of the oils used during the Church year. The oil of the sick, an oil of healing (used in the sacrament of the anointing of the sick) and the oil of catechumens, an oil of faith building (used to anoint those preparing for baptism, both infants and adults), as well as the consecration of the Sacred Chrism (used in baptism, confirmation, and ordination) take place during this liturgy. Pastors carry these oils back to their parishes where they will be part of celebrations for the coming year, beginning with the Easter Vigil. The new oils are formally brought to the parish on Holy Thursday. The old oils are burned in the Easter fire on Holy Saturday.
- WHERE:** St. James Cathedral
215 North Orange Avenue, Orlando
- WHEN:** April 20, 2011 6:30 p.m. – 7: 30 p.m.

Additional Information:

All priests of the Diocese who are able to attend renew their commitment to priestly service during the Chrism Mass and they are united with the Bishop as they all concelebrate the Mass. The renewal of priestly commitment takes place after the homily.

Also, priests celebrating a significant anniversary of their ordination are honored in a special way during the Chrism Mass. This year, seven priests are celebrating 25 years and seven priests are celebrating 50 years of priesthood. Four of the 25 year jubilarians—Rev. Francis John Cerio, Rev. Anthony Leo Hodges, Rev. Timothy LaBo and Very Rev. Robert Webster—were all ordained by Bishop Thomas Grady at St. James Cathedral on May 31, 1986.

Two of the 50 year jubilarians—Msgr. F. Joseph Harte and Rev. John Edward McMullan—were ordained together in Ireland, and they also studied at the Mount Melleray Seminary in Cappoquin, County Waterford with 50 year jubilarian Rev. Msgr. Patrick Joseph Caverly.

This year also marks the 25th anniversary of the episcopacy of Bishop Norbert M. Dorsey, the third Bishop of Orlando.

The Chrism Mass is open to the public.

