

Day of Atonement and Healing



5:00 PM Friday, September 14	Vespers and Inauguration of Victims' and Survivors' Candle
6:00 PM Friday, September 14	A Rosary for Healing and Protection Adoration all through the night
9:00 AM Saturday, September 15	Mass of Our Lady of Sorrows Adoration throughout the day
5:00 PM Saturday, September 15	Mass in Church followed by brief prayer in the chapel

In his letter of August 20, to the whole people of God, Pope Francis called on the Catholic community worldwide to unite so that: "every one of the baptized should feel involved in the ecclesial and social change that we so greatly need. This change calls us to see things as the Lord does, to be where the Lord wants us to be, to experience a conversion of heart in his presence."

Eucharistic Adoration

You are invited to join in a communal expression of penitential prayer by committing to spending time before Jesus in the Eucharist during the twenty-four hours of the Diocesan Day of Atonement and Healing, including the night hours. A signup list is found in the back of the church.

Victims' and Survivors' Candle

Throughout the time period documented in the Grand Jury Report, the faithful have brought their burdens to the Lord in what is now our Adoration Chapel. In that sacred space they have given expression to their yearnings, their troubles, their brokenness and woundedness by lighting candles. At 5:00 PM on Friday, September 14th, we will inaugurate a permanent blue candle that will burn in our chapel to acknowledge the many acts of abuse and to express our prayers and our hopes for the healing of victims and survivors of child sexual abuse. This candle will burn before the monstrance for the twenty-four hour period beginning 5:00 PM Friday. After the 5:00 Mass on Saturday, September 15th, it will be taken to the votive candle rack in the Candle Room to burn continuously before the stained glass window of Christ saving Peter from sinking in the tempest. May this candle express our prayers for light to shatter all darkness.

At Home

Booklets are available in the back of the church for families, and for individuals or small groups. These resources invite you to prayer and fasting at home during the Day of Atonement and Healing and beyond.

Taking to heart Pope Francis' words, together we call on each other to realize that "being part of a people and a shared history will enable us to acknowledge our past sins and mistakes with a penitential openness that can allow us to be renewed from within."