

# Pastoral Message: April 10, 2022

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## **Let go into the Mystery**

Let yourself go  
You've got to open up your heart  
That's all I know

As we begin Holy Week, this week of celebrating the death and resurrection of Jesus or what we call the Paschal Mystery, these words above from Van Morrison might be the best advice. We have come to the culmination of Lent and now enter into Holy Week. These mysteries of the death and resurrection are not a reenactment, but, rather, these mysteries of our faith are made present to transform us now. As we receive the palms, hear the passion story, celebrate the Lord's supper with the feet washing, venerate the cross on Good Friday, and renew our baptism at the Easter Vigil, the best advice I can give is from Van Morrison. Let go. Let the Spirit lead us into these mysteries. They will touch us all in different ways, in a sense, to allow the mystery of God's love to wash over us and heal us. Philosopher Paul Ricoeur says symbols give rise to thought. The symbols that we celebrate will evoke different thoughts in us to bring about what is known as a metanoia which in Greek means to change the way we think, to move into a different way of seeing reality, offering us healing and a new beginning. As Van Morrison says, and I suggest this could be Jesus, "Trust what I say and do what you're told, and all your dirt will turn into gold." May we let go into the mystery and may our hearts be transformed by the love of Christ into gold.