

BASILICA OF ST. JOSAPHAT
2333 South 6th Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Tenebrae

Good Friday

7PM

The name Tenebrae (Latin for “darkness” or “shadows”) has for centuries been applied to the ancient monastic night and early morning services of the last three days of Holy Week.

Apart from the chant of the Lamentations, the most conspicuous feature of the service is the gradual extinguishing of candles and the lights in the Basilica until only a single candle remains. Toward the end of the service the final candle is removed, typifying the apparent victory of the forces of evil in the death of Christ and his decent into hell. At the very end, loud noises are made, symbolizing the Death of Christ.

Music highlights:

Gregorian chant

Christus factus est by Anerio

Miserere by Allegri

