

ST. JOSAPHAT PARISH

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UNITY EVENT - THANK YOU!

I would like to thank everyone who had a hand in making this year's Unity Event a huge success! Thank you to all of our Corporate Sponsors, Parishioner Sponsors, everyone who bought tickets, donated items for our auction and to everyone who gave generously to our Fund-A-Cause. Thank you all so much!

And a very special thank you to all of our amazing volunteers who gave so generously of their time, talent and energy to making our Zoom Unity Event so much fun: Faye Shillair, Pam Niedzwiecki, Trisha



Brooks, Jessica Grossnickle, Michael Cippola, Karen Gerstner, Brian and Michele Marsella, Magda Marzec and Christine Frech, Tina Smat and Jake Nedza. It was an incredible challenge to put on the Unity Event in a completely new format, as we had to transition our event to Zoom because of COVID. But you all did a fantastic job! I am particularly grateful to Faye Shillair for coming to me and offering to help coordinate the Unity Event. She recognized the need and the challenges early on and found volunteers who were willing to help bring this event together. Thank you, Faye, for your love for our parish and your willingness to lead the Unity Event again this year.

The Unity Event was a lot of fun! We got to enjoy some unique drinks created by a mixologist from The Whistler, a popular Logan Square Bar. He helped get the night off to a great start! We gave out our Unity Award to The Little Heroes League, which was started by parishioners Will & Kim Ulaszek to help the families of new born children with complex medical issues. To learn more about their work, I encourage you to visit their website: www.littleheroesleague.org

Brian Marsella did a fantastic job as our MC for the evening. He led us through the evening with his wonderful humor and did a great job coaxing out more bids for our live auction and got those donations pouring in for our Fund-A-Cause. They say, "behind every great

man is a great woman." That was definitely the case here. Michele Marsella was helping Brian every step of the way as she kept an eye on the bids and helped Brian MC the event. So thank you both for making the night fun and a huge financial success!



After expenses, which were quite minimal this year since we were online, our Unity Event brought in approximately \$250,000. That is an amazing amount of money! Needless to say, it far exceeded my wildest expectations! So thank you all again for your generous financial support for St. Josaphat Parish. I am constantly blown away by the love and support our parishioners have shown this parish over the years.

I hope everyone who attended the online Unity Event had as much fun as I did. Hopefully, we will be able to get together in person again for next year's event!

God Bless,

Fr. Francis

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD March 28, 2021

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-7

Responsorial Psalms 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24
**My God, my God, why have you
abandoned me?**

Second Reading Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel Mark 14:1-15:47

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

1ST: Is 50:4–7 **2ND:** Phil 2:6–11 **GOSPEL:** Mk 14:1–15:47

The Palm Sunday liturgies, like everything else this year, are different this year from what we have experienced in the past. Palm Sunday and Good Friday are the two days of the year when we, as Christians, listen carefully to the entire Passion Readings that generally describe the last hours of the life of Jesus.

This year's Palm Sunday introductory readings from the Gospels provide us with options. My own reflection was drawn to the second option from the Gospel of John, Chapter 12, verses 12–16, especially the final verse:

“His disciples did not understand this at first, but when Jesus had been glorified, they remembered that these things were written about him and that they had done this for him.”

The early Christians experienced enormous confusion and horror in the crucifixion of Christ. They also, as we know, experienced the wonder and hope of the Resurrection. One could not make sense without the other. The writers of the Gospels and other Christian scriptures recorded their confusion, wonder and hope so that these things might be preserved.

Part of the reason for preserving their experiences is because these early Christian believers made sense of their experience of Jesus Christ, his life, works, death and resurrection, through the lens of the sacred writings

they had, such as Isaiah and the prophets. They used what they had to understand what God was doing in their time and in their lives.

We, too, have experienced an enormous amount of challenge, sometimes fear, oftentimes sadness, and waves of hope during this year of pandemic. We, just like the early Christians, are invited to make sense of all these things through the mystery of the cross of Christ. It is very important, especially during challenging times, to not remain with the cross. There is an empty tomb to be discovered! The Gospels focus on the life and message of Jesus, not only his crucifixion. This is why the Passion is only proclaimed twice during the Church year.

The cross leads to resurrection. It does not have the final word. We are slowly moving beyond the crosses we have been carrying this past year. Let us, as believers, encourage one another to look for hope, resurrection and the new life that God has promised. In this way, we can remember how we got through these difficult days and hand on these memories, just like the early Christians, to those who come after us.

— Rev. Christopher Robinson, CM



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

Tuesday, March 30

7:00 pm Lenten Prayer Service ✝

7 Penitential Psalms and the Songs of the Suffering Servant, followed by Adoration and reconciliation with contemplative music and candlelight.

HOLY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 1

Morning Prayer ●

Lauds of the Liturgy of the Hours

7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper ✝

Church remains open for 30 minutes after Mass for Adoration.

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 2

Morning Prayer ●

Lauds of the Liturgy of the Hours

7:00 pm Service of the Lord's Passion ✝

Includes Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion.

HOLY SATURDAY

Saturday, April 3

Morning Prayer ●

Lauds of the Liturgy of the Hours

1:00 pm Easter Basket Blessing

Stay in pews to receive blessing.

7:00 pm Easter Vigil Mass ✝

Includes reception of new members through the sacraments.

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 4

Includes renewal of Baptismal promises at all Masses.

8:00 am Mass ✝

10:00 am Mass ✝ L

✝ Reservation required

L Also livestreamed at www.facebook.com/StJosaphatParish/live

● Pre-recorded at St. Josaphat Church, watch at stjosaphatparish.org

MARCH 28, 2021

MASS INTENTIONS

Fr. Francis is praying his daily Mass for us and these intentions this week:

- MONDAY** † Purgatorial Society
TUESDAY Parishioners of St. Josaphat
WEDNESDAY Living and Deceased Mothers and Fathers
FRIDAY Parishioners of St. Josaphat
SATURDAY RCIA Candidates
SUNDAY Parishioners of St. Josaphat

PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PRAYERS

THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYERS

Andrew Emerson, Mary Louise Koehl



We're most in need of bottled water

JOIN US IN SONG

On this final Tuesday of Lent, register for your spot in church for a prayer service at 7 pm, followed by a Holy Hour of Adoration. This week, our Music Director Joe Labozetta guides us through 7 Psalms and 4 songs which help us to ask for God's forgiveness and identify with Jesus' suffering. We hope it provides a way for you to encounter the Lord during this Holy Week.

THIS WEEK

Mon.	3/29		No School Masses — Easter break
Tues.	3/30	10:00 am	Faith Sharing: Breaking Open the Word (<i>Zoom</i>)
		7:00 pm	Lenten Prayer Service: 7 Penitential Psalms and Songs of the Suffering Servant* (<i>Church</i>)
		7:30 pm	Holy Hour of Prayer, Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation* (<i>Church</i>)
Wed.	3/31	7:00 pm	Faith Sharing: The Book of Matthew (<i>Zoom</i>)
Thurs.	4/1	7:00 pm	Holy Thursday—Mass of the Lord's Supper* (<i>Church</i>)
Fri.	4/2		Good Friday—Parish Office closed
		7:00 pm	Service of the Lord's Passion* (<i>Church</i>)
Sat.	4/3	1:00 pm	Blessing of Easter Baskets (<i>Church</i>)
		7:00 pm	Easter Vigil Mass* (<i>Church</i>)
Sun.	4/4	8:00 am	Easter Mass* (<i>Church</i>)
		10:00 am	Easter Mass* (<i>Church</i>) or Watch Live on Facebook

*Reservations required

Pre Cana is offered online by the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Baptismal Preparation is offered virtually via Zoom, arranged with Deacon Pat. Call the parish office to schedule your session.

LOOKING FOR A PARISH?

We warmly welcome new parishioners. If you are new to the neighborhood and have not yet registered, please register through our website at www.stjosaphatparish.org.

UNITY EVENT

Our virtual Unity Event last Friday was a huge success! We are grateful to all our volunteers, sponsors and participants. Check next weekend's bulletin for a full page of gratitude!

R.C.I.A.

We will welcome two new Catholics to our parish at the Easter Vigil. Courtney Shields will be baptized and Amanda Zale will be welcomed. They will both receive their first communion and Confirmation. Please keep them in your prayers!

SUNDAY OFFERING

In order to give you a better understanding of our financials, we are now publishing year-to-date (vs. weekly) Sunday Giving numbers.

FISCAL YEAR 2021 THROUGH END OF FEBRUARY 2021

Budget.....	\$434,831
Actuals.....	\$467,435
Difference.....	\$32,604

DIRECTORY

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More on our website: [Welcome > Directory](#)

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