

St. Stanislaus

Parish Family

March 28, 2021
Palm Sunday
Of The Passion Of
The Lord

PARISH STAFF

Father Nestor A. Varon, AIC, Pastor
In Residence, Msgr. John J. Siekierski
Sister Gloria Jean Kozlowski, Director
of Religious Education
Anne J. Ruiz, School Principal
Dora Castellanos, School Secretary
Heladia Rivera, Church Secretary

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday
9:00 am – 3:00 pm
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm (by appointment)
Office Closed: Wednesday,
Friday, Saturday & Sunday

TELEPHONE

Parish Office/Rectory	398-2341
Convent	397-7059
School	398-1316

MASSES

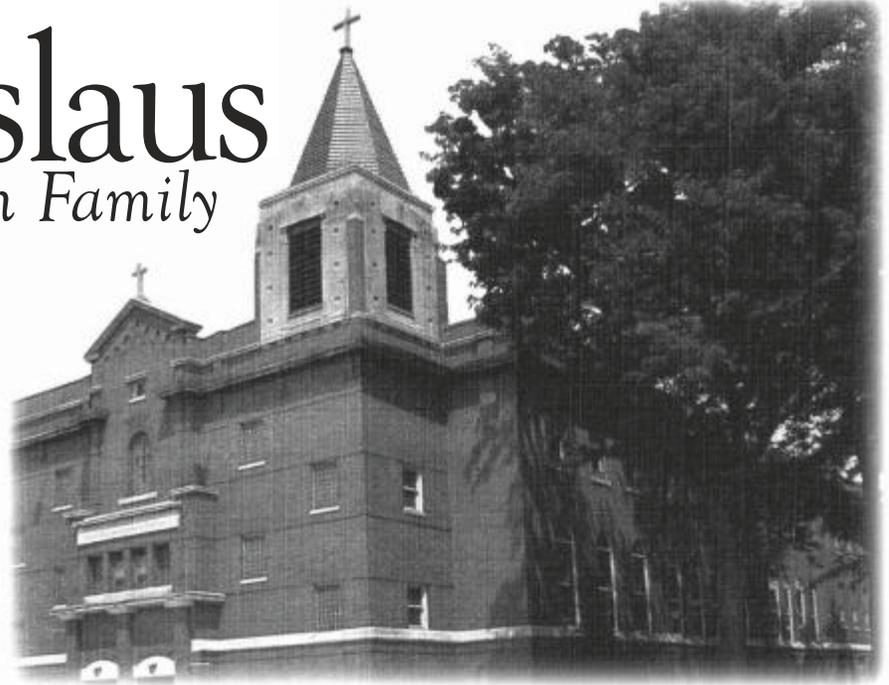
Saturday 4:30pm
Sunday 8:30am

WEEKDAY MASSES

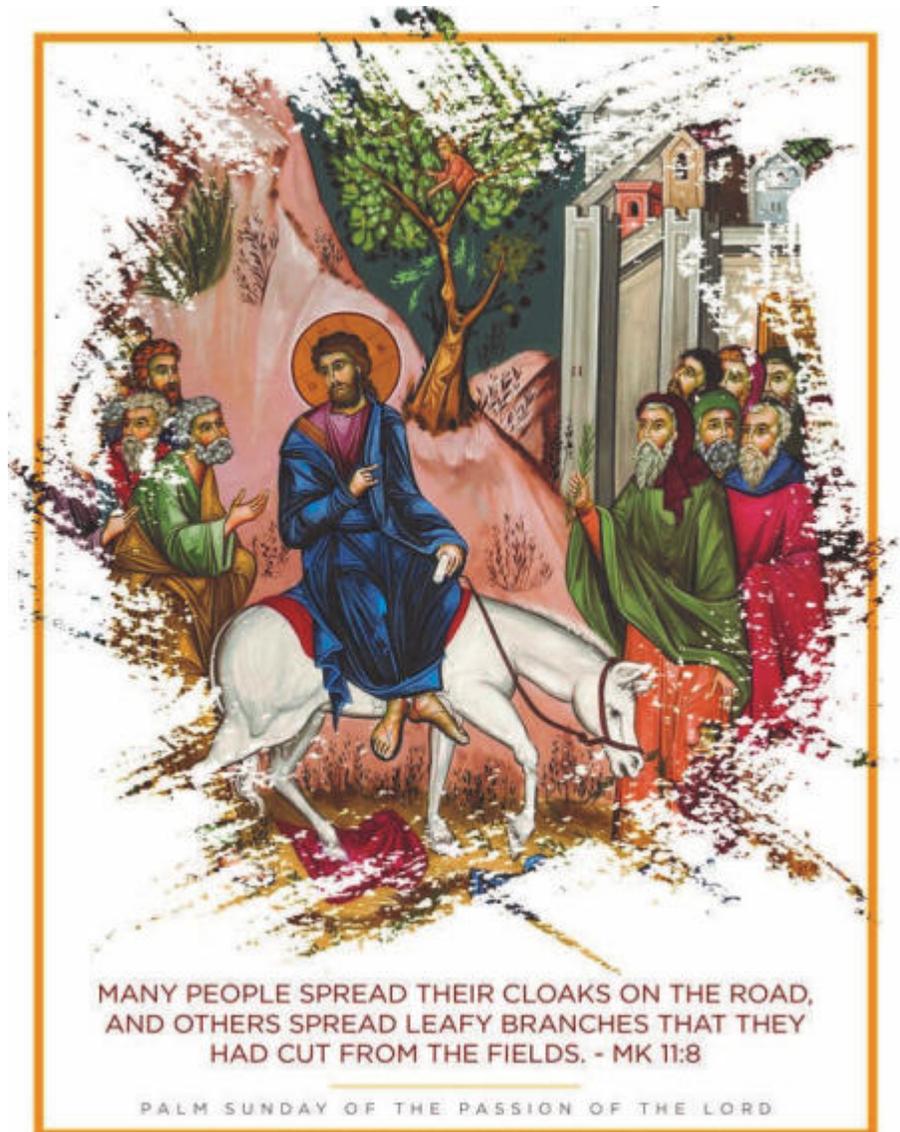
There are no weekday Masses or
Word & Communion Services at this
time.

CONFESSIONS

Confessions by appointment only.



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Liturgical Notes for the Week

Hosanna to the Son of David

Blessed is HE Who comes in the Name of the Lord

Today we gather together to herald with the whole Church the beginning of the celebration of our Lord's Paschal Mystery, that is to say, of his Passion and Resurrection. For it was to accomplish this mystery that he entered his own city of Jerusalem. In Holy Week we live into the moment of Jesus' self-gift at the Last Supper and on Calvary. In faith, we know we cannot pass on what we have not received ourselves. Before considering how we are to emulate Jesus in giving each moment of our lives for God and others, we first must be grounded in Jesus' gift of himself to us a community, and also to each of us individually. Participation in each Sunday liturgy assures us of God's providential providing each one with all we need. Our active participation in the celebration of today's liturgy and that of the Triduum's 3 part unfolding this Holy Thursday evening at 7PM, Good Friday's liturgy at 3PM, and the glorious culmination Holy Saturday at 7:30PM helps us experience the unconditional love our Triune God has for us. The enclosed Triduum insert is given to assist in our preparation for each days portion of the Liturgy by instructing us of the uniqueness of this once a year extra - ordinary event — the core of all of Christian worship. The notes on each of these Holy days upcoming will highlight information to center our thoughts in prayerful pondering this week.

Palm Sunday

No other Sunday in the liturgical year reflects such dramatic contrast as today. What begins with songs of triumph quickly shifts into remembrance of the Lord's passion. His royal entrance into the holy city of Jerusalem was also an entrance into the mystery of his suffering. Death, and Resurrection.

Today's Prayer

Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy Thursday

Tonight we celebrate the memorable meal and mandatum. The term "passion," notes scripture scholar Fr. Donald Senior O.P., comes from the Greek verb *pascho*, to "suffer," and the noun form of its Latin derivative, *passus*. Although "suffering" is the word's primary meaning, it was also used in Greek and Latin to refer to strong emotion, as the term "passion" also does in English. So the "passion" refers to the suffering inflicted on Jesus; but echoing the range of meaning in this word, the Gospels do not portray Jesus as a mere victim. Ultimately Jesus faces suffering and death on the cross because of the powerful and deliberate commitments of his life—his "passion," if you will. For Mark's Gospel,

Jesus' death is the culmination of a life of self-transcending service—in Greek, *diakonia*. On this holy night, the church does not use the Gospel passage about the institution of the Eucharist for today's Mass, but rather the passage about the washing of the feet. It is in this profound gesture of "God bending down to us" that we see and feel the total love of God for each of us, and then the "mandatum" or command that we go out and do the same — stretch and love others totally like Jesus did. And sometimes stretching out or reaching out to others is not an easy task, but an integral part of the Christian life.

Today's Prayer

When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.

Good Friday

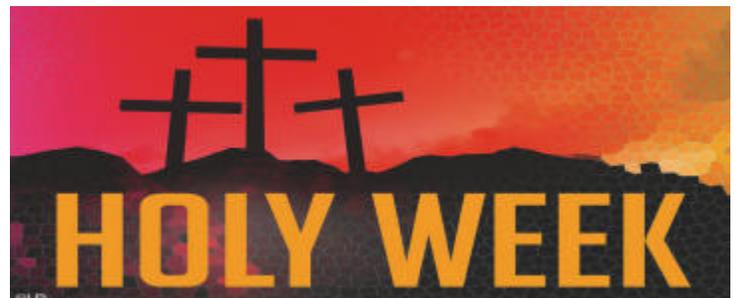
Today we celebrate Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord. We call this Friday "good" in that, while we enter into Christ's passion and death, we know that through this ultimate act of sacrifice, humanity is offered salvation and eternal life. For this one day of the year, we thoroughly immerse ourselves in the reality of Jesus' passion and death. Yet throughout the liturgy of this day, we know that death does not have the final word.

Today's Prayer

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Holy Saturday

Tonight we celebrate for This is THE NIGHT. The paschal candle (or Easter candle) that leads us out of darkness into the celebration of the Easter season. The lighting of the paschal candle may have its roots in the ancient Roman practice, called "the lighting of the lamps." By the Middle Ages, the paschal candle was lit during the blessing of the Easter fire to represent the presence of the risen Lord among us. Today the candle is decorated with the Greek letters *alpha* and the *omega* (the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet), symbolizing that Christ is the beginning and the end of all creation and marked with the numerals of the current year. Throughout the year, the Easter candle will be lit at baptisms and at funerals. The sacrament of baptism relates images of baptismal bath, baptismal burial, and baptismal birth. First, we are washed clean from everything that prevents perfect union with God, who claims us as an adopted child. Second, we are buried with Christ so we may rise with him on the last day. Third, we are birthed into the Church—the body of Christ. Tonight we who were marked at the beginning of this forty day Lenten journey of 2021 having come to THIS night, pray for all catechumens throughout the world.



Scripture Reflection

Many struggle with Jesus. Some who consider themselves faithful hail him in their churches but still struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. The message is somehow more palatable when it echoes pious renderings and sentiments and involves singing hosannas during worship. It becomes a bit trickier when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct the business of our lives, becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor, and marginalized, and living as servants of our Loving Creator. Ultimately, it is a struggle between wanting to be God ourselves and letting God be God as God is. That's why it's so easy to become hypocritical. We, like those who hailed Christ as he arrived in Jerusalem and sent Christ to the cross to die, also talk out of both sides of our mouths. We entertain what suits us at the time and walk away from the rest. Many neglect God's beautiful creation because they prefer what humans have made instead. Progress isn't seen in preserving and enhancing what God has made but replacing it with something we believe is better and more useful. The earth, flowers, and animals are all expendable if they stand in the way of the "more" we want to achieve. We seek to remove as many obstacles and hurdles as possible in search of the easiest, quickest, and most efficient path we can find. We have created drugs and laws that preserve our free choice, even though it may mean setting aside God's vision and example. Why suffer when we can easily be put to rest? Why endure insult or injury when we can retaliate, eliminate or subdue? Why accept life when it is acceptable to choose otherwise? We want to be God and resist accepting the fact that our real Creator has already given us the blueprints for the life we need to live in the Beatitudes and in the example of his Passion. We don't like being stewards and managers and really want the power to do as we wish and desire. We want to create our own way. Where has the true, effective Christian voice been through all of the wars and violence, prejudice and unjust conquests, abuse of human beings and attempted extinctions of nationalities, the establishments of procedures and protocols that serve only a few and not the many and all of the injustices and exploitations that are a part of our human history? A few courageous prophets have stood up and out throughout all of the comings and goings of our human journey with many receiving the same fate as the Crucified One we hail this week. Some still walk among us as shining stars showing us how it really can be. How would Jesus' journey have ended if he lived life as we do? Unless we encounter the good with the bad, the just with the unjust, the grace with the sin, the glory with the cross, the death with the life we most certainly risk rendering God obsolete. After all, haven't we already convinced ourselves that we can do better?



Everyday Stewardship

Holy Week is a week for being mindful. We must set loose the baggage of Lent, and not be deterred by the dazzling sunrise of Easter morning beckoning in the distance. It's okay for us to be excited for Easter. We've waited so long, after all. In my opinion it's one of the best feelings there is: the yearning we have in our hearts for the Resurrection as we embark on Palm Sunday. And in a purely logical sense, many of us have Easter celebrations for which we are preparing, and practical considerations to contend with. It's going to be a busy week, one likely full of happy distractions. But my friends, we simply must keep our feet on the ground. Let's not "skip" Holy Week. Resist the urge to flip to the last page of the book, to fast-forward to the final scene of the movie. Don't rob yourself of the journey. This week is a blessed opportunity. It is this week that teaches us who we are. In the span of the Triduum, we have the birthday of the priesthood, the institution of the Eucharist, the sacrifice on Calvary and so many other vivid and meaningful scenes. It may sound strange, to advise someone to savor the moments of Holy Week. There are so many violent and heartrending moments, after all. But this is the valley of tears, remember — we are not in Heaven yet. And here, in our fallen, sin-filled world, it is the heartrending moments that seem to matter the most. These are the moments that define us as Catholics. Live them. Cherish them. Be present for each one.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion — March 28, 2021 Entering and Dying.

This Holy Week begins with a festive entry into Jerusalem with cloaks spread around, with leafy branches waving, and with "Hosannas" crying out. But this all ends with suffering and death.

- ◆ How will I spend this day and this week emptying myself as Jesus did?
- ◆ How can I, like Jesus, be more humble?
- ◆ How will I be obedient?

Inspiration For The Week

What an ironic twist of events! Jesus is hailed with palm branches as he comes down a street one minute and faces agonizing suffering and death on a cross the next. Does any of this make any sense? They shouted, "hosanna to our King," out of one side of their mouths and, "crucify him," out of the other. At first glance it seems like such hypocrisy. Yet, when we step back there may be more truth to the story than we care to admit. We struggle with Jesus. We hail him in our churches but struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. We are fine when we hear pious renderings of his messages and preaching but wince when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct business and becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor and marginalized. We invoke God's name when we want victory and keep silence when it comes to global solidarity. We talk out of both sides of our mouths too, looking only to what works or suits us at the time and leaving the rest. There exists in each one of us a person who hails our King with hosannas and a person who is all too willing to choose Jesus over Barabbas for the cross. Something to think about this Holy Week!

MARCH 28, 2021 •

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF
THE LORD

ELPI MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 29

Tuesday, March 30

Wednesday, March 31

**Thursday, April 1 - Holy Thursday
April Fools' Day**

7:00pm †Albert, Pearl, Robert, Kenneth Breclaw
†Wesley Edwards, Joe & Margaret Moore
†Mary Genis int. Janet Moore & Family

Friday, April 2 - Good Friday
3pm Passion of the Lord

Saturday, April 3 - Holy Saturday
7:30pm †Adam Marszalek, Anniversary of Death int. Fam.
Health & God's Blessings for our Parishioners

Sunday, April 4 - Easter Sunday
8:30am †Mr. & Mrs. Chester Podkul int. Sister, Mary
†Julia Ann Lelek int. Angie Walczak
†Glenn Evans int. St. Cecelia Choir

Quote from Pope Francis

How does Jesus enter Jerusalem? He is riding on a donkey. Jesus does not enter the Holy City to receive the honors reserved to earthly kings, to the powerful, to rulers. He enters to be scourged, insulted and abused. He enters to receive a crown of thorns, a staff, a purple robe: His Kingship becomes an object of mockery. He enters to climb Calvary, carrying His burden of wood.



Why Do We Do That? Catholic Life Explained
Question: Why haven't Catholic Churches gone the way of disposable cups for wine distribution?

Answer: If a Catholic has ever attended a Protestant worship service and saw the communion service that was offered for that community, one of the things that might have stood out was the use of small, disposable cups for distributing the wine or grape juice. This is in stark contrast to the precious metal chalices used in Catholic churches during the Mass. Although practices for Protestant Christians can vary (ranging from large shared chalices, to personal-use cups, to dipping the bread in the wine/grape juice), the norms governing Catholic practices are fairly direct: "Sacred vessels are to be made from precious metal. If they are made from metal that rusts or from a metal less precious than gold, then ordinarily they should be gilded on the inside. In the Dioceses of the United States of America, sacred vessels may also be made from other solid materials that, according to the common estimation in each region, are precious ... they are to have bowls of nonabsorbent material" (nos. 328-330). Rather than being a commentary on the beliefs or practices of those other communities, these rules are intended to highlight the reverence that Catholics have for the bread and wine consecrated at Mass, which become the Body and Blood the Lord.

Question Of The Week

First Reading:

The prophet Isaiah reflects on his obedience to God's call regardless of personal suffering that he endured. Isaiah found strength in his faith and fidelity to God. How does your faith help frame your suffering?

Second Reading:

Paul speaks of Jesus' humility as central to his divine identity. What does this teach us about God's nature?

Gospel:

We hear today Mark's account of the Passion of our Lord. What parts of the passion narrative are you drawn to?



Community Events



Catholic Services Appeal 2021

These last few weeks of Lent provide us with time to turn our lives, our talents, and our very selves over to Jesus. It is a beautiful time to reflect on how we can be a partner in Christ's work. In just a few weeks, our Catholic Services Appeal will begin. CSA supports many programs that serve the physical and spiritual needs of both the local and universal Church. We encourage you to PRAY for each other, ACT kindly and care for one another, and with the guidance of Christ, LOVE others more fully. As you thank God for your blessings, please consider what you can give to the 2021 Catholic Services Appeal. All gifts are valuable, Thank you for taking the time to consider how you can be a partner in Christ's work! Call the CSA office 219-769-9292, ext. 268 for a pledge card, or donate online at www.dcgary.org/csa.

East Chicago Spring Clean-Up 2021

- District 1: April 5th thru April 9th
- District 6: April 12th thru April 16th
- District 2: April 19th thru April 23rd
- District 4: April 26th thru April 30th
- District 5: May 3rd thru May 7th
- District 3: May 10th thru May 14th

****Pick up hours will be from 7am-2pm****

- Place large items in the alley, or curbside where alleys do not exist.
- Please secure all items that may be blown away by the wind.
- All yard-waste materials should be properly bagged and placed at the curb.
- All abandoned vehicles, expired plates and parked vehicles where "No Parking" signs are placed will be towed at owner's expense.

For additional info. Please call 219-391-8463 or 219-391-8464.

PALM SUNDAY



St. Stan's Website

Our Parish has received a grant to develop a Website so we can communicate information to our parishioners and others seeking information regarding our Parish. We are looking for volunteers, any High School or College students are welcomed as well to help us with ideas and content for our website. Please contact the rectory at 219-398-2341 or Jim Zmuda at 219-743-0043. We would appreciate it very much!



Confessions will be offered here at St. Stanislaus Church on Tuesday, March 30, 2021 from 7pm-8pm.

Act of Contrition
(traditional)

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because of thy just punishments, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who art all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace to sin no more and to avoid the near occasion of sin. Amen.

A Prayer for Lenten Grace

Loving God,
During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to you. Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude, so that I may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.
Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul and remind me of the grace of simplicity.
Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and, in so doing, re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.
May this season be a grace-filled time to rekindle my love for and faith in you.
Amen.



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