

March 28th, 2021
Palm Sunday



Pastoral Office:

Phone: (414) 762-0552

Hours: M, T, W, Th: 9:00A- 3:30P
Closed on Friday

Pastor: Rev. Robert Kacalo x222
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Deacon: Stan Lowe
414-322-6891

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Director of Religious Education:
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Director of Family Life Center:
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gschlicht@saintstephenmil.org

Administrative Assistant: Nick Ward
adminasst@saintstephenmil.org

Maintenance Supervisor:
Joe Kosobucki

Mass Schedule:

Tuesday - Friday 8:00 am
Saturday 4:30 pm
Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 3:30 pm
or by appointment

Baptism

Parish membership is required.
Baptismal preparation for parents
and sponsors is held monthly. Pre
-registration is required. Contact
the Parish Office for more
information.

Marriage

Parish membership is required.
Arrangements need to be made a
minimum of six months prior to
the wedding date. Please contact
Fr. Robert.

Anointing of the Sick

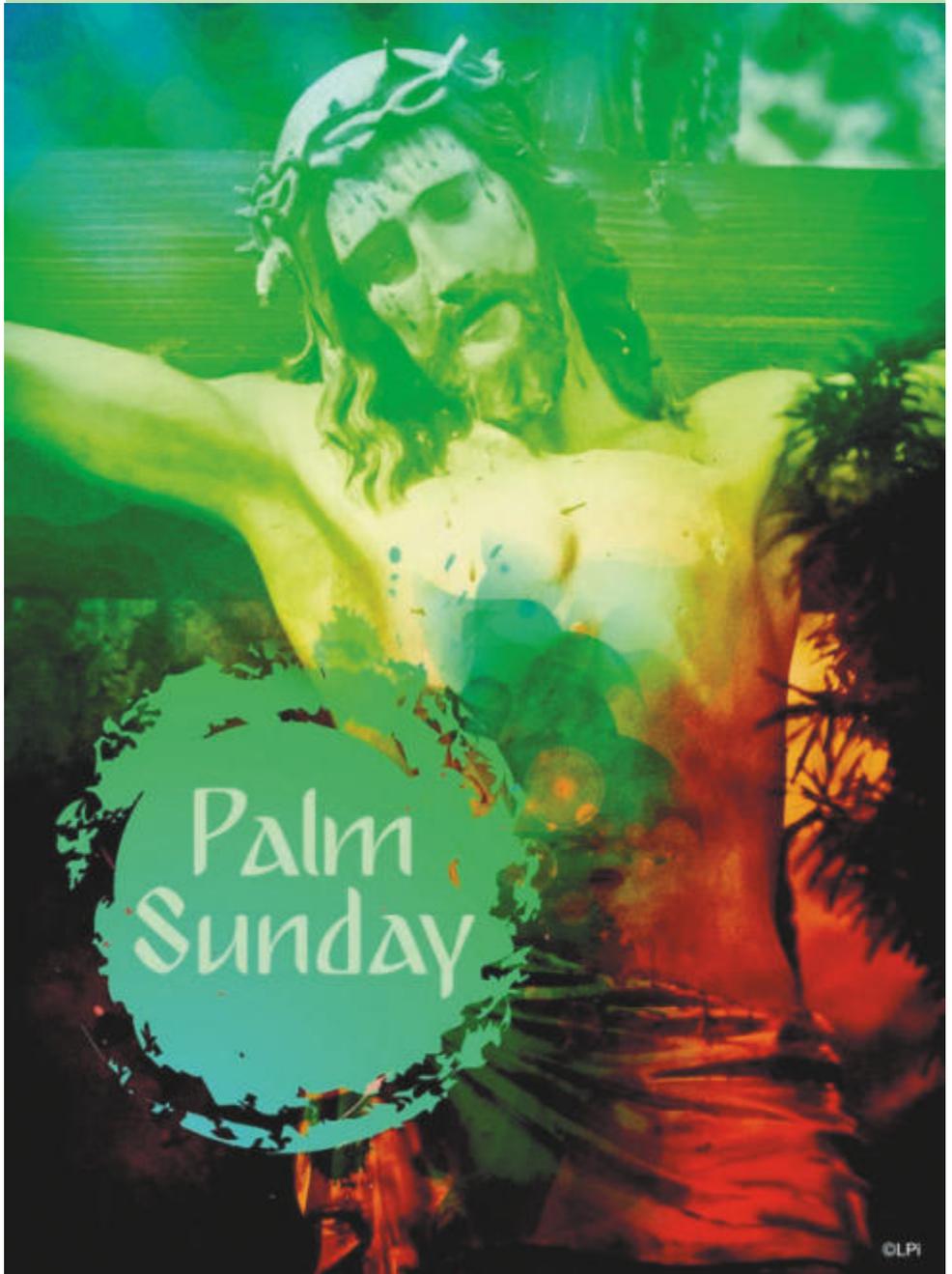
Please contact the Parish
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Come Join Us!

We would love to officially welcome you into our family.
Registration packets are available at the information center.

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

PALM SUNDAY: Jesus will be present. His spirit will be powerfully experienced. The question for you today, will you show up? Will you make these days holy, different, distinct? You will be glad you did!

"Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord..." John 12:13

HOLY THURSDAY: Mother Teresa taught, *"we don't have to do great things, but, we can do small acts with great love."* We are people called to serve others.

"He took a towel and tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet...." John 13:4-5

GOOD FRIDAY: Jesus paid the price in full. He died for the sins that we are too ashamed to admit to and confess. Let us live a life of gratitude.

"It was our infirmities that he bore, our sufferings that he endured." Isaiah 53:4

HOLY SATURDAY: Jesus was gone and so was all hope. We wait quietly and prayerfully for the life-changing celebration of the Easter Resurrection. Jesus saves us!

"We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin." Romans 6:6

EASTER SUNDAY: Do we believe in life after death? HE is Risen! Alleluia! Jesus, thank you for dying for me; I pray that I may live for you always. Amen.

"When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory." Coloss; 3:4

Message from the new Director of Religious Education!

Hello! My name is Steven Torres, and I will be running the Catholic Formation program here at St. Stephen's. I have enjoyed working and have found a great passion in helping others discover their faith. I have Bachelors of Arts degree in Psychology with a minor in Philosophy from Lewis University (IL) and will graduate in May 2021 with a Master's of Arts in Organizational Leadership with concentrations in Higher Education and Training and Development.

I have worked primarily with middle school and high school aged students with cognitive disabilities and autism in the Diocese of Dallas. In preparing them for their sacraments and discovering their Catholic faith it excites me to be taking on the role of working directly with those preparing for their sacraments, learning the faith and coordinating of various youth activities here at St. Stephen's! As St. Katherine Drexel often said "Ours is the spirit of the Eucharist, the total gift of self" it is in this mindset I go about life and hope to meet the needs of all who seek to have a deeper relationship with God and His church in providing a solid Catholic formation rooted in the Eucharist.

In the coming months, I ask that you please be patient with me as I begin to get settled into the community of St. Stephen's. In the meantime, keep any eye out in the bulletin for upcoming updates. I am very excited to have this opportunity to be here and work with all of you. As you to see me around please feel free to introduce yourself!



WHAT'S HAPPENING



The Sacred Paschal Triduum

HOLY THURSDAY of the Lord's Supper

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament until 9pm
Thursday, April 1 – 6:30 PM
(no 8am Mass)

GOOD FRIDAY Passion of the Lord Service

The Lord's Passion and The Adoration of the Holy
Cross
Friday, April 2- 1:00 PM
(no 8am Mass)

HOLY SATURDAY

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night
Saturday, April 3 - 8:00 PM
(no 4:30pm Mass)

EASTER SUNDAY -Alleluia!

The Resurrection of the Lord
Sunday Masses, April 4- 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

RESTORATION UPDATE

Out of destruction comes the first phase of the restoration to our office and meeting rooms from the winter flood damage. Drywall, insulation, and painting have begun with HVAC and electrical work to begin soon. Thanks to the staff for patience and endurance in navigating around the construction workers and the noise.



MEN OF CHRIST CONFERENCE

We experienced a wonderful expression of faith from fathers, sons, brothers, uncles, grandfathers, and godfathers at our recent gathering here at the parish. The day began with Mass dedicated to St. Joseph, Guardian of the Holy Family, he became a perfect role model for the men who attended that day. In the midst of a chaotic and sometimes dysfunctional world these men courageously stepped forward as trustees of the Church in which they celebrate their faith. Their mission is to become sacrificial leaders, protectors and providers for all of us. Now more than ever Catholic fathers need to step up. Many thanks to Tom Ludka and all of his brother Knights, who not only attended, but provided a welcoming atmosphere for all. Thanks to the Catholic Women of the parish for providing hospitality, food, and refreshments. Thanks to Lynda and her husband Dean for providing all the music. Thanks to Deacon Stan and Deacon Bob for their respective contributions to the conference. Thanks to Nick for all of his work keeping the virtual guest speakers and technical support flowing smoothly. For those who did not attend, we will see you at next year's conference where you can enroll into Catholic Fatherhood. MenofChrist.net



Readings for the week of March 28th

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]/ Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14 [1a]/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34 [14c]/ Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: *Chrim Mass*: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [2a]/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21 *Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper*: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 [cf. 1 Cor 10:16]/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 [Lk 23:46]/ Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday: *Vigil*: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 [30] or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 [5b]/ Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 [1]/ Ex 14:15—15:1/Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 [1b]/ Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [3]/ Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/ Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 [42:2] or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3] or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 [12a]/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mk 16:1-7

Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/ Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or Lk 24:13-35

THANK YOU!

Thanks to Pete & Joan Stachowiak for their generous donation for a new and larger microwave for our parish kitchen.



Monday, March 29th

Nothing scheduled at this time

Tuesday, March 30th

9:00am Food Pantry

Wednesday, March 31st

Nothing scheduled at this time

Thursday, April 1st

9:00am Food Pantry

6:30pm Holy Thursday

Friday, April 2nd

1:00pm Good Friday Service

4:00-7:00pm Fish Fry Drive Thru

Saturday, April 3rd

8:00pm Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 4th

Nothing scheduled at this time

**March 28th
Palm Sunday**

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?

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, March 30th

8:00am † Poor souls in purgatory

Wednesday, March 31st

8:00am † Carolyn Lesch

Thursday, April 1st

8:00am † Personal intention Tom & Anne
Hereng

Friday, April 2nd

1:00pm † Poor souls in purgatory

Saturday, April 3rd

8:00pm † For the people

Sunday, April 4th

8:30 am † Ralph & Michael Siettmann

10:30am † Bob Widenski

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