CHURCH OF ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

March 28, 2021

Rev. Ariel Valencia /Pastor - avalencia@rockforddiocese.org
In Residence: Rev. Msgr. Thomas Dzielak
Deacon Greg Urban- deacongreg@stmarymaplepark.org

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Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 AM-2 PM
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vvelarde@stmarymaplepark.org
Loretta Lynch/ Respect Life Coordinator
respectlife@stmarymaplepark.org.
Diocesan Sexual Abuse Hotline 1-815-293-7540

Related Helpful Websites:
www.vatican.va
www.rockforddiocese.org
www.usccb.org

Schedule of Masses
Weekends: Saturday 4:00 PM;
Sunday 8:00 AM

Daily Mass/Communion Service/Special Occasions - Check Bulletin

Reconciliation
Wednesday 11:00am to 12:00pm
Thursday 7:00pm to 8:00pm
Saturday 11:30am to 1:00pm
or anytime by appointment.

Baptism
Call Fr. Ariel at 1-815-827-3205.

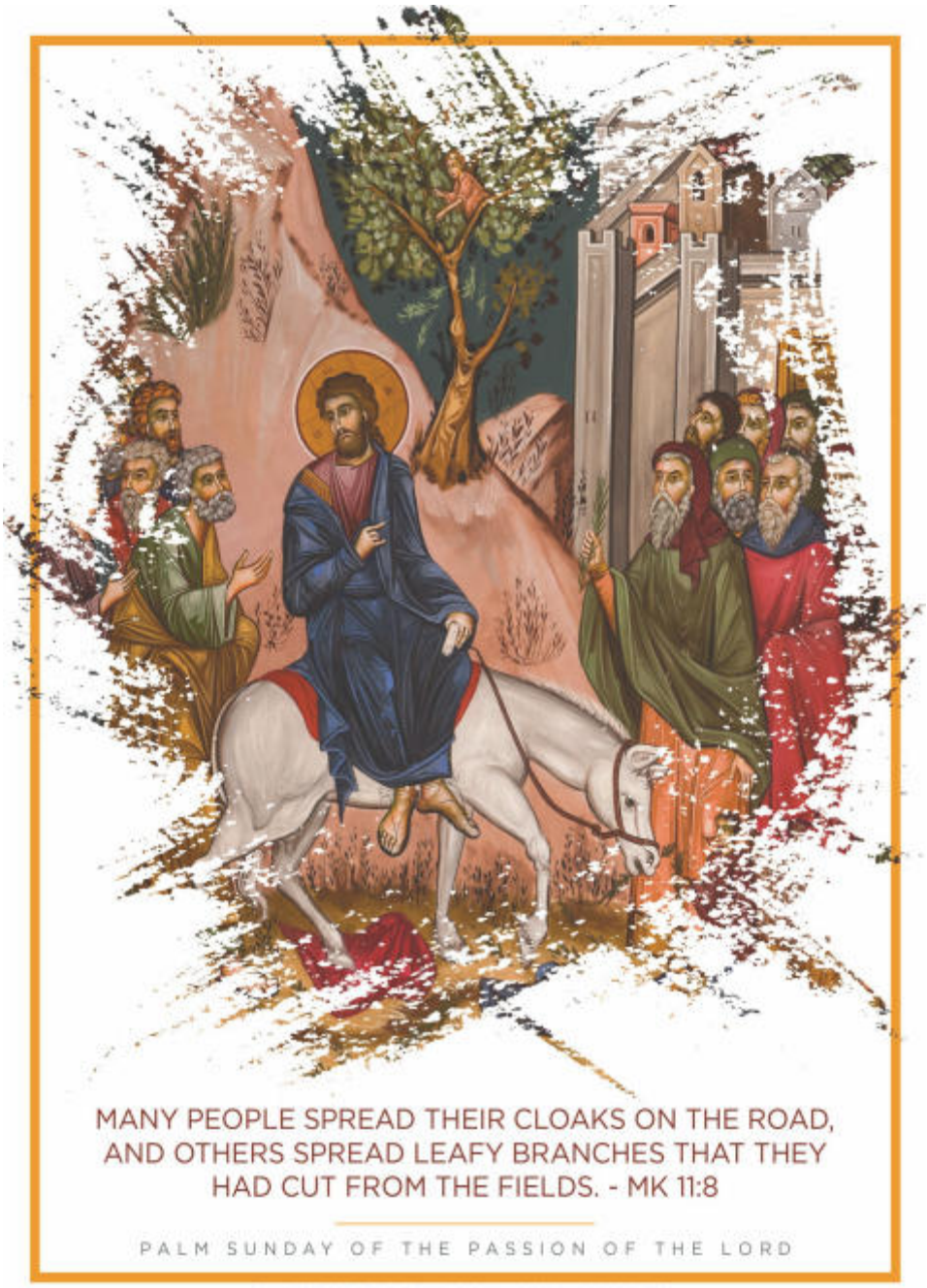
Marriage
Call Fr. Ariel at 1-815-827-3205 before you set a date & at least six months before the wedding to allow for preparation.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick
Call Fr. Ariel Valencia at 815-505-7471 to request a visit or in case of emergency.

Religious Education (Sept. - May)
Classes: Sunday 9:15-10:30 AM

Respect Life Helpline
If you are pregnant or think you may be and need help please call 1-815-748-4242.

St. Vincent de Paul
If you require assistance please call St. Gall Church at 630-365-6030.



EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 27
4:00 PM †John Bigger by John & Debbi Palazzo
Sunday, March 28 ~ Palm Sunday
8:00 AM †Anna Dzielak by Msgr. Thomas Dzielak
Monday, March 29
8:00 AM †Debra Cotto by Nancy Sherman
Tuesday, March 30
8:00 AM †Mary Zanini by Ann Marie Babich
Wednesday, March 31
8:00 AM †Richard Hart by Marie Kittoe & Family
Thursday, April 1 ~ Holy Thursday
7:00 PM †James Fidler by the Brian Stover Family
Friday, April 2 ~ Good Friday
3:00 PM The Passion of the Lord
Saturday, April 3 ~ Holy Saturday
7:30 PM Members of St. Mary of the Assumption & Saints Peter & Paul Parishes
Sunday, April 4 ~ Easter Sunday
8:00 AM †Ilene Sanders by Darlene Berkes & Andy Berkes

Already scheduled weekday Mass intentions will be celebrated as requested by Msgr. Dzielak.

Ministries for the weekend of April 3/4

7:30pm
Lectors: Carol Recker & Ren Stewart
Co-Leader: Katie Stover
Greeter: Joshua Stover

8:00am
Lector: Carol Foley
Co-Leader: Loretta Lynch
Greeter: Kara Butts

10:00am
Lector: Joe Winkle
Greeter: Julie Steadman

Respect Life Corner - "There is an everyday heroism, made up of gestures of sharing, big or small, which build up an authentic culture of life… Part of this daily heroism is also the silent but effective and eloquent witness of all those 'brave mothers who devote themselves to their own family without reserve, who suffer in giving birth to their children and who are ready to make any effort, to face any sacrifice, in order to pass on to them the best of themselves'… We thank you, heroic mothers, for your invincible love! We thank you for your intrepid trust in God and in his love. We thank you for the sacrifice of your life" (*The Gospel of Life* 86).

May all mothers facing difficult pregnancies be lovingly accompanied as they prepare to encounter Christ anew through the gift of their children.

The Lion's Roar

The proclamation of the Passion of Jesus Christ on Palm Sunday is one of two times, the other being the Good Friday service, when we have more than one reader and the people get to a part. Someone pointed out that the lines "Crucify him! Crucify him!" can really get people involved. Whether that is your experience or not, I don't know. The communal reading of the Passion Narrative provides all of us a greater involvement in the Paschal Mystery.

If the images of the Passion help us join our own moments of betrayal, loss and loneliness for the sake of love to the experience of Jesus, then we are renewing our baptismal commitment to die with him in order to rise with him. If we share his struggle to bring justice and peace, then our sufferings are redemptive for others.

Palm/Passion Sunday draws us to this week we call "Holy." We need to be invested, even through our liturgies, to walk with Jesus: as he enters Jerusalem, to the table of the Last Supper, to the garden of his agony, to the scourging at the pillar and to the cross. We are witnesses and full participants because this is our story. This is how we will get to Easter.

Please remember St. Mary's with a gift in your will or estate plan.

Pray For Our Deceased Priests… especially, Msgr. Andrew Girard, Msgr. Leo Keenan, Msgr. Michael Binsfeld, Rev. Daniel McCaffrey, Rev. Arthur Kreckel, Rev. Harold Heineman, Rev. Thomas Considine, Rev. Herman Porter, and Deacon Robert Wade Jr., whose death anniversaries we celebrate this week. Grant them eternal rest, O, Lord.

Church Cleaning - April 10: Kim Perales & Christine Tarnoki; April 24: Lynn Klein & Kate Nelson. *If you are unable to clean on your assigned weekend, please arrange to switch with someone.* Thanks to *all* who clean our church. **Call Anne Carson (815-827-3302), Rita Campbell (815-827-3320), or Katie Stover(815-827-3105), before you want to clean so that the church will be open for you.**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 28, 2021

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: ***Chrism 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

PRAY FOR ALL THE SICK, ESPECIALLY...

Msgr. Joseph Linster

Lori Baert
Maureen Brady
Fran Brennan
Mary Bullard
Jim Diehl
Edith Desponett
Gloria Gomez
Julie Jones
Mark Mercer
Maria Minniti
Becky Nelson
Pat Probst
Jim Turk
Betty Weaver
& all the sick…..

If you know of anyone who is in the hospital or sick or homebound and who would like a visit from a priest please call the Parish Office at 815-827-3205 or in case of an emergency you may call Fr. Ariel at 815-505-7471.

Our Men and Women in the Service

LORD, hold these members of our military in your loving hands. Protect them, especially, **SECOND LIEUTENANT ROBERT BOWERS, H.M.2 ERIK BRENGMAN, TIMOTHY DIEHL OS1, US COAST GUARD, SSGT. STUART KADLEC, MARINE SSGT. DANIEL MARCHESE, AND MSGT. KYLE ROGOWSKI**, as they protect us. Amen. If you have a name you would like to add to our prayer list, call the parish office at 815-827-3205 or email us at parishoffice@StMaryMaplePark.org.

ARE YOU A VOLUNTEER OR EMPLOYEE OF THE DIOCESE?
The Diocese of Rockford Safe Environment required paperwork and trainings are now accessed online! All employees and Volunteers now have an account. How to access your account: You will receive and email, from Virtus, informing you of your User ID and instructions on how to access your account. This will include a direct link to the website. If you are unsure of your password you can click Need Login Information and it will allow you set your password to whatever you would like! If you do not have an email, each diocesan location has a Virtus Site Administrator who will be able to provide you with your User ID so you can also enter your User ID and click Need Login Information to choose a password you would prefer. What do you have to do right now? Please access your account, by logging into Virtus, and update your contact information. Our Virtus Site Administrators have been working diligently for the last few months manually entering all the dates of everything you have already completed so you are not being asked to resign or retake any trainings previously completed. If you are missing any documents or trainings the system will make that visible when you log in and ask you to complete or acknowledge those requirements.

Maple Park Fire Department Drive-Thru Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, March 28th from 7 AM to 11 AM. Each meal includes 4 pancakes, 5 sausages, applesauce, syrup and butter. Donations taken at the door. Come and support the men and women of the Maple Park Fire Department!

HOLY WEEK

APRIL 1ST - HOLY THURSDAY
7:00 PM - Evening Mass of the Lord's Passion
Transfer of the Holy Eucharist/(Adoration until midnight)

APRIL 2 - GOOD FRIDAY
3:00 PM - Good Friday of the Lord's Passion

APRIL 3RD - HOLY SATURDAY (EASTER VIGIL)
7:30 PM - Easter Vigil Mass

APRIL 4TH - EASTER SUNDAY
8:00 AM & 10 AM - Easter Mass

YOU HAVE MADE US FOR YOURSELF, O GOD, AND OUR HEARTS ARE RESTLESS UNTIL THEY REST IN YOU.
[ST. AUGUSTINE, THE CONFESSIONS]

This Sunday begins Holy Week, the most sacred time of the Church year. It's true that Christmas is far more celebrated in our culture, especially by those for whom the Christmas season has become "Happy Holidays." But without the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, Christmas would have no special meaning for Christians. As St. Paul says

> ***If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.... If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all men most to be pitied.*** [1 Corinthians 15:17,19]

The observance of Holy Week is very important. It puts us in touch with the events leading to the victory of Christ over sin and death, which means you and I now are able to end up in happiness with God forever. It helps us appreciate more how valuable we are to God, for it moves us through Christ's great actions of God's love for those who need salvation (*everyone*, of course). It helps us grow more in love with the One who suffered the penalty of death in order to conquer our sins and bring us forgiveness.

I encourage everyone who reads this to make an honest effort to celebrate the liturgies of Holy Week: in person if possible, but at least virtually if necessary. One of the blessings of the Internet Age is that we can connect with events which we are unable to attend. Whether it's a local live stream, liturgies on television or mobile instruments, we are able to celebrate our faith.

May you have a happy and holy observance of this sacred time.

Msgr. Tom Dzielak

The Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary will host an online program Exploring the Symbols of Holy Week (Holy Triduum) on Thursday, March 31st from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Presenters Sr. Linda Hatton, sscm and Judy Bumbul will explain the symbols contained in the liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil will be explored in presented reflections and prayerful rituals. Short opportunities for personal reflection will be included. This program is open to all who wish to enter more deeply into the beautiful liturgy of the Tridium and will be presented via the ZOOM meeting platform. To register, please visit our website: www.sscm-usa.org/online-programming.html.

COVID-19 Reporting: When you have received a COVID-19 diagnosis, we encourage you to call the parish office and talk with Fr. Ariel. **Your privacy will be respected**. Reporting a positive diagnosis will protect fellow parishioners who may have attended the same Mass.

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