

NEWS

from St. Anne Parish

COMPARISONS

A new pastor anticipates Triduum in a new parish

The worst thing a new pastor can do is make comparisons: "Well, in my old parish we did it this way!" There probably are worse things, but such appraisals are annoying. I hope I haven't violated the rule too often.

To be honest, there's a fine line between a parish's way of doing things and a pastor's. That distinction became quite clear to me when I became pastor of a second parish in Stevens Point, and especially as the first Triduum approached. I'd propose doing something a certain way and someone from St. Stan's would claim I was promoting "the Newman way." Actually, I replied, I was proposing "the Fr. Tom way." Pastors develop certain approaches, ways to emphasize what we regard as significant, clever (or not so clever) tricks of the trade. The real trick is balancing *our* way with that of the parish.

That's what I'm trying to do as Triduum approaches. It's a season, albeit of only three days, that I regard above all others, and in which I invest more energy in anticipation and preparation than Advent, Christmas and Lent combined. As we celebrate these days, there will be a few new "Fr. Tom ways," but there's one aspect of Triduum I can't really do any-



Fr. Tom's Note

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TRIDUUM

HONESTLY EXCESSIVE AND UNREASONABLE - AND WORTH IT!

If you've never participated in the liturgies of Triduum, you may conclude, rather understandably, that coming to church three days in a row is a tad excessive, maybe unreasonable, and certainly not a possibility for you.

If you've already experienced Triduum, you know there's nothing excessive or unreasonable about it, other than the excessive wonder of the rituals associated with these Great Three Days; other than the unreasonable, curious possibility of people washing feet, of people celebrating and venerating the horror of the cross, of somehow uncovering life where we were sure there was death.

There's also the cultural reality that the rest of the world doesn't care, and isn't going to make allowances for our eccentricities. Our employer doesn't regard Good Friday as a holiday. Our bridge club or bowling team always plays on Thursday night. And, let's face it, 8:30 p.m. is just too late to come to church. Figuring out all of that, convincing

others and ourselves, requires some conviction. But, it's worth it!

Let's be honest, up front —

TRIDUUM - The Great Three Days



Holy Thursday - April 18

Lent ends and Triduum begins with this liturgy commemorating the Lord's Supper and the initiation of his passion. Rice Bowls will be collected.

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7P



Good Friday - April 19

The cross is the focal point as John's passion is proclaimed and we venerate the symbol of our salvation.

Celebration of the Lord's Passion - 12:15P



Easter Vigil - April 20

Fire, ancient stories, flowing water, new believers, Christ's Body and Blood, Alleluia! The ultimate liturgy of the Church year!

The Holy Night of Easter - 8:30P

Easter Sunday - Mass at 8:30A & 10:30A. No 6P Mass.

Triduum is excessive, it is unreasonable, it may seem unlikely if not impossible, which is precisely why it is so essential.

Triduum gives us an excuse to break from normal routines, to readjust usual priorities, to come to church three days in a row and discover something unreasonable, excessive — and possible! And worth it!

OVERVIEW

ANTICIPATING HOLY WEEK AND TRIDUUM WITH A DAY-BY-DAY REVIEW

PALM SUNDAY

The first procession

One way to think of Holy Week and Triduum is as a series of processions. We are a people in motion: from table to cross to grave to the world. Palm Sunday brings the first of those processions. It's not



intended for just the ministers or a few people, but for everyone who is able to gather and join in that movement.

"A gathering takes place at a suitable location other than inside the church where the procession will go," states the *Roman Missal*. In other words, the encouragement is to assemble somewhere else for the blessing of palms and proclamation of the Palm Sunday gospel.

For the 4 p.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses, we'll gather in McKillip Hall. Instead of going to a pew, come there to get your palm and join in the anticipation and excitement. Inspired by the "Hosannas!" of the people in Jerusalem long ago, we'll then join in song as we process into church.

Palms also will be distributed to those who

cannot join us for the procession.

HOLY THURSDAY

Washing lots of feet

What happens on Holy Thursday is remarkably different than probably anything else that happens in our liturgy. Jesus washes feet and says "what I have done so you must do." How we respond to that — in ritual and real life — shouldn't be perfunctory or play-acting. It should be prayerful, expansive and inclusive; more about participating than watching.

As is the parish's custom, everyone will be invited to have their feet washed. Several stations will be located throughout the church. It probably will work best to remove shoes and socks at



our pews. Through all of this we pray that the grace of the ritual will guide us all to greater, more generous and expansive service — doing what Jesus did.

Going off to pray

Another Triduum proces-

sion is inspired by practicality and the gospel account of Jesus leaving the Last Supper to pray in the Garden of Olives.

We conclude on Holy Thursday by taking the Body of Christ, which is reserved for distribution on Good Friday, to a separate location. Ideally, this is a place apart from the church where Mass has been celebrated, and so we will process to McKillip Hall, where people are invited to pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament until 10 p.m. Ultimately, we all go forth to keep the paschal fast and to pray.

GOOD FRIDAY

A word on venerating the cross

Processions are, by their very nature, somewhat disorganized. That certainly could be true of our procession to venerate the cross. Instead of neat, orderly lines, think of that day in Jerusalem, the chaos, the pushing and shoving of the raucous crowd.

We approach a large cross at multiple points, many of us touching it, kissing it, holding it — all at once, for as long as we need, respectfully, attentive to those around us.

EASTER VIGIL

Blazing fire, flowing water

We gather around a fire on the west side of church for — guess what? — an-

other procession. But this one is different. The Easter candle is lit, but that initial flame is flickering.



Will it blow out? Where might it lead us? What will this night bring?

We trust it will bring forth new Christians: Eleanor, Lauren, Kenna-Cate, Rowan and Brady, who will be washed in the new, warm waters of Easter. We hope that their new life will encourage us and renew us.

We start later than we might desire because it needs to be dark. How else to see the light shattering the darkness? This is not a night for convenience.

When our worship concludes, we'll continue celebrating Easter with a reception in McKillip Hall.

Mass on Easter morning

The morning Mass schedule is slightly different from past Easters, but exactly the same as other Sunday mornings, with Mass at 8:30 and 10:30. There will not be an evening Mass on Easter Sunday.

— Fr. Tom

All the excitement & fun starts at
4:00pm Friday, 11:30am Saturday & Sunday



ST. ANNE FEST

JUNE 14, 15, 16 2019

WE'RE ALL NEEDED!

St. Anne's parishioners make St. Anne Fest a success. To volunteer, go to www.StAnnesWausau.org/fest to sign-up for two- to four-hour shifts.

- ⇒ Set-up: Dance floor, signs, etc.
- ⇒ Hamburger stand: Grilling, plating food, filling orders, cashier
- ⇒ Beer tent: bartending (if 18 years or older)
- ⇒ Family Fun Tent: running kids' games, selling raffle tickets
- ⇒ Sweet Shoppe: selling ice cream and baked goods
- ⇒ Summer Stroll: selling raffle tickets
- ⇒ Chicken dinner: selling tickets, serving food, clearing tables
- ⇒ Bingo: selling cards, calling numbers
- ⇒ Cake Walk: calling cake walk
- ⇒ Tear down: take down signs, fences, clean-up

IT'S TIME TO SELL RAFFLE TICKETS!

After Easter, they will be available in the west entrance of church. We hope each family will sell \$100 in tickets.

NEW: Battle of the Bands

We're looking for four bands for a Saturday afternoon fundraiser. People will vote for their favorite band and the winner will receive half the money that's raised. Send emails to fest@stanneausau.org to learn more.

Rick Walters
Softball Tournament all week-end.

Donations needed!

- ◆ Summer Stroll Raffle
- ◆ Kids' Basket Raffle
- ◆ Kids' Games (small prizes)
- ◆ Cake Walk baked goods
- ◆ Baked Goods for Chicken Dinner

- Watch bulletin for details - No craft sales this year



MASS UNDER THE TENT!

Fr. Tom will preside at his first St. Anne Fest Mass with polka music under the big tent at 10:30 a.m. Sunday.



Keep track of Fest news by "liking" St. Anne Parish on Facebook.

It's time to start thinking about Fest 2019!



ANTICIPATING INITIATION

Easter Vigil opens a season of sacraments

The highpoint of the Easter Vigil on April 20 will be the initiation of five new believers. Eleanor Hodek and Brady, Kenna-Cate and Rowan McFadden will be initiated through the sacraments of baptism, confirmation and Eucharist. Lauren Hodek will be baptized.

In addition, Scott Waggoner and Sammy Chojnowski, already baptized, will be brought into Full Communion through confirmation and Eucharist.

Beyond that, we'll celebrate First Communion May 4/5 and Confirmation May 18.

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thing about and that's who's there to celebrate. So, here I go: Well, in my old parish our church was full for all the Triduum liturgies. Last year, actually, we had more people — 450 — at the Vigil than the 8 o'clock Mass on Easter morning.

I've heard a few scattered reports of Triduum participation here, but I'd rather focus on this year and extend invitations, offer encouragement, obsess over preparations, and trust that, regardless of who and how many, the intense and powerful words, rituals and music of Triduum will guide those who do participate to a new awareness of the Paschal Mystery and deepen our immersion in the life, death and resurrection of Christ. **TL**

ST. ANNE PARISH

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PALM SUNDAY - This Weekend

We enter into Holy Week with the Procession of Palms and Luke's Passion at 4 p.m. Saturday, 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. At the 4 p.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses we will gather and begin in McKillip Hall.

THANKS FOR ANOTHER GREAT SEASON



**THANKS TO ALL OF OUR GREAT FISH FRY LEADERS, VOLUNTEERS AND CUSTOMERS!
AND DON'T FORGET — THERE'S ONE MORE FISH FRY ON APRIL 12!**