



MANY PEOPLE SPREAD THEIR CLOAKS ON THE ROAD,
AND OTHERS SPREAD LEAFY BRANCHES THAT THEY
HAD CUT FROM THE FIELDS. - MK 11:8

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

 **Mass Intentions for the Week**

SATURDAY, March 27

- 4:00PM † Ann M. Plath by The Family
- † Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Scaringe by By Son's
- † Patrick McHenry by The Family
- † Patricia Sim by Arthur Fealey
- † Fr. Lloyd Rebeyro by Robert M. John

SUNDAY, March 28

- 8:00AM † Fr. James Lefebvre
- 10:30AM † David Wolff by Jadwiga Putkotycki
- † Lore Juergens by Joan McMahon
- † Luis Fuchs Sandoval by Vasquez/ Ruffino Family
- † Giuseppe Ruffino by His Grandkids
- † Anthony & Joyce Bonacquisto by Joe Bonacquisto

12:30PM (Latin) † The Williams Family by Eleanor Williams

MONDAY, March 29

- 7:00AM † Jack Maloy by By The Family
- † John & Leanora Coonan by The Family

TUESDAY, March 30

- 7:00AM (Latin) † Genevieve M. Kehoe by The Family

WEDNESDAY, March 31

- 7:00AM † Fr. James Lefebvre

HOLY THURSDAY, April 1

- 5:00PM(Latin) † Anthony & Joyce Bonacquisto by Joe Bonacquisto

GOOD FRIDAY, April 2

- 3:00PM Solemn Celebration

HOLY SATURDAY, April 3

- 8:00PM † Catherine Mc Gill by Barbara O'Grady
- † Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Scaringe by By Son's
- † Marsha Bonanni by Arthur Fealey

EASTER SUNDAY, April 4

- 8:00AM † Susan Oswald by The Emminger Family
- † John & Leanora Coonan by The Family
- † Anthony & Joyce Bonacquisto by Joe Bonacquisto
- 10:30AM † Mary Flahive by Jack & Karen Graber
- † Rocco Russo Jr. by By The Rappoccio Family
- † Kim Sgroi by By The Family
- † Kathleen Doherty by Robert & Theresa Long
- † Raeann Dinardi Mc Elveen by The Dinardi Family

BE A PRAYER PARTNER TO POPE FRANCIS

For those who have made the commitment to pray every day for the monthly intentions of Our Holy Father, Pope Francis: - for March he asks that we pray for: **Sacrament of Reconciliation** Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.



United to our practices of prayer & fasting, almsgiving Rice Bowls complete our Lenten journey and are available in the back of church. Return Rice Bowls on Holy Thursday

GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL

Every year our parish takes up the "Good Friday" Collection. This Collection supports the various shrines in the Holy City of Jerusalem and throughout the Holy Land. The lack of religious services last year was devastating to the Holy Land Shrines. Please do all you can this year to help maintain these holy places.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers to join our collection counters. Counters spend a few hours on a Sunday morning tallying the weekend collections. They are scheduled once a month. If you have 2 or 3 hours to share with our parish, call Holly Hayes in the office at 518-462-4258



SUFFERING SERVANT KING

Today we come face to face with Jesus in the hours leading up to his death. We witness the culmination of Jesus' ministry which had been marked with conflicts. Up until this point no blood

has been shed. But things change when Jesus enters Jerusalem for the final time. We begin Holy Week recalling these events. This Mass is not meant to be a re-enactment of the past nor is it about marking the anniversary of a past event. We gather so we can more deeply enter Jesus' passion – and learn what it means for us today.

To know what Jesus' passion means for us today it is helpful to recall that in Jesus' time many people were expecting a messiah who would be a military or political ruler. Jesus began his ministry with the message, "Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand." He went on to proclaim a message of peace, love, mercy and forgiveness – not what many people were expecting. The crowds "praised God for all the mighty deeds they had seen." And they called Jesus a king! "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest."

Jesus is a king who ushers in the kingdom of God's peace and glory – but not without a great price. Jesus is a servant king, a suffering king – one who will "give his back to those who beat him," – one who will not "shield his face from buffets and spitting" – one who will "empty himself and take the form of a slave," – one who will be "obedient to the point of death, even death on the cross." A great price to pay, indeed. But it was a price Jesus was willing to pay because he knew nothing should separate us from the love of God. Jesus knew that the cost of sin and death were far too great, and so he made that final journey where he would undergo his passion and death. For Jesus, the glory of God's kingdom was worth the blood he would shed.

When we share in the Body and Blood of Christ in the Eucharist, we are thus called to share in Christ's mission as servant king. We enter Jerusalem with Jesus and share his passion so that we can become people of love and mercy, people of forgiveness and peace – people who usher in God's kingdom here on earth.

ANNUAL DIVINE MERCY CONSECRATION

Bishop Scharfenberger is inviting Catholics throughout the Diocese to join him for the annual diocesan Divine Mercy Consecration at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 11, 2021 at 5:00pm. Information is on the webpage: www.rcda.org/DivineMercyConsecration

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY AT HISTORIC ST MARY'S BEGINS ON APRIL 11TH AT 2:00PM WITH ADORATION, ROSARY, CONFESSION & CHAPLET WITH MASS TO FOLLOW.



A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR Dear parish family,

Today begins the days of "Passiontide," the name given to the last two weeks of Lent. Up until now the liturgical readings and prayers have emphasized themes of

conversion, penance, and reconciliation. Now the attention turns more directly to the suffering and crucifixion of Our Lord. According to a very ancient tradition, statues and crosses in churches are covered. This custom dates to the earliest centuries of Christianity when originally the cross was covered in the last two weeks of Lent, so that it might be solemnly unveiled for a renewed veneration on Good Friday. Eventually images of the saints, too, were covered, as it was deemed unfitting to cover images of the Master and not the disciples. The Gospel of John tells us that as His last Passover approached, Jesus "hid Himself" and "did not go around openly," because His enemies were seeking to arrest Him. The great fathers of the Church assure us that this secrecy implies no hesitation on the part of Christ about His upcoming death. Rather, it shows His control: He would go to the cross at the time of His own choosing, i.e. the Passover! He would reveal Himself in this way as the true Lamb of God, and the passover from sin and death to holiness and eternal life as the real Pasch!

The liturgies of the Triduum at St. Mary's this year will be celebrated in the extraordinary form, in Latin. I know that many will be disappointed not to have the New Order of the Mass on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday night. But my ministry here includes the celebration of the Extraordinary Form and making the more ancient use of the Liturgy available as well as the New Order. And I simply am unable to accommodate both forms on these days. I invite you all to consider participating in these ancient rituals, even if you have never seen them before. I am working to provide materials for these sacred days to help the congregation follow along more easily. The Extraordinary Form is the way the Church worshipped for most of her history. Countless saints celebrated and participated in the Mass in this form. It is truly one of the treasures of the Church. And knowing and experience *all* of the treasures that the Church has to offer opens us up to the many avenues of spiritual growth that God has paved for us. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI taught that the ancient Mass helps us better understand the new Mass, and the new Mass helps us better understand the ancient Mass. We will keep the following schedule:

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper, April 1st at 5:00pm

Good Friday Commemoration the Lord's Passion, April 2nd - 3 pm

(Stations of the Cross in English at 12:00 Noon)

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil, April 3rd at 8:00pm

Easter Sunday Masses, 8:00am and 10:30am, will be in English

NO LATIN MASS at 12:30 ON EASTER SUNDAY.

Please be assured of my prayerful wishes for all of you to have a blessed Easter. I feel more excited than ever as I look forward to celebrating the Easter liturgies with you this year, as I recall that last year we were unable to gather as a Church in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. May God give us true joy in the celebration of Our Savior's Death and Resurrection and the promise of salvation held out to us because of it! God bless you all!

With paternal love and affection,

Father Flannery

ST. MARY'S SENIOR PROGRAM

Please call our Parish Office if you know of a Parishioner who is sick, hospitalized or has moved to an assisted living facility or nursing home. Our Senior Program seeks to bring communion to the homebound or in health care facilities. They also have a telephone committee that checks in on the homebound as well as a committee that sends cards to these parishioners.

PARISH FINANCES

Thank you to all who continue to make their donations. It is a HUGE help. Please do what you can to assist the parish financially during this pandemic crisis. Over the past 6 months our collections are down significantly. Please do whatever you can to assist. Even though some cannot meet on a weekly basis at church, the bills must be paid and payroll must be met. Your contributions may be sent to the parish office or you may participate by using our "on-line" giving program (located on our parish website: www.histmarys.org). Your help is greatly appreciated!



THIS YEAR'S BISHOP'S APPEAL IS DIFFERENT

What stays the same is our participation. Every parish continues to have a target goal (an assessment). Therefore we count on your generous participation to help us meet our goal. Every bit of your donation will help St. Mary's since we must make up the difference at the end of the campaign. Please do your best to give what you did in past years. If you can do more—please do so, since a number of our parishioners have suffered financial loss and difficulties because of the pandemic. **We need your help—our goal is over \$143,000 and so far our donations total \$76,210—an average gift of \$473 from 161 families—thank you—thank you.**



A PALM SUNDAY REFLECTION

Palm Sunday is a day to celebrate but it carries a terrible warning. Those who acclaimed Jesus as King then became those who called for his crucifixion. To follow Jesus means being able to resist following the crowd. There is always a sense of rebellion about being a follower of Jesus. Jesus was a rebel, which is why he was crucified. Discipleship is very costly. We follow Jesus, not only through the joy of Palm Sunday.

We are to sit at his feet in the temple. (Not all discipleship is doing things—much is attentive listening.)

We are to wash the feet of this weary world.

We are to share in the Last Supper and like Him be broken and poured out for the world.

We are to watch and pray with Him in Gethsemane.

We are to be mocked and condemned with Him.

We are to suffer, be desolate and die with Him

Dietrich Bonhoeffer summed up the cost of discipleship in the words "When Jesus calls a man, He bids him come and die."

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