PALM SUNDAY

So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. - Mk 11:7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

WEEKEND OF: Mar. 27-28, 2021

Parish Mission Statement:

"St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church . . .
Called by God's love to live the life of Jesus in our world."

MASS TIMES
Monday Through Friday: Daily Mass at 8:00 am
Weekend Masses:
Saturday at 5:00 pm
Sunday at 8:30 am & 11:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturdays from 3:30 pm till 4:30 pm

CHURCH ADDRESS
St. Mark's Church
54 Kuhn Road, Rochester, New York 14612

CONTACT INFO
Rectory 225-3710; **Office:** 227-6824; **Fax:** 225-6517

Website: www.stmarksgreece.com
Parish Email: rstmarkc@dor.org
Like us on Facebook @ St Marks Church Greece

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Reverend Louis Sirianni, Parochial Vicar, ext. 206, **Email:** fr.louis.sirianni@dor.org

Kristine Burgio, Faith Formation/Youth Ministry ext. 203, **Email:** kristine.burgio@dor.org

Deacon David Cadregari, Parish Deacon, ext. 305, **Email:** david.cadregari@dor.org

Denise O'Toole, Financial Director, ext. 202

Pregnancy Support

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Looking for hope and healing after abortion? Reach out today: supportafterabortion.com, call or text: 941-202-4030, email: help@supportafterabortion.com

Stewardship Corner

PLEASE continue to support our parish during this time as best as you are able, so we can continue to be able to pay our monthly bills.
An easy way is through Online Giving (though you can still mail in your checks). Please see below to register! God bless you and keep you safe!

Secure Online Giving at:

February Collections:	**$31,809.00**
Budget for Feb:	**$32,751.00**
Period variance	**(-$ 942.00)**
YTD variance	**(-$ 14,191)**

Walk Every Step with Christ
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—March 28, 2021

SUNDAY'S READINGS -

First Reading:
The Lord GOD is my help,
therefore I am not disgraced;
I have set my face like flint,
knowing that I shall not be put to shame. (Is 50:7)

Psalm:
My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22)

Second Reading:
Rather, he emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
coming in human likeness; (Phil 2:7)

Gospel:
They clothed him in purple and,
weaving a crown of thorns, placed it on him.
They began to salute him with, "Hail, King of the Jews!"
and kept striking his head with a reed and spitting upon him. (Mk 15:17-19)

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WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES

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

Observances for the week of March 28, 2021

Sunday:	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord; Holy Week begins
Monday:	
Tuesday:	
Wednesday:	
Thursday:	Holy Thursday
Friday:	Good Friday; Day of fasting and abstinence
Saturday:	Holy Saturday

LENT & HOLY WEEK 2021

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday—Normal Weekend Mass Times
April 1 Holy Thursday—Mass 6:00 PM
April 2 Good Friday of the Lord's Passion—3 PM
April 3 Easter Vigil—5:00 PM
April 4 Easter Sunday Masses– 8:30 & 11 AM

DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR

April 11 @ 2:30 PM

LENTEN ABSTINENCE applies to Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and the Fridays of Lent. All Catholics who are 14 years of age or older are to refrain from eating meat or meat products on these days. (This does not apply to fish, eggs, or milk products.)

LENTEN FAST applies to Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and applies to all Catholics who have completed their 18th birthday until they have completed their 59th year. "Fasting means taking only one full meal and two smaller meals that, taken together, do not equal one full meal."

FRIDAYS OF LENT:
STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 7:00 pm Stations will be streamed using Facebook Live
https://www.facebook.com/StMarksGreece/live
Materials can be picked up in the Narthex or are available at:
https://www.saintanneshelper.com/support-files/stations-of-the-cross.pdf

LENTEN FISH FRY Our Knights of Columbus will present their annual fish fry each Friday from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Due to Covid-19 it will be Take-Out only with Curbside Service

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
Saturdays 3:30-4:30PM

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 27
5:00 pm

Sunday, March 28 - Palm Sunday
8:30 am The People of St. Marks Church
11:00 am Kathleen Cannavino by Dennis Giunta

Monday, March 29
8:00 am

Tuesday, March 30
8:00 am

Wednesday March 31
8:00 am Special Intention

Thursday, April 1—NO Moring MASS
6:00 pm Father Louis Sirianni & Father Jim Hewes

Friday, April 2
3:00pm Good Friday Solemn Services

Saturday, April 3—Holy Saturday
5:00 pm The People of St. Marks Church

Sunday, April 4 - Easter Sunday
8:30 am Josephine Carvill by Connie Schmeer
11:00 am Carmela Chirdo by Husband Giuseppe Chirdo

There are many open Masses and weeks available to light the Sanctuary Lamp for 2021

This Week
Sanctuary Lamp:

For all those struggling with depression

Prayer Requests

The following members and extended members of our Parish Family have had prayer requests made for them:

Donna Sindon, Marie Pettrone,
Sister Jody Kearney, Jane Gunzelmann,
Jeff Biss, Gloria Minardo,
Amy Brewer, Shirley Mulliger, Jane Camiolo,
Michael Mele, Janet Ciaccia, Ken & Nathan Schultz
Dawn Lamendola, Knycos, Timothy Glasow,
Evelyn Tisa, Skyler , Lynne Mikel, Mya Colon,
Emma Webster, Ann Gifford

REMEMBER

The COVID 19 pandemic is still with us. Please be vigilant in wearing your masks and staying physically distant.

Names will remain on the prayer list for a period of three months. Please resubmit your prayer request if you would like your loved one added to the list.

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PICK OF THE WEEK

March 28, 2021

WATCH

TRIDUUM: A SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE

In Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage, the viewer is brought deeper into the story, landscape, and reality of Holy Week. It draws those with open hearts and minds toward a deeper understanding of Christ's victory while offering rich meditations for the pilgrimage of daily life.

LEARN

FORMED NOW! HOLY SATURDAY– JESUS' DESCENT INTO HELL

What do we mean when we profess that Jesus descended into Hell? Join Drs. Tim Gray and Michael Barber as they discuss this mysterious event of Holy Saturday.

LISTEN

HOLY WEEK BY DR. BRANT PITRE

Join Dr. Brant Pitre, author and Scripture scholar, as he walks us through the events of Holy Week. Pitre's insights and clarity allow the listener to enter into a deeper appreciation of the most important events of Christ's earthly ministry.

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To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

ST. MARK'S KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS LENTEN FISH FRY

FISH FRY DINNER $12.50

DUE TO COVID–19, TAKEOUT BY CURB SERVICE IN FRONT OF ST. MARKS CHURCH ONLY

FRIED HADDOCK, FRENCH FRIES, COLESLAW, ROLL and COOKIE - NO SUBSTUTIONS

4:30PM to 6:30PM FRIDAYS DURING LENT THRU GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 2, 2021

This is the Knight's main fundraiser with proceeds directed to charities in our area. stmarksknights.org

Questions: 585-392-3307 585-227-5734

Remember
TAKE OUT ONLY!

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DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

Victims of sexual abuse should always report to the civil authorities.
To receive help and guidance from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester, contact our Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Deborah Housel
585-328-3228, ext. 1555
Toll-free: 1-800-388-7177, ext. 1555
or by e-mail to victimsassistance@dor.org.

QUESTIONS 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?

GOSPEL MEDITATION—March 28, 2021 (Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord)

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?

LIVE THE LITURGY - 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!

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