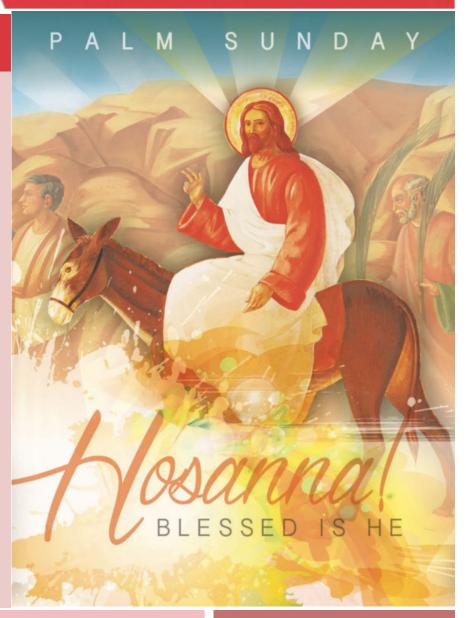


SAINT JOAN of ARC NEWS

The members of St. Joan of Arc Parish are disciples of Jesus Christ, who recognize God's love for the world & are empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel to all people through joyful worship, life-long education, compassionate service, responsible stewardship, & active community living.

~ Mission Statement - Pentecost 1998 ~

WHAT'S INSIDE



PARISH CENTER

22412 Overlake

Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080

Phone: 586-777-3670 Fax: 586-774-5528 Website: www.sjascs.org SCHOOL 22415 Overlake Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080

Phone: 586-775-8370 Fax: 586-447-3574

Website: www.stjoan.net

FAITH AND FAMILY FORMATION OFFICE

22415 Overlake Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080

Phone: 586-772-1282 Fax: 586-775-8374

Parish Directory / Liturgy Schedule

ST. JOAN OF ARC DIRECTORY

Parish Center

Phone: 586-777-3670 Fax: 586-774-5528 School

Phone: 586-775-8370 Fax: 586-447-3574 Faith Formation

Phone: 586-772-1282 Fax: 586-775-8374

In-Solidum Priest Team:

Msgr. G. Michael Bugarin gmbugarin@sjascs.org Lead for SJA

Fr. Andrew Dawson adawson@sjascs.org

Fr. Jim Commyn (Moderator) parish@stlucychurch.com

Fr. Eric Fedewa frericstbasil@comcast.net

Fr. Stan Pachla stveronicaeast@comcast.net

Msgr. Gary Smetanka msgr.smetanka@stargp.org

Sacramental Minister

Non-Resident

Fr. Rich Bartoszek

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Tom Strasz tstrasz@sjascs.org

Deacon Dom Pastore dpastore@sjascs.org

Business Manager

Dina Ciaffone dciaffone@sjascs.org

Music Director

Catherine Thomas cthomas@sjascs.org

Principal

Amy Pattie apattie@stjoan.net

Assistant Principal

Charles Kaiser ckaiser@stjoan.net

Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass khass@sjascs.org

Exceptional Children

Michelle Russo

Youth Group

Linda Lietaert llietaert@stjoan.net

Athletic Director

Charles Kaiser ckaiser@stjoan.net



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekdays

Monday thru Friday: 7:00 am

Weekends

Saturday: 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm

Holy Day Masses

Vigil Mass: (evening prior) 7:00 pm 7:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm

Reconciliation

Saturdays 11:00am-12:00pm In the Sister Carol Center

Holy Hour

Thursdays in Church at 7:00 pm

Rosary

Monday - Friday after the 7am mass

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Center is open Monday - Thursday from 8:30am-5pm Friday from 8:30-4pm

Mass intentions and most services can be done in person or by calling us at 586-777-3670 during these hours.

Our after-hours emergency number: 586-777-1342.

Baptisms: Please go to our website (stjoan.church) and fill out the Baptism request form. You will be contacted to make further arrangements based on submission of that form.

Marriages: Arrangements should be made at the Parish Center at least six months prior to the desired date. Pre-marriage series required.

Registration: It is very important that every family and independent adult be registered in the Church in order to keep our records and mailings current. Please contact the Parish Office to register at your earliest opportunity: **586-777-3670.**

RCIA: Please call the Parish Center: 586-777-3670.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARISHIONER?

If you would like to become a parishioner of St. Joan of Arc, please register at stjoan.church and we will contact you by phone.

Or by calling us at **586-777-3670** during office hours.

Live Streamed Broadcasts at St. Joan of Arc.

Live Stream Broadcasts have become a standard part of our celebrations at St Joan of Arc. This has increased our mass participation at daily and weekend masses. It has also allowed many of our parishioners to stay in touch with their faith community remotely.

Go to: livestream.stjoan.church to watch all live streaming and to view archived celebrations.

Weekday Masses Monday thru Friday @ 7am

Weekend Masses
Saturdays @ 4pm & 6pm
Sundays @ 8am, 10am, 12pm

Holy Hour Thursdays @ 7pm

TALLer Tales



Palm Sunday Appearance: A mom and dad returned home from Church on Palm Sunday. Their little son, who was ill that day, stayed home with an older

sibling. The little guy was intrigued by the palms his parents brought home. He decided to pepper his parents with questions about the palms and the Palm Sunday liturgy. They described how they started outside and then processed with the palms, almost like in a parade, to celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. At one point in the dialogue the little guy said, "Wouldn't you know it, the very day I stay home from Church, Jesus finally shows up."

Holy Week: Today, we begin our solemn journey with the Lord. We have celebrated his entrance into Jerusalem, and now we journey with him to the cross and ultimately stand as witnesses to his glorious resurrection. These sacred days are filled with beautiful liturgies that have special meaning for us as Christians. I hope and pray that you and your family will make the time to attend as many of these liturgies as possible or even watch them online at livestream.stjoan.church, because we celebrate events that changed the world and events that changed your life and mine.

Many of us approach this sacred week with lots on our minds. We might be helping extended family members work through a tragedy, or maybe our family is dealing with a heavy cross right now. We continue to watch in absolute horror the senseless death and destruction occurring in Ukraine. As you reflect on these situations in your own life and in what is taking place in our world, we need to place all of these concerns at the foot of the cross and know that just as God had a plan for Christ and asked him to embrace the cross for a reason, God likewise has a plan and a destiny for each of us. The sacred events of this week are certainly centered on the saving reality of the Cross of Christ, but it is also about the saving reality of the crosses that Christ asks us, in the name of the Father, to embrace for the world's salvation.

The Paschal Triduum: What exactly does *Triduum* mean? *Triduum* comes from two Latin words (*tres* and *dies*), meaning a space of three days. We calculate these

days in the same way the Jews count days and festivals, that is, from sundown to sundown. Thus, the *Triduum* consists of three twenty-four hour periods. The *Triduum* starts at sundown on Holy Thursday with the Mass of the Lord's Supper and concludes with evening prayer at sundown on Easter Sunday.

"The liturgy we celebrate these days is far more than an objective recall of the events of first century Palestine, or even a prayerful recollection by means of which we understand and appreciate more fully what God has done for us. Despite the dramatic impact of these liturgies we do much more than dramatize what happened once in the history of salvation. More fundamentally, the liturgy these days is our present privileged experience of these same saving mysteries in Christ. Through these liturgies we are inserted into and are made sharers of the same saving deeds Christ accomplished for our salvation and sanctification. We do not observe again what Jesus accomplished; we share in the accomplishment of salvation. Through the symbols and gestures, scripture proclamation and prayers, we participate in the same redeeming actions which Christ underwent for our salvation. What Jesus accomplished through his death and resurrection is actualized and made real in the liturgy. Through the various celebrations over three days we are progressively and more intimately brought into the paschal mystery. What God accomplished in Christ continues to draw us into the love of God. This incorporation into Christ makes us the body of Christ on earth (Kevin W. Irwin, A Guide to the Eucharist and Hours: Easter, p. 14)."

The liturgies we are about to celebrate are sacred indeed. They are filled with much symbolism and ritual. In celebrating the memorial of the institution of the Eucharist and the command to be of service as ritualized in the washing of the feet at the Mass of the Lord's Supper, we enter more deeply into the paschal mystery. From hearing the proclamation of the Lord's Passion to our veneration of the cross on Good Friday, we enter more deeply into the paschal mystery. From seeing the fire being blessed, hearing the proclamation of the Easter Exultet, to witnessing the baptism of those in the OCIA, the reception of those being brought into the Church, to our own renewal of baptismal promises where we reject Satan and profess our faith in Christ Jesus, we enter more deeply into the paschal mystery. But this entering into the paschal mystery is not just a once-a-year

occurrence. We need to *live* the paschal mystery each day of our lives. We need to die to self by doing God's will and serving others so we can rise to new life.

Living the paschal mystery is about putting God and others ahead of ourselves. Living the paschal mystery is about keeping Christ as the center of our lives. "As we live this Christian mystery we gradually grow in our awareness and experience of the reality that the only way to live as Jesus taught us is to die to self. Indeed, in the paschal mystery dying to self and rising to new life collapse into the same reality of surrendering ourselves to allow God to work in and through us. The paschal mystery is living the rhythm of dying and rising as a people who are on a mission – with Christ we bring salvation to those who hunger for justice and truth, forgiveness and reconciliation, mercy and peace. We are a people on a mission – and this is what these days are about (Joyce Ann Zimmerman, C.PP.S., et al., ed., Living Liturgy, p. 102)."

As you and your family make plans for Holy Week and Easter, please consider attending these sacred liturgies, especially those you have never experienced before. You should also consider inviting a family member, a friend, or someone who may not attend Church regularly to come along with you. The experience and prayer of the Holy Week liturgies may bring them closer to Christ and allow them to come to a deeper understanding of the *saving reality* and *beauty* of the cross of Christ.

Our Schedule for Holy Week is as follows:

Holy Thursday: 7 p.m. – Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday: 12 p.m. – Stations of the Cross / Divine Mercy Chaplet; 1 p.m. – Liturgy of the Passion

Holy Saturday: 11 a.m. – Confession; 12 p.m. – Blessing of Food; 8 p.m. Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday Masses: 6 a.m., 8 a.m., 10 a.m., and 12 p.m.

Happy Holy Week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb gmb@sjascs.org



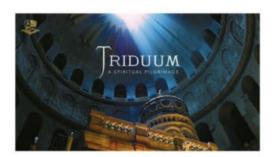
WEDNESDAYS DURNG LENT

Reconciliation from 5–5:50 pm Mass at 6 pm

Reconciliation rooms are in the Sr. Carol Center.



Week of April 02, 2023



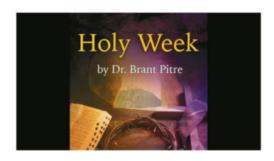
Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage

Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage, cinematically walks through the locations of the Holy Week story, representing the most important days of human history. Immersed in the real and sacred places of the Holy Land, the pilgrim faithful is brought tangibly nearer to the story, the landscape, and the reality of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.



The Faithful Departed | Eternal Rest | Episode 4

What is left for the living to do after someone dies? In this session, we talk about the final ways in which those still living on earth care for the body and soul of the dead. We discuss the work that remains for the living to do as we grieve for the deceased and as we turn to the work of preparing for our own death, and the hope in which we live and die as Christians.



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.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.



April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

Is 50:4-7 | Phil 2:6-11 | Mt 26:14-27:66

GROW AS A DISCIPLE PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

As we begin Holy Week, we hear Matthew's account of the Passion. We see Jesus' humanity as he experiences sorrow and distress in the hours before his death. Three times, he asks the Father to "let this cup pass from me, yet, not as I will, but as you will." In our own human experience, I am guessing many of us have asked the Father to "let this cup pass" – for in addition to life's joys, we will all experience setbacks, struggles, and suffering. By example, Jesus shows us that we can turn to our Father, trusting in his will for us. Let this be a reminder in this holiest of weeks that we can bring our suffering and our doubts to the Father, knowing that the joy of Easter will come.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The final words of today's Gospel [shorter version] are those of the centurion and the men keeping watch over Jesus: "Truly this was the Son of God!" Let us keep in mind this central proclamation of our faith while attending Triduum services this week. On Holy Thursday, we remember the Last Supper and the institution of the Eucharist and the priesthood, celebrating Christ's outpouring of love for us. On Good Friday we venerate the cross as we solemnly recall the passion and death of Jesus. And of course at the Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday, we celebrate the story of our salvation, culminating in Jesus' resurrection. As Christians, we know that the cross will give way to the empty tomb and the promise of new life in Christ. Let our voices be strong this week as we echo the centurion's words above, and may Jesus' name be praised forever!

PRAY Praying the Stations of the Cross allows us to walk with Jesus through his passion and death. Make that journey with Jesus this week.

Readings for Easter Sunday

St. Joan Arc

EASTER SUNDAY – THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD – APRIL 9

Reading One – Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Peter proceeded to speak and said: "You know what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree. This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

Responsorial Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23.

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever."

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

"The right hand of the LORD has struck with power; the right hand of the LORD is exalted. I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD."

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Reading Two - I Cor 5:6b-8

Brothers and sisters: Do you not know that a little yeast leavens all the dough? Clear out the old yeast, so that you may become a fresh batch of dough, in as much as you are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us

celebrate the feast, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Sequence - Victimae paschali laudes

Christians, to the Paschal Victim
Offer your thankful praises!
A Lamb the sheep redeems;

Christ, who only is sinless,

Reconciles sinners to the Father.

Death and life have contended in that combat stupendous:

The Prince of life, who died, reigns immortal. Speak, Mary, declaring

What you saw, wayfaring.

"The tomb of Christ, who is living,

The glory of Jesus' resurrection;

bright angels attesting,

The shroud and napkin resting.

Yes, Christ my hope is arisen;

to Galilee he goes before you."

Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining.

Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning! Amen. Alleluia.

Gospel - Jn 20:1-9

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the

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R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Reading Two - Col 3:1-4

Brothers and sisters: If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory.

Sequence - Victimae paschali laudes

Christians, to the Paschal Victim
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SCRAPBOOKING CROP

& Ladies Day Out

JOIN US FOR A SCRAPBOOKING AND CRAFTING EXTRAVA

Saturday, April 22, 2023 9am-9pm in the SJA School Gym



\$40 Registration includes a Continental breakfast, lunch, dinner, desserts and beverages. Registration deadline is April 20th.

- · Power outlets at each table
- Vendors

50/50 Raffles

Fun



REGISTER ONLINE

For more information or to pay online go to

sjascs.org/ptg-scrapbooking



Questions? Call or text: Courtney Seiler at 313-460-0711 kirbyqlane@gmail.com



Announcements



BE THANKFUL

St. Joan of Arc will be sponsoring an American Red Cross Blood Drive Sunday, April 16th, from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room. If you are a regular donor, we thank you and hope to see you there. If you've never given before, it takes a little over an hour to donate and can save many lives.

The American Red Cross will <u>not</u> be taking walk-ins and you <u>must</u> have an appointment. To make an appointment, log onto <u>RedCrossBlood.org</u> (sponsor code: stjoanblooddrive) or call John Staperfenne at 248-789-8274.

Please help save a life and become a Red Cross Blood Donor!

St. Joan of Arc Pilgrimage

June 16-25, 2023

Stay in Monasteries as we visit St. Joan's 'Deep France'

After three years of Covid interference, this past June we finally were able to lead another St. Joan of Arc pilgrimage. God willing, next June we will again lead a St. Joan of Arc pilgrimage/retreat to France. This will be our fourteenth opportunity for taking a group on this fascinating journey. Our travel philosophy remains the same one of going back to the essentials, of simplicity, of quality time in some places instead of 'rush-rush' in many. Although we will indeed see and do much, we hope to travel first of all as spiritual travelers, rather than as consumers. Consequently, we will again purposely remain a small group. Each day we will gather for some combination of the following: prayer/meditation, information on activities of the day, addressing questions, and *Question du Jour* discussions. Come and experience many of the places where St. Joan lived, visited, and prayed.

Sites will include: Orléans, Domrémy-la-Pucelle, Vaucouleurs, and Reims, with quiet stays at monasteries in the heart of France. Please visit our website, with more information and photos: www.pilgrimwitnesses.com.

For any questions, feel free to contact us by phone or email:

Chris & Catherine Snidow Phone: (214) 327-4579





Calendar of Events / Words on the Word

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, April 3rd

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

1:00 PM Reconciliation

6:00 PM Confirmation Prep - Emmaus Hall

Tuesday, April 4th

7:00 AM Morning Mass Live Streamed

6:00 PM Rescue Project - EH/Livestreamed

Wednesday, April 5th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

5:00 PM Reconciliation

6:00 PM Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 PM PTG Meeting—Emmaus Hall

Thursday, April 6th

7:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday, April 7th

12:00 PM Stations of the Cross - Live Streamed

1:00 PM Liturgy of the Lords Passion

Saturday, April 8th

11:00 AM Reconciliation

12:00 PM Blessing of Food Baskets

8:00 PM Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 9th

6:00 AM Sunrise Easter Mass –Live Streamed

8:00 AM Easter Mass - Live Streamed

10:00 AM Easter Mass- Live Streamed

12:00 PM Easter Mass - Live Streamed

Words on the Word

April 2, 2023 – Hands Down

We've all been there at one time or another.

Perhaps we're cruising down the highway and we inadvertently cut someone off, for which we are quickly rewarded with an obscene gesture.

Or perhaps we mistakenly take someone else's parking place, for which we're likewise on the receiving end of the same gesture.

Hopefully, of course, we've never been on the other side of that equation, being the one who flashed that obscene gesture to someone else who mistakenly wronged us.

Regardless, the question, apparently, is whether such a gesture is legal. At least that was the case recently in Canada, where a judge ruled the gesture is, indeed, legal. Making this gesture "is a God-given, Charter enshrined right that belongs to every redblooded Canadian," the judge was quoted as saying in a story reported by National Public Radio.

Is this how far our society has fallen?

God gave us all the gift of free will, to be sure, and so, in a sense, we have the right to be rude if we wish.

But on this, our commemoration of Palm Sunday, perhaps it would be helpful, instead, to think of things in a more humble way, to take to heart Jesus' example of dying to self for the good of others.

"I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard," we hear in today's first reading from the Prophet Isaiah. "My face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. 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."

Even when we're wronged – and even if it's egregious – we're called to be humble. Perhaps the best course of action next time would just be to put our hands in our pockets!

© 2023, Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday April 3, 2023 Monday of Holy Week (Purple)

7:00 a.m. Jerome Rogier

Tuesday April 4, 2023 Tuesday of Holy Week (Purple)

7:00 a.m. Bob Ziolkowski

Wednesday April 5, 2023 Wednesday of Holy Week

(Purple)

7:00 a.m. Antonio Calisi

6:00 p.m. Mark Dunn

Thursday April 6, 2023 Holy Thursday (White)

7:00 p.m. Charles Semany

Friday April 7, 2023 Good Friday (Red)

12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

1:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Lords Passion

Saturday, April 8, 2023 Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil

(White)

8:00 p.m. Antonio Calisi, Bonnie Batche, Michael

Forrester, James Forrester, Margaret & Charles Forrester, the deceased members of the Cardosi & Giusti Families and a Special Intention for the J. Champine Family and the Thomas Family

Sunday April 9, 2023 Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (White)

6:00 am For the deceased members of the Rogier &

Dettloff Families

8:00 a.m. For the Intentions for St. Joan of Arc

Parishioners

10:00 a.m. Joan & Helmut Linden

12:00 p.m. George & Sophie Rupinski, Larry Yandel, Dee

Allor, Josephine & Salvatore Ciaravino, Julian Ross, Richard & Virginia Robinette, Virginia Prill, Edward Baranek, Joseph & Florence Semany, Charles Semany, Ron Lagodna, Dr. Edmond H. Aubrey, John L. & Marguerite Joseph, Mark & Danutoc Siwik, Hentyke

Welendzewicz, Mario Tomasello

Daily Readings

Monday, April 3 Friday, April 7

Isaiah 42:1-7 Isaiah 52:13-53:12 John 12:1-11 Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9

John 18:1-19:42 **Tuesday, April 4**

Isaiah 49:1-6

John 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday, April 5

Isaiah 50:4-9a Matthew 26:14-25

Thursday, April 6

Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-15 Sunday, April 9

Saturday, April 8

Ezekiel 37:21-28 John 11:45-56

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Colossians 3:1-4 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 Matthew 28:1-10

John 20:1-9



"Heavenly Father, welcome home those who you have called from this world and grant peace and consolation to their families."

Irene Catalano Theresa Luxmore Father Donald MacLennan



"I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year: Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown. and he replied: Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way."

Minnie Louise Haskins



Reporting Sexual Abuse

Individuals with knowledge of sexual abuse by clergy or other Church representatives are urged to contact local law enforcement and/or the Michigan Attorney General's Office at 844-324-3374 or aginvestigations@michigan.gov.

Individuals also may contact the Archdiocese of Detroit by visiting protect.aod.org calling the toll-free, 24/7 victim assistance line at 866-343-8055 or by emailing vac@aod.org. There are no time limits or restrictions on individuals wishing to report abuse. Every complaint shared with the Archdiocese of Detroit, regardless of its source or the date of the alleged activity, is reported to civil authorities. No complaints are held back, pre-screened or disregarded.

Tire Tracks in the d'Arc



Holy Week: Today we celebrate Palm Sunday and as Jesus enters Jerusalem, we enter into Holy Week. The fullest of the Church's sights,

sounds, smells, symbols, silence and sacraments are on display this week to be soaked in and to heighten our senses to the incredible Mystery that is unfolding before us—the Passion, death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ and the defeat of the world's enemy, the devil.

If we really enter into the liturgies of this week, we cannot fail to recognize that something profound is going on. They are not just separate masses and liturgies. They are like the scenes of a movie or acts of a play, each one building on the drama of the one before, adding to the story and leading to the final scene when the hero of the story triumphs. It's the ultimate story of crime and punishment, tragedy and suffering, tension and pain, and in the final act, joy and redemption of unimaginable depth.

The Church invites us not simply to settle down with popcorn and watch, but to takeup the script and step onto the stage and play our part in the story. If it's not a story about us then it loses its meaning.

Personally, I love Holy Thursday. That was the day I really knew I could say yes to the Lord's call to become Catholic some 17 years ago, and only on that night praying before the Blessed Sacrament. Despite the doubts I still had, the Tabernacle contained the God I had experienced and met, and I knew that was sufficient—that *He* was sufficient.

It was on my first Holy Thursday as a priest that, by virtue of the random order we happened to process into the Cathedral for the Chrism Mass, I found myself sitting in the very same seat I had been sitting in the previous Pentecost weekend, on the day of my ordination. On that day I had accepted the Archbishop's call to Holy Orders. And now from that same seat that Holy Thursday, I renewed my commitment to the priesthood, alongside all my brother priests.

It was also on Holy Thursday in 2014 that I had arrived at the Cathedral for the Chrism Mass with my fellow seminarians. The parking lot had already been filled so we parked on the roadside and walked down

the driveway. As I stepped off the sidewalk to walk around the open security gate, looking behind me, to check for traffic, and as I stepped back onto the sidewalk, I walked directly into the metal bracket that locked the two halves of the gate together.... with my head....

I heard it ring through my brain like an ugly square bell, as I fell to the sidewalk, holding my head. The security guard took me off to the security building to patch-up my head, and I went on my way to the standing-room only Cathedral. As I stood through the two-hour mass feeling pretty woozy, an usher came up to me and asked me to help direct Communion traffic from the pews to the Eucharistic Ministers. "Sure," I said, and I proceeded to stand in the center aisle, waving my arms around like I was directing planes at Detroit Metro. I wasn't making any judgments about the lines, just sending people wherever, with no clue what I was doing!

As we walked out of the Cathedral after mass, my head pounding, I handed my car keys to another seminarian and said, "You're driving." And that's about all I remember of that Mass!

It was the only concussion I've had and showed-up clearly on Easter Monday when the seminary final exams week began. In my Church History exam, the professor threw in a total soft ball question, a give-away point: "Where did Our Lady of Fatima appear?" My answer?... "Lourdes."



Not my finest moment in seminary. However, the German professor with the reputation for precision, gave me the point for my answer. I can still hear him saying to himself, "Ah yes! There is only *one* Our Lady."

The evening of Holy Thursdays in the seminary was a special time too. We would have a nice steak dinner (with table cloths, so you knew it was something special!) Then that would be followed by the Mass of the Lord's Supper. Mass would end with a Eucharistic Procession with candles, in the dark, from the beautiful main chapel, through the pewabic tile hallways and archways down to the St. Joseph Chapel as we sang Pange Lingua. The shape of the hallway ceilings and the tiled floor echoed

back the sound of our choir singing in 3 parts and it was always a highlight of my year. Just so beautiful. Jesus was placed in the tabernacle in the small, dark chapel that had been emptied of all furnishings. The rest of the night was spent in silence with seminarians coming and going, spending time in adoration in the chapel and returning to our rooms in silence.

But if I love Holy Thursday, I can say the same about Good Friday. The seminary would end with the Tenebrae service, which is a beautiful presentation of the Office of Readings for Holy Saturday. Someone would spend the entire day blocking out all places where light would enter the main chapel so that the service could take place in almost total darkness, except for 15 candles.

The service is characterized by the gradual extinguishing of the candles, and by a "strepitus" or "loud noise" taking place in total darkness near the end of the service. This sudden and violent noise occurs after the final candle is removed. The noise represents the violent shaking of creation as Jesus dies and descends into hell. Then a server holding that single candle re-enters the chapel and the re-places it on the stand. This is the light of hope because we know that soon Christ will re-enter the world. I would sit and look at that single candle, realizing that for those who do not share our faith, the crushing darkness is all that remains. But for us, we still have hope, because we still have Christ.

There was such a beautiful silence to that night. I walked back to my room that night in my final Holy Week in seminary, to find this shadow on the wall.



It took me quite some time to work out where the shadow was coming from - the security lights outside and the crucifix on my desk. But it was a good reminder to remain with Jesus that night and through the Triduum. The church invites us to do the same this Holy Week so that we might fully experience the joy of Easter.

You are in my prayers this Holy Week.

Fr. Andrew adawson@sjascs.org





Save your can tabs!

Spread the word! We're collecting can tabs again.

Let others know that those little pop and food can tabs make a big difference for the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Drop off donations in the buckets in the church or at the Parish Center during business hours.

Help our 8th Grade with Your Returnables

The Class of 2023 is holding an ongoing can and bottle drive. This important fundraiser helps defray the cost of the class's graduation events.

Bring your returnables in bags to the WEST SIDE DOOR of the Parish Center (near Father Andrew's House).

Just place them in the large plastic bin with a lid. Or if you need to arrange a pick-up, call or text Erin at 586-321-0667.

Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Andrew Barth
Geri Beaugrand
Noreen Bidigare
Gaetano Biondo
Gilbert Bousho
Elizabeth Brock
Lori Cardosi
Ed Cole
Joan Combellack
Maura Corrigan
John Crawford
Joan DeDene
Jane Dedene
Catherine DeRose
Diane DeSantis

Grace Dickerson George Dickerson Nick DiCresce Jean Edwards Frank Faiss Ben Fazio Susan Federoff Taylor Fisher Jeanne Fleming Michelle Goode Jeanne Gainer Roz Geitzen James Gutowski John Hanselman Rich Hanselman Judith Hasten
Leland Helzer
Valerie Hudson
Zayne D. Kapinski
Thomas Kler
Catherine Konen
Delaney Kraemer
Concetta Leone
David Lott
Dorothy Lubinski
Joan Mannino
Karen McMahon
Charlotte Miller
Mark Moffitt
Jennie Mooney

Adam Moore
Jim Moore
Joel Moore
Paula Nagel
Mark Oumedian
Joan Persichini
Tracy Rauch
Alison Reslow
Sr. Alice Riegel
Diane Rochwalski
Suzanne Roland
Pat Rybak
Victoria Rydholm
Lily Saith
Dianne Schelosky

Ann Simmonds
Terri Smigels
Kathleen Smith
Cathy Spindler
Betty Squire
Beverly Taylor
Bernadette Thompson
James Thompson
Linda Vitale
Eileen Wallace
Adrienne Weidenbach
Joseph Whalen
Marilyn Wicker
Joyce Wiekrykas
Loretta Williams

Pray for the Sick List: Please note that we regularly clear the "Pray for the Sick List" because the list grows beyond our space allocation and we don't always hear from people when they've gotten better. If you would like to add a person please call the Parish Center front desk at 586.777.3670 or send an email to our general inbox at info@sjascs.org.

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Bringing Home the Word

Palm Sunday (A) April 2, 2023

Who Is This Man?

By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

He is a convicted criminal. He is a threat to the sovereignty of Rome, because he might be a rival king; a challenge to Jewish religious tradition, for he interprets the law by his own authority. Still, he is just a common carpenter, a sometimes preacher and healer like many others. He's a man whose friends and followers have deserted him and are in hiding. This is how some might describe Jesus. But we know better.

Sunday Readings

Matthew 21:1-11

The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road.

Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord God is my help, therefore I am not disgraced.

Philippians 2:6-11

He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave [and]...humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

Matthew 26:14—27:66 or 27:11–54

Jesus cried out again in a loud voice, and gave up his spirit.

He fits well the Isaian image—a man with "a well-trained tongue" who knows "how to answer the weary" (Isaiah 50:4). He also resembles the Psalm 22 sketch of one to scoff at and mock, one whose hands and feet are pierced, an image also found in the Gospel account of his suffering and death. This is a man rejected, beaten, and nailed to wood like a piece of flimsy material. Who is this man and why was he so hated?

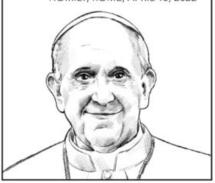
The hymn in Philippians 2 probably offers the best likeness of him. He was in the form of God, but out of love for others he took on the form of a slave so that he might serve them. What about this was so objectionable? Does he represent an idea of God that is too different from the one with which we have grown comfortable? As a man for others, does he put our own selfishness to shame? Does his desire to serve challenge our propensity to control? Is this why he has been rejected? †

Does Jesus represent an idea of God that is too different from the one with which we have grown comfortable?

A Word from Pope Francis

Brothers and sisters, in the course of this week, let us cling to the certainty that God can forgive every sin.... The certainty that with Jesus there is always a place for everyone. That with Christ things are never over. That with him, it is never too late. With God, we can always come back to life.

HOMILY, ROME, APRIL 10, 2022



REFLECTIONS QUESTIONS GRESTIONS BEELFECTION

- What does Jesus' selfemptying tell me about God?
- How can I let go of my status or privileges this Holy Week?

Bringing Home the Word

The Christ Hymn

By Paige Byrne Shortal

B etween the Palms and the Passion is a little reading we hear only once a year. It's a creedal hymn, a profession

of faith sung by the early Christians. Saint Paul quotes this hymn in his letter to the Christians at Philippi, which is part of the liturgy on April 2.

The passage begins with an exhortation. Saint Paul writes that if we claim to know Christ, then we must love one another and adopt the same attitude as Christ.

Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something

to be grasped.

Before Jesus walked among us, he existed and was united with God the Creator, but even so he did not protect or eploit his divine status.

Rather he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death,...

Jesus emptied himself of his divinity to become like us in all things but sin, and therefore, we who call ourselves Christians, must forsake our self-interest and love one another, even if it should mean death.

... even death on a cross.

This line was not in the original hymn. Crucifixion was so scandalous, so dishonorable a death, that the early Christians could not bring themselves to speak of it. Paul inserted this line because he understood the paradox that what was high must be brought low; that "only what is assumed is redeemed."

Because of this, God greatly exalted him, and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,...

Having made the ultimate sacrifice: journeying from the pinnacle of divine existence to the depths of human depravity, Jesus was raised by God, and with him, all of humankind.

that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

All creation bows to him: the angelic beings; we who are still alive in this world; and those who have died and are buried.

and every tongue confess, that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. †

It is ourselves that we must spread under Christ's feet, not coats or lifeless branches or shoots of trees, matter which wastes away and delights the eye only for a few brief hours.

But we have clothed ourselves with Christ's grace, with the whole Christ—

"for as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ"—
so let us spread ourselves like coats under his feet.

St. Andrew of Crete, 650-740 AD



So that we may enter into this Holy Week and pray together with other believers for the salvation of the world, we pray— Lord, let us be like you.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

April 3-8

Monday of Holy Week: Is 42:1–7 / Jn 12:1–11 Tuesday of Holy Week: Is 49:1–6 / Jn 13:21–33, 36–38

Wednesday of Holy Week: Is 50:4–9a / Mt 26:14–25

Holy Thursday: Ex 12:1–8, 11–14 / 1 Cor 11:23–26 / Jn 13:1–15 **Good Friday:** Is 52:13—53:12 / Heb 4:14–16; 5:7–9 / Jn 18:1—19:42

Holy Saturday: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26–31a / Gn 22:1–18 or 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18 / Ex 14:15—15:1 / Is 54:5–14 / Is 55:1–11 / Bar 3:9–15, 32—4:4 / Ez 36:16–17a, 18–28 / Rom 6:3–11 / Mt 28:1–10



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