



# PALM SUNDAY

Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out:

"Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

- Mk 11:9

# ST. MARK PARISH



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Unless you have serious health issues, I encourage you to emerge from physical and social isolation and join our parish community for worship. While watching Mass on TV and streaming devices provide some spiritual nourishment, it keeps us "locked" in the restrictive vortex of the electro-magnetic field, and prevents us from opening up to the amazing beauty and life-giving energies of the real world. As one of our elderly parishioners told me: "It feels really good to - get up, dress up, and show up!" On a given weekend, well over 95% of our congregation are adults. Many of them could have every reason to stay at home. We thank them for their ongoing sacrifices and shining witness of living faith. Last Sunday, we were especially delighted when a small number of children made their own little congregation during Mass – worshipping God through their innocence, communicating among themselves in unique sounds, and bringing great joy to all of us. Thank you, parents, for bringing them to church, and forming them in the light and wisdom of Jesus.

We are approaching the most Holy Week in the Church's liturgical year, beginning with the celebration of the Palm Sunday, and the Easter Triduum! Please join us for these transforming and grace-filled holy liturgies of the Lord's Supper, Jesus' sacrificial Death, and glorious Resurrection. This three-day sacred period is considered "One Event" of the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ – through which the Lord of Life redeems the world and gives us the gift of salvation! "Living Holy Week means learning how to come out of ourselves to reach out to others, to go to the outskirts of existence, to be the first to move towards our brothers and sisters, especially those who are most distant, those who are forgotten, those who are most in need of understanding, consolation and help" (Pope Francis).

In Christ's abundant Life,  
Fr. Stanley

## MISSION STATEMENT

As the Eucharistic family of St. Mark Parish, we are called to welcome, love and serve. We continue the mission of Jesus Christ: "to transform our lives and believe in the Good News."

(Mark 1:15)

### **Holy Week and Easter Liturgies**

*"God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son,  
that whoever believes in him may not die,  
but may have eternal life."  
(John 3:16)*

### **Holy Thursday**

April 1

Mass of the Lord's Supper – followed by  
Eucharistic Adoration, 7pm

### **Good Friday**

April 2

Stations of the Cross, 12 Noon  
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, 1pm

### **Holy Saturday**

April 3

Blessing of Easter baskets, 11am  
Easter Vigil, 8pm

### **Easter Sunday**

April 4

Holy Mass, 8:30am and 11am

### **Sunday of Divine Mercy**

Saturday, April 10, 4pm

Sunday, April 11, 8:30 am and 11 am

**MARCH 28, 2021**

# REFLECTIONS

## LIVE THE LITURGY

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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### 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? ©LPi

Dear Parish Family,

March Madness, also known as the NCAA Men's and Women's basketball tournament is much like our lives. This reminds me of the efforts that teams go through to reach this pinnacle. We struggle with health, with finances, with family, and sometimes with ourselves. We encounter obstacles and stumbling blocks, and yet we move forward. There are disappointments and at times jubilation. It is with the help of God that we pick ourselves up and with resolve to try harder the next time. March, marks the official one year anniversary of COVID, and is a kind of madness – we have lost loved ones, lost certain freedoms, and yet with vaccinations, grandparents are now able to embrace their precious grandchildren, and for others the return to St. Mark. We continue on our spiritual journey, not measured by how many points we score, but rather how did we get in the game.

A belated happy 90th birthday to our Deacon Emeritus – Deacon George!

The “White Books” for Easter Season will be available to purchase on Palm Sunday and after Easter.

It is exciting to see several more people in church! We are able to seat 125 people with the 6 feet distancing. In other words – there is a seat for everyone! As a reminder, no one has “my seat”, except the Presider's chair. Although, Fr. Stanley usually occupies that chair, should a Bishop be here, that supersedes where Father will sit. Families who live in the same household or have been vaccinated may sit in the same pew. We will continue all safety practices and “not let down our guard.”

Reconciliation here at St. Mark is at 3:00pm on Saturdays. There will also be communal reconciliation at St Martin de Pores Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 9:00pm. For more options, please check the vicariate website. [www.cmvic.net](http://www.cmvic.net)

As this March Madness continues, please pray that we may all rejoice with a resounding Alleluia and put our prayer in motion by sharing our spirituality with others. Bringing souls to God takes a team and you can play your part by encouraging others.

May our loving God Bless you.

Mary Jo

### Everyday Stewardship

#### 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

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THE WORD

Readings for the week of March 28, 2021

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/  
Mk 14:1—15:47

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: *Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper*: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc,  
17-18/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/  
Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday: *Vigil*: Gn 1:1—2:2/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35/Gn 22:1-18/Ps 16:5,  
8, 9-10, 11/Ex 14:15—15:1/Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12,  
13/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Ez 36:16-17a,  
18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4/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/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/  
Jn 20:1-9



**Saturday, March 27**

4:00 pm Edward Pelc

Wanda Stachelski

Karol Lipinski

Angeline Lipinski

Irene Lipinski

Donald Kryszinski

Frances Szpont

Christine Colombo

Agnes & Raymond Grimski

**Sunday, March 28**

11:00 am Ray Kusza

Barry Lada

Christine Mixen

George Zdilla

Ray Elliott

Richard Kryszak

**Wednesday, March 31**

9:30 am The People of St. Mark

7:00 pm The People of St. Mark

**Sunday, March 28**

8:30 am John Dinverno

Jackie Loch

Dan Ghareeb

**Thursday, April 1**

7:00 pm Richard Kryszinski

Philip Kryszinski

David Kryszinski

Tim Kryszinski

John Airlie

ST. MARK OUTREACH



THE PANTRY NEEDS:

Pinto or Northern Beans

Rice Sides

Pasta Sides



THANK YOU!

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?

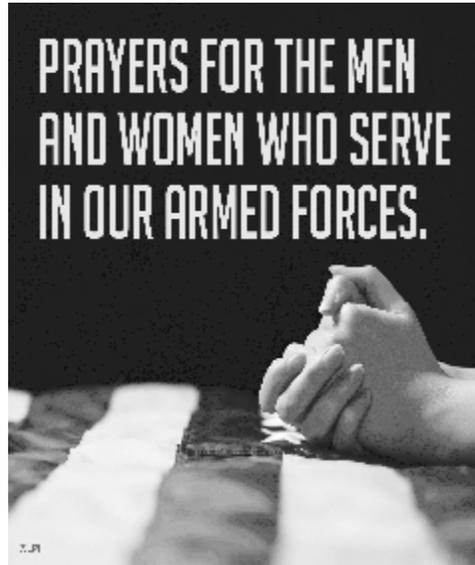
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PRAYER INTENTIONS



The Sick

Only immediate family members may request a 'prayers for the sick' listing. Call the Parish Center: 586-759-3020. Names remain on the list for 4 weeks.



WE PRAY FOR ALL OF OUR MILITARY, & PARTICULARLY:

- Sr. CPO Michael Brightman
- Lt. Commander Adam Craig
- LCPL Sarah J Page
- Sgt. Steven Parisi
- Major Michael F. Weigle

Family members who wish to have their loved ones prayed for may do so by submitting names to the parish office.

Prayer Resources

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, we fly unto thee O Virgin of virgins, our Mother. To thee do we come. Before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer us. Amen.

POPE TWEETS

"May we not let this time of grace pass in vain, in the foolish illusion that we can control the times and means of our conversion to the Lord! #Lent"

- Pope Francis

@Pontifex Twitter (March 23, 2021)



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**WEBSITES**

Parish: [www.stmarkparishwarren.com](http://www.stmarkparishwarren.com)

Central Macomb Vicariate: [www.cmvic.net](http://www.cmvic.net)

Archdiocese of Detroit: [www.aod.org](http://www.aod.org)



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Cynthia Filipovich

Diane Hamilton

Tom Harm

Phyllis Wisniewski (Christian Formation)

Karen Kowalski (Stewardship)

Michael Powell (Worship)



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**SACRAMENTS**

**BAPTISMS**

Parents are asked to contact the Parish Center Office to arrange for Baptism instruction and a date for the Baptism.

**MARRIAGES**

Couples wishing to celebrate the sacrament of matrimony at St. Mark Parish are asked to allow at least six months to complete arrangements.

**RECONCILIATION**

Private Confessions: Saturday 3:00 PM.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

LAST Sunday of every month after all Masses.

View this bulletin online at [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)  
Photographs are taken at all public parish events for use on the St. Mark Parish website. For questions or concerns, please contact the Parish Center Office.

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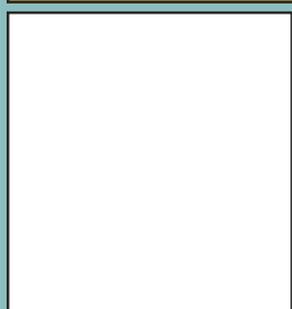
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