



ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH 28, 2021 | PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD—
HOLY WEEK BEGINS

WELCOME

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday
9:00 AM-4:00 PM
closed for lunch 12-1:00 PM

MASSES NOW

Saturday: 4:00 PM
Sunday: 8:00 & 11:00 AM
Spanish Mass is at 1:00 PM

DAILY MASS

9:00 AM Monday-Saturday

MISSION

The Mission of St. Joan of Arc Parish is to put Jesus first in our lives by seeking to know Him in Scripture, Encountering Him in Prayer, Celebrating His Presence among us in praise and worship and uniting with one another in loving service.

NOTE

WEEKEND MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED AT THE TIMES LISTED ABOVE UNTIL AT LEAST THE END OF MAY 2021. MASKS ARE REQUIRED. WE WILL ALLOW ONLY 50% CAPACITY FOR EACH MASS AND YOU MUST PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING. THANK YOU. YOU ARE IN OUR PRAYERS.



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

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

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REFLECTIONS FROM ARCHBISHOP FULTON SHEEN ON PALM SUNDAY

Quotes from his books, Life of Christ and Treasure in Clay

It was the month of Nisan. The Book of Exodus ordered that in this month the Paschal Lamb was to be selected, and four days later was to be taken to the place where it was to be sacrificed. On Palm Sunday, the Lamb was chosen by popular acclaim in Jerusalem; on Good Friday He was sacrificed”

Archbishop Sheen points out that the request for the donkey (Luke 19:31) embodies the paradox of the Incarnation: “the LORD has need of it.” God humbled himself to share in our humanity. He who has no need, who is “that greater than which nothing can be imagined” chose to have need. “It is sufficient for those who know Him to hear: ‘The Lord hath need of it’”

Until this point, Jesus has always discouraged people’s praise and proclamation, commanding them to silence. On Palm Sunday, for the first time, He encourages their celebration. Even the Pharisees acknowledge the world is turning to Jesus.

‘His ‘Hour’ had come. It was time now for Him to make the last public affirmation of His claims. He knew it would lead to Calvary, and His Ascension and the establishment of His Kingdom on earth. Once He acknowledged their praise, then there were only two courses open to the city: confess Him as did Peter, or crucify Him. Either He was their King, or else they would have no king but Caesar”.

Sheen goes on to discuss the prophecy of Zechariah that Jerusalem’s king would come riding on a donkey. Great conquerors always ride on horseback, “sometimes over the prostrate bodies of their foes”. But Christ comes on an ass.

How Pilate, if he was looking out of his fortress that Sunday, must have been amused by the ridiculous spectacle of a man being proclaimed as a King, and yet seated on the beast that was the symbol of the outcast. If He had entered into the city with regal pomp in the manner of conquerors, He would have given occasion to believe He was a political Messiah. But the circumstances He chose validated His claim that His Kingdom was not of this world. There is no suggestion that this pauper King was a rival of Caesar”. Conversely, the adoration of the people exceeds that which they might give to a mere King: they give him the adoration of a God.

Fulton Sheen, in his autobiography Treasure in Clay, reflects on the issue of the Church and the world at the time of the Second Vatican Council. The world seemed to be challenging the church. “‘Come down and we will believe.’ ‘Come down from your belief in the sanctity of marriage.’ ‘Come down from your belief in the sacredness of life.’ ‘Come down from your belief; the truth is merely what is pleasing.’ ‘Come down from the Cross of sacrifice and we will believe.’”

As we enter into Holy Week, where better to start than at the cross, at the heart of the greatest act of love the world could ever know. Just as the crowd tempted Jesus to come down from His Cross, we too can be tempted to come down from our crosses. Maybe there is a cross in your life right now and you are tempted to come down from it. Maybe you are tempted to let go of your vocation or of a resolution that you have previously made. What is the cross that you are nailed to right now? How are you being tempted to take an “easy way out?” The only way to life is by embracing the cross, embracing our vocation, embracing our call to holiness and allowing our absolute death to selfishness to bring about new life. Don’t be tempted to come down from your cross. Let God save you through the cross.

PLEASE BRING YOUR BLESSED PALMS YOU RECEIVED LAST YEAR TO THE CHURCH SO THAT THEY CAN BE PROPERLY DISPOSED OF. YOU WILL FIND CONTAINERS AROUND THE VESTIBULE IN WHICH TO PLACE THEM. THANK YOU.

Post Abortion Healing – Project Rachel

Project Rachel is a confidential healing ministry for the many people, both men and women who have been impacted by an abortion decision. Upcoming healing programs include: **One Day Project Rachel Retreats:** Saturday, April.24 and Sat. June 5 (\$20 reg. fee) **One Day Men’s Retreat:** Sat. June 26, 2021 (\$20.00 reg. fee) **Weekend Retreat:** July 9-11, 2021 (\$200 reg. fee)

More details and pre-registration needed: **813-924-4173** projectrachel@ccdosp.org

NOTES FROM DEACON FRED

It is Time

Words cannot convey the depth and love that our Lord has for us. The Passion of our Lord does. Words cannot convey the love that our Creator has for us. The Passion of His Son does.

It is time to enter into the upper room. The sacred and intimate room where Jesus shares with us the new promise of salvation.

It is time to pray with our Lord in the garden, not to sleep, but to be with our Lord simply by meditating on our Lord's conversation with His Father. As we meditate, we pray. Even though Gethsemane happened so long ago, prayer transcends time..

It is time to walk with our Lord as He walks toward Calvary. It is time to look upon the cross, and not at a distance. It is time to embrace the cross and look upon the weight of our sinfulness carried by our Lord and experience the healing balm of His forgiveness.

It is time to kneel with our Blessed Mother as she listens to her Son at the foot of the cross.

It is time....



NOTITAS DEL DIÁCONO JOSE CRUZ

Nuestra celebración de hoy comienza con júbilo y con la adulación de las multitudes atraídas hacia Jesús en su entrada triunfal en Jerusalén. ¡Él ha sanado a los lisiados! ¡Ha curado a los ciegos! ¡Ha expulsado a los demonios! ¡Ha resucitado a los muertos! Ahora viene montado sobre un burrito de carga hasta el centro del mundo de ellos, el lugar del templo, del sanedrín y del gobernador de toda Judea, Poncio Pilato. ¿Qué más hará? Él es el Mesías destinado a ser rey. Las expectativas no podían ser mayores. ¡Hosanna al Mesías! Lecturas para la Misa: Isaías 50:4–7; Salmo 22; Filipenses 2:6–11; Marcos 14:1—15:47 o 15:1–39

Hoy oímos a la gente de Jerusalén hacer dos clamores muy diferentes. Al conmemorar la entrada del Señor en la ciudad oímos los clamores de bienvenida que gritan “Hosanna”, colmando de alabanzas a su rey victorioso. Pero en la Pasión oímos los gritos de “crucifícalo”, que piden su muerte. La gente se ha revirado. El exaltado se convierte en el condenado. A la gente le es imposible ver al verdadero Mesías. De seguro su Mesías depondría al gobierno romano, liberaría al pueblo y traería la paz perfecta. Más importante aún, todo esto lo haría pronto y sin sufrimientos. Aquellos que gritaron “crucifícalo” no cayeron en cuenta del sacrificio de Jesús y así ayudaron a que él hiciera el sacrificio definitivo.

¡Esto es lo que se llama estar en el lugar equivocado en el momento inoportuno! Simón de Cirene, padre de dos hijos, había acabado de llegar a Jerusalén de regreso del campo cuando los soldados romanos lo forzaron a cargar la cruz del hombre condenado. ¿Qué le habría pasado por la mente? Este hombre debe haber hecho algo bien horripilante, sangrando y dando tropiezos, con una corona de espinas clavada en su cabeza y completamente rodeado de soldados con látigo y armas en mano. Ahora tengo que poner esta carga pesada sobre mis hombros. ¿Y qué si caigo o tropiezo? ¿Me azotarán y golpearán? ¿Me dejarán tranquilo cuando lleguemos a nuestro destino? Hoy, cuando cargamos la cruz de otra persona, no solamente compartimos su carga difícil, sino que también tenemos lo que pudiera pasar. ¿Podré manejar esta situación? ¿Pensarán otras personas que soy tonto? ¿Quedaré arrastrado con ellos? ¿Puedo ser un Simón? El Siervo sufriente de Isaías pudo haber tomado el camino más fácil, renunciar a su misión y evitar más abusos similares a los que ya había recibido. Tal como señala Pablo, Cristo Jesús pudo haber evitado su humillación en cualquier momento y usar su divinidad para eludir la cruz. Pero el Siervo sufriente y Cristo Jesús permanecieron obedientes al Señor y por ponerse en las manos de Dios, nosotros hemos sido redimidos.

Pregunta de la Semana: ¿Qué cruz es la que encuentro difícil llevar sobre mis hombros? ¿La carga de quién no estoy dispuesto a compartir? ¿Cómo puedo ayudar a otra persona o cómo puedo dejar que me ayuden?

GOSPEL MEDITATION

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?

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

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

Observances for the week of March 28, 2021

Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord;
Holy Week begins

Thursday: Holy Thursday

Friday: Good Friday;
Day of fasting and abstinence

Saturday: Holy Saturday

Next Sunday: Easter Sunday

**Help save a child's life:
Option Line Alternatives to Abortion:
Call: 1-800-395- HELP (4357)**

"Abortion is legal because babies can't vote."

"El aborto es legal porque los bebés no pueden votar."
Joseph Bonkowski

STEWARDSHIP

WEEKEND OF MARCH 14, 2021

**Attendance: 443
Offertory: \$6841.00
Catholic Relief Services: \$265.00**

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

We are now accepting Easter Flower donations to decorate our church for the 50 days of the Easter Season. If you would like to donate flowers in the name of a loved one, please pick up an Easter Flower envelope at the welcome desk in the Vestibule.

Please have all envelopes in the office **by March 30th** so that the names can be printed in the bulletin for April 11th, Divine Mercy Sunday. Suggested donation is \$10.00 per name.

We pray you are having a Spiritually fruitful Lenten Season.



PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time.

Please consider online giving.
Go to our website: www.StJoanofarcfl.com
and click on Online Giving. Thank you.



Remember in your prayers all those affected by the Coronavirus throughout the world.

Compassionate and Loving Father, in the face of confusion and concern impart to us the calm of Your presence. In You allow us to find hope and healing. Be with those who serve the sick and give them Your caring hands. Be with those who lead and give them Your Spirit of wisdom. Be with those who have fallen ill and give them Your comforting heart. Wrap Your arms around our world and hold us in Your love. Allow us at this time of trial to then serve as instruments of that love to all we meet. We ask this in Your name. Amen

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: 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-

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

9:00 AM Healing from Cancer for
Donovan Lovelock

4:00 PM † Mary and Danny Dodey req by
Loving Daughter, Kathy

MARCH 28 PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD— HOLY WEEK BEGINS

8:00 AM † Ed Maracich req by
Angie and John Mazzuca

11:00 AM † For the Souls in Purgatory

1:00 PM For Our Parish Community

MONDAY, MARCH 29

9:00 AM † For the Souls in Purgatory

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

9:00 AM Healing from Cancer for
Donovan Lovelock

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

9:00 AM In thanksgiving for all Ministers who
serve in our Masses throughout the
year.

THE TRIDUUM (3-DAYS) MASS BEGINS ON THURSDAY EVENING AND ENDS ON EASTER VIGIL

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 1

7:00 PM MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
In Thanksgiving for the institution of the
Sacraments of Priesthood and Eucharist

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2

3:00 PM PASSION OF OUR LORD
For Spiritual and Physical Healing For
Joanne Zamorski

6:00 PM ESTACIONES DE LA CRUZ

7:00 PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 3

8:00 PM EASTER VIGIL
For Abundant Blessings for our newest
Catholics: Lee Gutshmidt
Patrick and Geraldine Foley
and James Leavy

APRIL 4 EASTER SUNDAY

7:15 AM SUNRISE SERVICE
For our Parish community

11:00 AM † Theodore and Maryann Statuto
req by Loving Family

1:00 PM Dando gracias por nuestra comunidad
hispana

PARISH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Patrick Rebel

Asst. Priests..... Rev. Edward Reiter
Rev. Michael Kouts
Rev. Dennis Kaelin
Msgr. Joe Sobiesiak

Deacons Deacon Fred LaPiana
Deacon Jose Cruz
Deacon Mike Ruffner

Parish Business ManagerAnne Cofone

Director of Faith Formation Mary Jo Waggoner
Stjoanreled@gmail.com

Director of Junior High and Youth MinistryNancy Lovelock
Sjoa-youth@tampabay.rr.com

Director of Music.....Joyce Thorpe
Sjoaorganist@gmail.com

SACRAMENTS

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 10:00 am-11:00 am & by appointment.

BAPTISM FOR CHILDREN

Please call the Parish Office. (352) 688-0663

MATRIMONY IF YOU ARE CONTEMPLATING MARRIAGE AT ST. JOAN OF ARC CHURCH, PLEASE BE MINDFUL THAT THERE IS A SIX MONTH PRIOR NOTICE REQUEST REQUIRED.

PARISH INFO

OFFICE EMAIL

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Wednesday 9:30 am-10:30 am

Saturday 3:30 pm-5:30 pm

Sunday 7:00 am-1:00 pm

Closed during all Masses & the month of August.

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