# The Catholic Community of Sts. James, Cornelius & Cyprian

April 5th 2020

# PALM SUNDAY

Jesus, humbling himself out of love for us, did not shield his face from buffets and spitting, but offered his life on the cross. He relied on his Father's love.

-The Order of Prayer, Cycle A

www.saintsjcc.org

St. James 1010 S Lansing St. Mason, MI 48854 517.676.9111

Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian 1320 Catholic Church Rd. Leslie, MI 49251 517.589.8492

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# FR WILL SAY PRIVATE MASS SO ALL MASS INTENTIONS WILL BE HONORED

# **EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP**

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

# The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent – Accountable

Easter is only a week away, and churches everywhere in the West are beginning the holiest of weeks. For a moment, even the secular world will bow to religious observances: closings on Good Friday, Easter baskets filled with treats, and television specials featuring Biblical figures. You and I will be reflecting on the meaning of Lent and how we have died and risen with Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Either we have prepared well for this Holy Week observance, or we are left lamenting that maybe next year will be when we get back on track.

The question before us is: "To whom are we accountable?" Did our Lenten observance only have to do with us? Does it matter to anyone if we really took this time seriously or not?

Both faith and community are gifts from God to us. The Church exists so we may live out that faith and respond to God's call, being strengthened by the grace imparted through the sacraments and the community in which we find ourselves. If we are accountable to no one, then the community is simply an option on a Sunday morning, much like golf or household chores. If we are not accountable to God, then our faith is simply something we look to periodically when we are sad or frightened.

However, if we are accountable to each other and to Jesus Christ, then we must answer for our stewardship gifts of faith and community. The Body of Christ is counting on us. Without a strong sense of accountability, we think our actions only affect us. In the end, we are connected to each other through Christ in such a manner that no one ever stands alone.

> —Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS **©LPi**

# READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF April 5<sup>th</sup>



## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Mt 21:1-11 Is 50:4-7

Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

Phil 2:6-11

Mt 26:14-27:66

# 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 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

# **Good 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

Ex 14:15—15:1

Mt 28:1-10

### **Easter Sunday**

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

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

Col 3:1-4

Mt 28:1-10





# My beloved brothers and sisters,

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

I choose to greet you today in the name of the three Persons of the Blessed Trinity to remind you that no matter whether you're living by yourself at home or with your family, you are never alone. Let us continue to pray for one another, for those who are ill from the coronavirus, for those who have died and for all who have been affected in any way, financially, emotionally and through isolation.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the Stay Home orders, this year we have an unprecedented situation where we will not be able to celebrate Holy Week together as a congregation. This will be the first for many of us. It will be very difficult, very sad and weird at the same time. Fortunately, our faith has taught us that we're never truly alone. Christ is always with us, He is in us. We're always united to Christ and with one another, in the spiritual Body of Christ. So, even as we find ourselves separated by distance, we are certainly close in Spirit.

The Liturgy of Palm Sunday reminds us of Jesus who came into our world as a Savior. He came to heal people, to free them from the powers of evil. He came to teach that we must love one another and care for one another. He came to show us the way to freedom from fear and the way to true peace. He came into Jerusalem to shouts of "Hosanna" which in Hebrew means, "Save us, we pray." Jesus knew that to do this will cost him his life but He never backed out. He will never give up on His mission and doing the Father's will.

I'm sure all of us are praying that Jesus will come to save us from this pandemic, to bring us healing, to free us from our fears and to bring us peace. We are all in this together! Scientists, medical researchers, doctors and nurses all over the world need to make sacrifices to find a cure for this disease. Leaders of nations need to work together to support and help each other in protecting their own people, safe and secure. All of us need to abide by the rules and regulations laid out by our government and Church leaders. When all of us are showing we love and care for one another, this is where miracles happen, healings begin, fears dissipate and salvation is experienced once again. This is our mission now! Jesus never gave up on His mission. Let us pray that God will give us the strength and courage to take up our cross and follow Him! Amen.











DIOCESAN SERVICE APPEAL
GOAL: \$52,031
WEEKEND OF MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup>

**NUMBER OF PLEDGES:54** 

YEAR-TO-DATE PLEDGE AMOUNT: \$13,285.00

PERCENTAGE OF GOAL: 25.5%

# **STEWARDSHIP**

St. James, Cornelius & Cyprian
Last Week's Collections

March 29th

\$8,670.00

St. James \$6,197.00 Last Year \$10,284.00 Sts. C&C \$0.00 Last Year \$1,186.50

(39 envelopes, 49 EFT from 953 households)

Fiscal Year to Date (since July 1st)

\$455,579.05

Year to Date Last Year

\$448,455.27



Kym Piggot Lisa Carey Margaret Marshall Aydin Weyer Kari Olney Florence Eifert Phil Shier Stephen Crippen Timothy Williams Fr. Ioane Sigarara Anne Hentkowski Deacon Tom Feiten David Schroeder Arnulfo Rodriguez Jim Belbeck Jay Jensen Eddie Cozart Andrew David Carol Demshuk Karen Heeney Gloria Schultz Justin Benhard Sales Mary Curtis Ron Wieferich Marsha Schering Joan Coolidge Steve Coolidge Aly Perry Lauralee Sanders **Beverly Charter** Nancy Hammock Joe Choma Larry Poxson Merlin & Kaye Batdorff Rebecca Clinton (4/5) Douglas Wilson (4/5) Cathy McCormick (3/15) Mary Smith (3/15) Karl-Heinz Mueller (3/29)

Please contact the office if you have a seriously ill relative or friend. Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks.

Dorothy Burch (4/3)

For us to continue supporting The needs in our community, we are thankful for your continued contributions.

We are doing our best to conserve our resources.

You can give online at saintsicc.org or mail your envelopes to:

St James, Cornelius & Cyprian 1010 S Lansing

Mason, MI 48554.



# **GOSPEL MEDITATION**

Human beings are united in their suffering. When we find ourselves in a painful moment, our first reaction is "why me?" as if we are the only person on earth who ever encountered this challenge. Going through life with a "why me" attitude only finds us wallowing in the mire of self-pity and never seizing opportunities or graces. We walk in solidarity with every human being in the experience of suffering. Believing that the goal of life is the elimination or avoidance of suffering is simply an illusion that keeps us entrenched in a collective myth. This myth distorts us and limits us.

There are living witnesses among us showing how courage and determination can overcome any degree of hardship, pain, loss, or tragedy. Folks finding the normalcy of their lives suddenly torn asunder are faced with options: opportunity or despair, stay or leave. Jesus stands before us as the prime example of endurance and perseverance. He is the One who showed humility through both the triumphs of life (by learning to be humble) and the tragedies and injustices (by learning how to be obedient). To secular ears, this may be perceived as nonsense. But to those with the eyes of faith, they are pearls of great price.

True humility tempers the temptation we have to become complacent and prevents an excessive relishing of life's successes and affirmations. Learning obedience keeps us faithful to our relationship with God so that we can find the courage to endure any depth of hardship, disappointment, betrayal, or agony. While we may want our cup of suffering to be taken away, it simply cannot be. Somehow and somewhere in the seemingly opposing experiences life can deal us, God is present with His reassuring, compassionate, empowering, and persevering love. To be true to who we are and who God is, we must take up the cross of suffering, even when it's the hardest and most apparently senseless thing to do.

Only our soul can understand these things, but our minds cannot, so they continue to run to secular ideas and solutions to pain and hardship. It goes without saying that we need to do all we can to eliminate as much senseless, unjust suffering as possible. Hunger, violence, abuse, exploitation, rejection, prejudice, homelessness, disrespect for life, and a whole host of other sins all result in suffering that is within our control. Then, when we face the uncontrollable kind of suffering or find ourselves the victim of injustice, what do we do?

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# **HELP & HEALING!**



If you or anyone you know has been the victim of child sexual abuse by someone representing the Catholic Church, contact appropriate law enforcement.

You may also contact the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator. We will listen to your needs and support you. We encourage you to come forward and speak out. Please believe in the possibility for hope and help and healing.

Diocese of Lansing Victim
Assistance Coordinator

Cheryl Williams-Hecksel, LMSW 1-888-308-6252, or via email:

cwilliamshecksel@dioceseoflansing.org

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# PARISH DIRECTORY

# The Catholic Community of Sts. James, Cornelius & Cyprian

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Leslie: 1320 Catholic Church Rd. Leslie, MI 49251

517.589.8492

### www.Saintsicc.org

### Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:00—4:00 Fridays: 8:00—Noon (Mason only)

#### **Parish Staff**

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Maintenance (SJ)

Ruth Olney

Maintenance (CC)

Bill Schaerer

# Parish Leadership Teams

# Senior Leadership Team

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# Parish Councils & Commission Chairs

Pastoral Council: Pete Barnum barnumpe@gmail.com 517.930.6282 Finance Council: Gary Smith gary.l.smith01@gmail.com 248.296.4856 Education Commission: Maureen Stockwell maureen@saintsjcc.org **Evangelization Commission:** Tom Holmes tjhrrt1@att.net Christian Services Commission: Bonnie Gurzenda bonniegurz@gmail.com Parish Life Commission: Chris Harrison harhay2579@gmail.com -International Outreach Sue Powers 517,449,0999

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-Knights of Columbus (SJ) Grand Knight Chris Knudstrup cknudstrup@comcast.net

-Knights Angels President Teresa James-Bates 517.980.4167 -St. James Women's Club President Chris Harrison 517.290.5525

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-Sts. CC Ladies President Anne Rowse

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