

Here is your weekly update. There are also attachments for this week.

The Lights is On

Monday March 25th from 4-7pm -Mother of Our Savior Church (Lourdes campus) An opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation-a number of priest will be present

Fridays @ 6pm-Station of the Cross

HOLY WEEK

Holy Thursday March 28th-Mass 6pm Good Friday March 28th @3pm Passion and Veneration of the Cross With the 7 last word to follow Holy Saturday March 30th Blessing of the Food in the Church at noon NO Blessing of the in homes Vigil Mass @ 8pm with procession Easter Sunday -March 31 Masses @ 9am and 11AM

Stewardship-

Operating expenses for the Parish on a weekly basis are \$6,200.00 Collection. Stewardship for March 10th^d Ordinary \$5277.00, Online giving for February 2024 \$1701.35

Hope Appeal

2nd Collection at weekend Masses is for the Hope Appeal and will continue in order for the Parish to reach the 2024 Goal

Goal \$38,468.00 Received to date \$21,688.02

Parish Giving-

The Parish is pleased to introduce "Enhancing Stewardship through Electronic Funds Transfer. It is convenient no more searching for a checkbook or Sunday morning stops at the ATM. To excess simply Log on the parish website www.sacredheart-saintmary.og and click on the Parish Giving Log and follow the easy registration instructions. It is Secure.

Events at other Parishes in our area

Please remember we are all a Catholic Community and need to support each other.

LENTEN FISH FRY

St. Anthony/St. Agnes Church
1500 Bleecker St
Every Friday/February 16-March 29th
Fried or Baked Haddock \$16 (10-12 oz fillet)
12-piece Fried Shrimp \$18
St Anthony Combo \$20 (baked or fried haddock plus 7 fried shrimp)
All meals include a choice of baked potato or French fries, cole slaw, dinner roll coffee & dessert. Extra sides \$1
Call 315 418 5219 after 3pm

Youth Ministry Nights
The Senton Center/Mary Mother Savior Parish
5pm this week



As always, I like to share the deep traditions and meaning of our Church. As we begin the season of Lenten. What does it mean for us as Catholics and what are we to follow? As always there are hyperlinks for more information on Holy Week.

This week is Holy Week, and one of the most special times of our faith. The time that Our Lord Jesus Christ sacrificed Himself for us and our salvation and rose for the dead on Easter Sunday.

For me this is truly a special time for all Christians. It is the true meaning of our Faith That Christ died and rose from the death after 3 days

To see the number of people that attend Holy Thursday Mass where our Lord instituted 2 of our Sacraments - Holy Eucharist and Holy Orders, the Veneration of the Cross with the 7 last words of Christ, Easter Vigil Mass to Easter. If possible please see the above Holy Week schedule and try to have your families attend



What is Holy Week?

Holy Week is the most sacred seven days each year in the Catholic Church. It encompasses the crescendo of Lent, the sorrow of Good Friday, and the joy of the Easter Vigil leading up to Easter. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, a day on which Jesus enters Jerusalem triumphantly astride a colt (Luke 19:28–40; Zech. 9:9), yet also anticipates his Passion and death because people can't reconcile his being both Messiah King *and* the Suffering Servant (Luke 18:31–34; 22:37; see Isa. 52:13—Isa. 53:12). There are many other rich traditions and key events during the week, from Jesus's institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper on Holy Thursday to the solemn events of Good Friday, including the Stations of the Cross. Learn all about the holiest week of the year in the Catholic Answers Guide to Holy Week.

Exploring Holy Week: A Journey Through Catholic Traditions

Palm Sunday: Jesus Enters Jerusalem

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, a day that echoes with the elated cries of "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" (Matt. 21:9). Jesus enters Jerusalem, where crowds lay palm branches at his feet, recognizing him as the long-awaited Messiah. The symbolic act of laying down palm branches was a gesture of homage reserved for kings and dignitaries in ancient Israel, in this case acknowledging Jesus as the rightful King of Israel (Mark 11:1–11; Luke 19:28–40; John 12:12–19). As Jesus enters the holy city riding a donkey, the crowd is filled with anticipation, reverence, and jubilation.

Holy Wednesday: A Day of Preparation

On Wednesday of Holy Week, Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve apostles, decides to betray Jesus, handing Christ over to the high priests and Temple guards:

So he agreed, and sought an opportunity to betray him to them in the absence of the multitude (Luke 22:6).

With Judas acting as their spy, this day has become known as "<u>Spy Wednesday</u>." Some traditions consider it a day of preparation. A close study of the Gospels shows that the betrayal involves detailed and time-sensitive planning.

Maundy Thursday: Jesus Washing the Feet of His Disciples

Maundy Thursday, also known as Holy Thursday, commemorates the Last Supper. On Holy Thursday, Jesus institutes the Eucharist and washes the feet of his apostles. This was captured in John 13:5, washing the humility, service, and love of Christ that we, his disciples, are called to emulate. In a culture where washing feet was a task relegated to servants, Jesus, the Son of God, takes on the role of a servant and thereby ordains His apostles as the first ministerial priests of the New Covenant (see Matt 20:25–28; 18:1–4).

When he had washed their feet, taken his garments, and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you" (John 13:12–15).

The Holy Thursday foot washing ceremony has deep religious significance: according to Tradition, it represents the service and charity of Christ, who came "not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Matt. 20:28).

The season of Lent ends on the evening of Holy Thursday, which commences the Easter Triduum or "Paschal <u>Triduum</u>," a three-day period named after Jesus offering Himself as the New Covenant Passover Lamb of God, and which concludes with Evening Prayer (Vespers) on Easter Sunday.

Good Friday: Commemorates Jesus's Sacrifice of the Cross

Good Friday, the most solemn day of Holy Week, commemorates the Passion of Jesus Christ. It is a day of reflection, penance, and deep contemplation on the ultimate sacrifice made for the redemption of humanity. Christ's Passion, culminating in his crucifixion and death, reminds us of the weight of our sin and the unfathomable love of God. Catholics around the world participate in solemn liturgies, reflecting on our Lord's redemptive suffering, venerating the Cross, and receiving Holy Communion. They also pray at the <u>Stations of the Cross</u>, in which the faithful meditate on our Lord's journey to Calvary, a place also called "Golgotha," meaning "skull."

The Catholic Church observes the "Adoration of the Cross" during the Good Friday Celebration of the <u>Passion of the Lord</u>. In this ritual, the faithful approach the cross, often adorned with flowers, and venerate it with reverent gestures, such as kissing or genuflecting. It is a powerful ritual that encapsulates the deep sorrow of the day while acknowledging the transformative power of Christ's sacrifice.

Finally, there is also reception of Holy Communion *without* the Sacrifice of the Mass, because Good Friday commemorates *the* day Our Lord offered Himself on behalf of us (Matt. 26:26–28).

Holy Saturday: A Day of Vigil and Anticipation

Holy Saturday is a day of vigil, a period of waiting and anticipation. The Easter Vigil, the summit of the Paschal Triduum on Holy Saturday evening, is a profound liturgical celebration that takes place after nightfall. This ancient tradition, dating back to the fourth century, marks the high point of the Triduum and thus ignites the celebration of our Lord's Resurrection from the dead. At the Easter Vigil Mass, the Paschal—or Easter—Proclamation is made, which is part of the ceremony to light a paschal candle.

Known in Latin as "The Exsultet," the Proclamation and the Easter Vigil's baptismal liturgy symbolize together our journey from darkness to light and death to new life in Christ.

Easter Triduum: A Sacred Triad

The Easter Triduum—which "begins with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper" on Holy Thursday, continues "through Good Friday with the Celebration of the Passion of the Lord . . . reaches its summit with the Easter Vigil, and concludes with Vespers [Evening Prayer] of Easter Sunday"— stands as the sacred triad culminating with the joyous celebration of Easter. It encapsulates the great mystery of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection (*Paschale Solemnitatis*, no. 27).

A Catholic Apologetics Prayer for Holy Week

Heavenly Father, in this sacred time of Holy Week, we implore Your divine guidance and wisdom. We meditate on the profound mysteries of our faith, especially the paschal mystery of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection.

Grant us clarity to articulate the beauty of these truths to those seeking answers.

Strengthen our resolve to defend our beliefs with charity and conviction.

May the grace of this season transform hearts and minds, leading souls closer to your truth and salvation.

We humbly ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with

Catholic Food for thought





Parents please join us this Palm Sunday as we make Palm Crosses . They can then be brought to the 11AM Mass to be blessed.

Any child who will be making First Holy Communion or Confirmation a copy of the Baptismal Certificate is required.

Important Dates for children making Sacraments.

First Reconciliation/First Communion

Blessing Cup on April 13th from 12pm-2pm

First Communion May 5th @ 11am Mass

Sponsor information and Confirmation Name due.

The Faith Formation Program has obtained the program **AWAKEN** for Pflaum Publishing -a weekly publication. This will be available in the weekly newsletter as well as a paper copy for those who wish to have one.

Awaken and become disciples of the Word.

Church Masses



Sacrament of Reconciliation: Will be offered the first Wednesday of every month after the 12:15 Mass.

Saturday 4pm Sunday's 7:30am 9AM and 11AM Weekdays 12:15 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Friday.

There will no Mass on Thursday

Let's remember that as Catholics, the importance of attending Sunday Mass. At Mass we stand at mystically at the foot of the cross and witness for ourselves the same self-sacrifice of Jesus, in an unbloody manner. Mass is a celebration of this sacrifice. It is the active participation of all that come together in the place of worship.

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion At the Procession with Palms-Gospel Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16

1st Reading: Is 50:4-7

Responsorial Psalms 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-23

2nd Reading: Phil 2:6-11 Gospel: MK 14:1-15:47

While these are wonderful reflections, please remember that they are not to be a substitute for the wonderful sermons of Father or Deacon Kirk at Mass.

As always, I try to find wonderful reflections for this week's Gospel reading. I let the Holy Spirit guide me.



Today is Palm Sunday, which begins the holiest week of the year for Christians. The Gospel reading we hear in the *Liturgy of the Word* at Mass tells the Passion narrative, this year from the Gospel of Mark.

As we enter Holy Week, let us reflect on the subtleties of the familiar story that culminates Easter Day. Let us not lose sight of each day this week, of each story line, of each character because Holy Week gives us the chance to reflect upon our own lives, to walk alongside Jesus, and to see ourselves within this Theo-drama.

Do we see ourselves in the woman who anoints Jesus with oil as he is seated with his disciples? Do we see ourselves as the one who flees when the soldiers arrive to arrest Jesus? Do we see ourselves as Judas, as Peter? Do we see ourselves with Jesus at the Last Supper, participating with the faith of understanding that he is establishing a new covenant with his people - a covenant of thanksgiving, a *Eucharistic* (from the Greek) covenant? Are we also at the foot of the cross on Good Friday as John, the beloved disciple, and the Mary's?

Can we see ourselves as Jesus who humbly and obediently submits to the will of his Father in heaven, preferring to die to oneself and to live in sacrifice for others?

Holy Week is an invitation to see ourselves in each character. Let us not let this holiest week of the year in the Christian life pass us by!

There is no Resurrection without the suffering of the Cross. Each step that Jesus takes, beginning with his entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, to expiring on a cruel instrument of death, directs our attention that we, too, have our own journey to Mount Calvary.

Can I submit my will aside and ask for God's will, not my own, to be done?

Be not afraid! Jesus is waiting for you when you find nothing else in this world satisfies you.

For a Gospel reflection from the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, please enjoy below.

Peace be with you!

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

LISTEN: Christ became obedient to the point of death,/ even death on a cross./ Because of this, God greatly exalted him/ and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 14:1-15:47

REFLECTION:

by Bishop Robert Barron

Friends, on this Palm Sunday, we are privileged to become immersed in Mark's great Passion narrative, where the kingship of Jesus emerges with great clarity—and also with great irony.

We read that upon being brought before the Sanhedrin, Jesus is asked whether he is the "Christ"—that is, the Messiah—an implicit reference to David. When Jesus calmly responds, "I am," the high priest tears his robes, for how could a shackled criminal possibly be the kingly descendant of David? Upon being presented to Pilate, Jesus is asked the functionally equivalent question: "Are you the king of the Jews?" Again, a blandly affirmative answer comes: "You say so." This leads the soldiers to mock him, placing a purple cloak on his shoulders and a crown of thorns on his head.

Mark does not want us to miss the irony that, precisely as the King of the Jews and the Son of David, Jesus is implicitly King to those soldiers. For the mission of the Davidic king is the unification not only of the tribes of Israel but also of the tribes of the world. What commenced with David's gathering of the tribes of Israel would soon reach completion in the criminal raised high on the cross, thereby drawing all people to himself.

Reflect: Meditate on one of Christianity's most mysterious truths: that the Crucifixion of the Son of God was the means of our redemption.



Each week I include this week's Scripture to be shared for children who may be too young to attend the program.

Theme A study in contrasts for Palm Sunday

Object Palm fronds and a picture of a rooster

Scripture John 12:12-13; Luke 22:22-24

Hi kids! Do you know what day today is? It's Palm Sunday! That's why we're carrying palm fronds. When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people were happy to see him, so much so that they waved palm fronds as he passed and threw them at his feet. It was the sign of an approaching King—and in the case of Jesus, it was a celebration that the Messiah—the savior of the world had come in triumph to Jerusalem, the holy city—the city of David.

Everybody wave your palm fronds and shout Hosanna in the Highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Let's look at another symbol that was also seen in the Gospel account today: the rooster. What's a rooster got to do with the coming of the Messiah, the King of the Jews? Does anybody know? THE

PALM FROND AND THE ROOSTER

The rooster in this story symbolizes betrayal—of promising to stick by Jesus no matter what and then "chickening" out when it got tough and scary.

Let's all crow three times: Cock a-doodle-do! Cock a-doodle-do! Cock a-doodle-do!

So we have two symbols, today on Palm Sunday, to remind us that we often both celebrate the coming of the savior of the world and at the same time we turn on him and betray him when times get hard.

Which do you do? Praise God and celebrate his coming or do you betray him by not keeping your promises? I think for all of us we do both, just like Peter and the disciples.

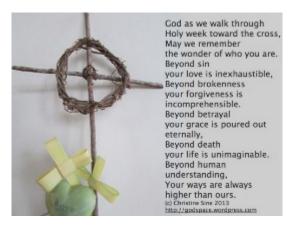
Let's both celebrate by waving palm fronds and then let's remember that we need that savior forgiveness because we have also denied him. One half the congregation yell Hosanna in the Highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, and the other half say cock a-doodle-do, cock a-doodle-do, cock a-doodle-do.

Let's pray: Dear Lord, we humans are odd people; On one hand we celebrate and praise you and then we often turn around and betray you. Lord, forgive us. Help us to see our sins and repent

Weekly Prayers

This week's prayer is for Holy Week that we remember the sacrifice of Jesus and His love for us.





Diocese of Syracuse

From Notre Dame Schools:

Notre Dame Schools 12th Annual Raffle is underway. This year's Grand Prize is \$100,000. With a Second Prize of \$10,000, Third Prize of \$10,000, and an additional \$10,000 in smaller prizes! Tickets cost \$100 each and includes admission for 2 adults to the Drawing Party on April 23, 2023, featuring free food, door prizes, and 50/50 raffles. Doors open at 12 Noon and the main drawing will be at 3pm. Call 315-724-5118 to purchase your tickets today!

3) From the Catholic Schools Office:

Save the Date: On Monday, June 17, 2024 we will hold our **3rd Annual Light A Child's Future Charity Golf Tournament at <u>Turning Stone Resort</u>. This exciting event benefits Catholic Schools scholarships. We strive to raise much needed funds for our Light a Child's Future Scholarship program, which enables economically disadvantaged students to attend Catholic Schools in our diocese. Did you know that 65% of our students rely on financial aid or scholarship support to attend our schools? Your support will directly aid underprivileged students, ensuring their participation in a faith-centered community focused on promoting academic excellence.**

Please join us:

· Serve as a Sponsor or Register as an individual or foursome team(s)

Sponsorships begin at \$500 - Click here for a complete list

· Promote the Golf Tournament in your Parish

See attached flyer for bulletin boards and Parish website

Event Details: Light A Child's Future Charity Golf Tournament. Monday, June 17 2024 Shenandoah Golf Club, Verona NY 18 holes of golf, rain or shine 11:00-1:00 Registration and grab-and-go lunch

1:00 Shotgun start

5:30 Cocktail hour

6:30-9:00 Celebration Dinner

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