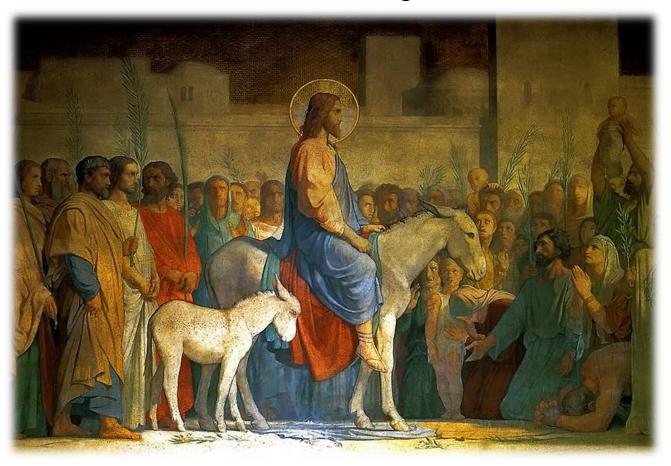
Christi simus, non nostri. + We belong to Christ, not ourselves.



March 28, 2021—Palm Sunday

St. Columban Parish

506 First St. S, Yelm, WA 98597

Parish Office

360-458-3031

Hours: Monday—Thursday 9AM-12PM; 12:30-2PM parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org www.saintcolumbanyelm.org

Mass Schedule

Sunday: 10:30AM Saturday Vigil: 5:00PM Daily Mass: Wednesdays 9:00AM Rosary is said 30min prior to each Mass

Sacraments

Anointing of the Sick: By Appointment Confession: Fridays 4:00—5:00PM **5:30—6:30PM during Lent**

Faith Formation

Offered Sundays before and after the 10:30AM Mass, depending on grade RCIA: Tuesdays 6:30PM

Adult Education & Outreach

Contact the parish office for more information

Bible Study Thursdays 6:30PM

Hispanic Prayer Group Tuesdays 6:00PM

Rosary Prayer Group Mondays 7:00PM

The church may be opened upon request during office hours for private prayer

ST. PETER MISSION

149 Keithahn St. S, Tenino, WA 98589

Mission Office

360-264-2124

Hours: Wednesdays & Fridays 10:30AM – 2PM gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Mass Schedule

Sunday 8:00 AM Rosary is said 30min prior to Mass

Sacraments

Confession: Sunday 7:30 -7:45AM Anointing of the Sick: by Appt.

Adult Education & Outreach

 ${\it Contact\ the\ mission\ of fice\ for\ more\ information}$

Bible Study Thursdays 10:00AM

MISSION STATEMENT - WE ARE A CATHOLIC FAITH COMMUNITY THAT SEEKS TO PLACE GOD FIRST, TO KNOW HIM, AND TO GROW IN HOLINESS TOGETHER. WE STRIVE TO LIVE THE GOSPEL THROUGH THE EUCHARIST, IN OUR TEACHING AND WAY OF LIFE.

SAINT COLUMBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

WELCOME! Please contact the office to register as a parishioner, for questions about any announcement, how to prepare for a sacrament, schedule a funeral or Mass Intention or to update your contact information.

PARISH OFFICE:

(360) 458-3031

Fr. Dean Mbuzi, Priest Administrator
Ext.6 frdean@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Patricia Selsor, Bookkeeper Ext.2 pat@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Katie Hennigan, Faith Formation
Ext. 3 katie@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Chad Lucero, Youth Ministry & Confirmation chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Jennifer Langham Liturgy & Admin Support Ext. 5 jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Chris Bixby, Director of Music chrisb@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Steven Slater, St. Columban Custodian steven@saintcolumbanyelm.org

ST. PETER OFFICE:

(360) 264-2124

Gaby Makinster, St. Peter Admin gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org



www.saintcolumbanyelm.org

Mass Intentions

Pray for all those affected by Covid-19 and for first responders and caregivers.

Our RCIA Candidates and Elect as they prepare to receive the Sacraments at the Easter Vigil

In Our Prayers

Loving God, we join with others of your people here asking you to hold in Your hands Joseph Waters, Jess & Jessica Nash, Maria Luisa Fregoso, Ray Wilson, Paul Hennigan, Pam Henslee and all those in harm's way.

Financial Stewardship

St. Columban St. Peter

Weekly Goal \$5,762 \$712 March 14 \$3,374 \$365

From a sermon by Saint Andrew of Crete, Bishop

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the king of

Let us go together to meet Christ on the Mount of Olives. Today he returns from Bethany and proceeds of his own free will toward his holy and blessed passion, to consummate the mystery of our salvation. He who came down from heaven to raise us from the depths of sin, to raise us with himself, we are told in Scripture, above every sovereignty, authority, and power, and every other name that can be named, now comes of his own free will to make his journey to Jerusalem. He comes without pomp or ostentation. As the psalmist says: He will not dispute or raise his voice to make it heard in the streets. He will be meek and humble, and he will make his entry in simplicity.

Let us run to accompany him as he hastens toward Jerusalem, and imitate those who met him then, not by covering his path with garments, olive branches or palms, but by doing all we can to prostrate ourselves before him by being humble and by trying to live as he would wish. Then we shall be able to receive the Word at his coming, and God, whom no limits can contain, will be within us.

In his humility Christ entered the dark regions of our fallen world and he is glad that he became so humble for our sake, glad that he came and lived among us and shared in our nature in order to raise us up again to himself. And even though we are told that he has now ascended above the highest heavens—the proof, surely, of his power and godhead—his love for man will never rest until he has raised our earthbound nature from glory to glory, and made it one with his own in heaven.

So let us spread before his feet, not garments or soulless olive branches, which delight the eye for a few hours and then wither, but ourselves, clothed in his grace, or rather, clothed completely in him. We who have been baptized into Christ must ourselves be the garments that we spread before him.

Now that the crimson stains of our sins have been washed away in the saving waters of baptism and we have become white as pure wool, let us present the conqueror of death, not with mere branches of palms but with the real rewards of his victory. Let our souls take the place of the welcoming branches as we join today in the children's holy song: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the king of Israel.

Pax et bonum, Fr. Dean.

SAINT COLUMBAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

Judith Cusick (Chairperson), Sheila Johnson, Jerome Didier, Joseph Judge, Dennis Stumpf parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org

SAINT PETER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Sherry Bachmann (Chairperson), Marilyn Ritter, Bernie Schwarz, Bob Bacon, Diane Weston, stpeteradvisory@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Faith Formation

What is Holy Week?

Holy Week is the week before Easter Sunday, beginning seven days before with Palm Sunday. It ends with Holy Saturday. The summit of the Liturgical Year is within Holy Week and is called the Easter Triduum. The Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, reaches its high point in the Easter Vigil, and closes with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery. Easter Sunday is not part of Holy Week, but rather the beginning of the Easter season of the Liturgical year. The single celebration of the Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season, and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at the Easter Vigil.

Palm Sunday celebrates the triumphant entry of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, into Jerusalem, riding a donkey. On that day, the people laid palms before Him, a gesture reserved for triumphant leaders.

Maundy Thursday (Holy Thursday) is the day that Jesus celebrated the Passover feast with the disciples. We know this feast as the Last Supper. This is the night He was betrayed by Judas and arrested. It also commemorates His institution of the priesthood. The Last Supper is celebrated at every Mass, and especially on Holy Thursday.

Good Friday is the day we commemorate the trial, punishment, and crucifixion of Our Lord.

Holy Saturday is the day that Jesus descended into hell where He preached the Gospel to those who died before and opened the way to heaven for all those who were worthy. During the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday the Easter fire is kindled and the Paschal candle is blessed and then lit. As the candle proceeds through the church, the small candles held by those present are gradually lit form the Paschal candle

This concludes Holy Week. The following day is **Easter Sunday**, the day on which it was discovered the Tomb was empty, and our Lord was resurrected, triumphing over death once and for all time.

All Masses will resume with modifications, see below for details

MASS RESERVATIONS

In obedience to the COVID Safety Guidelines from the Archdiocese, public Mass at our parish has resumed with the following safety measures in place.

- Masks will be required. Those with a medical exemption will be seated according to Archdiocesan guidelines.
- Attendance will be limited to 90 people per Mass at St. Columban and 40 people per Mass at St. Peter.
- The cry room at St. Columban is limited to one family per Mass and will be reserved on a first come-first served basis.

Reservations at St. Columban: call the parish office at 360-458-3031 ext. 5

Reservations at St. Peter: call the mission office at 360-264-2124

If you are unable to call during office hours, please leave your name, phone number, and how many will be in your party and we will call you back to confirm your reservation.

Please note that leaving a voicemail <u>does</u> <u>not confirm</u> your reservation

Important Things to Remember

- Only persons who are under the same reservation will be seated together.
- Please arrive at least 20 minutes early for Mass. You will be checked in by a Greeter and then seated by an Usher. Seating is first come, first – served.
- We recommend you bring your own missal with you for the readings as they will not be provided.
- Please do not sing along with the Cantor in accordance with COVID-19 guidelines.

RCIA classes have ended for the 2020-21 year. Please pray for the catechumens and candidates as they complete their preparation to receive the Sacraments of Baptism and Initiation at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 3.



April 1 **HOLY THURSDAY** 7:00PM St. Columban **GOOD FRIDAY** April 2 3:00PM Stations of the Cross at both locations **No Confession** Mass @ St. Columban 7:00PM April 3 **EASTER VIGIL** 8:00PM St. Columban April 4 **EASTER SUNDAY** 8:00AM St. Peter

Easter Egg Hunt after the 10:30AM Mass

St. Columban



3 Year Goal for St. Columban: \$307, 368

As of: January 7, 2021

10:30AM

Total Pledged: \$164,000 **53% of Goal Number of Families Participating:** 292

Potential Share: \$24,600

3 Year Goal for St. Peter: \$54,327

As of: January 7, 2021

Total Pledged: \$105,000 **193% of Goal Number of Families Participating:** 45

Potential Share: \$43,350

Thank You for Pledging Your Support!

Bonus Bulletin Content!

To save on printing, some extra bulletin content will now be exclusively found in the online edition of our bulletin, which is also emailed weekly to parishioners.

Sign up at

<u>flocknote.com/saintcolumbanyelm</u> or visit our website <u>saintcolumbanyelm.org</u>



PLEASE NOTE: These lessons are to be completed independently by all Youth Ministry at home with a parent or guardian by April 18th, 2021. All children in the in person 1-5th grades will complete their lessons during class on April 18th. The same opt-out form can be used for all grades.

TO: Parents

FROM: ST. COLUMBAN Youth Ministry

SUBJECT: Notification of "Teaching Boundaries" program

In teaching our youth about our Catholic Faith, we have been called to a ministry. A ministry that embodies the mission of Christ in caring for our youth and caring for one another. We have not only been called to teach our youth about our Catholic faith but to do so in a space that is a safe and a space that allows our youth to form a relationship with God.

As a result the Archdiocese of Seattle would like to take this opportunity to educate our youth and give them the tools they need to protect themselves from those who may harm them. In creating a safe space for our youth, we can teach and show them the ways of Christ in a safe environment conducive to learning. Keeping our minors and vulnerable adults safe starts with you.

This year, due to COVID and the limited number of classes we have been able to accommodate, we ask the parents to complete this training with their children. The Diocese has provided the materials, we just need you to make the time to log in and lead these important discussions with your teens. This lesson has been integrated into the religious task and essential concepts taught within Faith Formation to seem as natural as possible while being most effective for our youth in the context of abuse prevention. Please understand that your child is being given a lesson about sexual abuse prevention, NOT sex education. While these topics do have similar names, they are completely different subject matter. Sexual abuse prevention courses teach and give our youth the tools they need to protect themselves from those who may try to harm them. Sex Education is curriculum designed to examine issues relating to human sexuality, including relations, responsibility, sexual anatomy, sexual activity, reproduction, etc.

Please visit: http://saintcolumbanyelm.org/faith-formation/safe-environment-education/. This will provide you with "Parent/ Guardian Resources," you will use to have these important discussions with your children. If your children are enrolled in the Faith Formation program and you get regular Flocknotes from the Faith Formation Office, check your email for more information.

As the guardian, you have the right to opt your child/youth out of this lesson. You may do so by filling out the enclosed form on the back and returning it before the due date of this training. The Faith Formation Office needs all opt-out forms or proof of completion of the materials emailed to katie@saintcolumbanyelm.org by APRIL 18, 2021



St. Columban Youth Ministry Program, Grades 6 through 12.

"Teaching Boundaries" class to be completed or opted out by April 18, 2021

TO	:	Parents
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FROM: St. Columban Youth Ministry Program, Grades 6 through 12.

SUBJECT: Opportunity to "opt your child out" of the Teaching Boundaries program

DATE: March 23.2021

ST. COLUMBAN YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM needs all students to complete an abuse prevention program, the *Teaching Boundaries*, by April 18, 2021. The creators of the *Protecting God's Children™* program developed the *Teaching Boundaries* program. This program is provided to us by the ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE and is a part of our ongoing effort to help create and maintain a safe environment for children and to protect all children from abuse.

The scheduled lesson is being offered online to all students in ST. COLUMBAN'S YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM. As a parent, you have the right to choose whether you complete the lesson or opt out. We encourage you to follow the link below and be aware of the nature of the program. If you have questions about the program or the lesson, please contact KATIE HENNIGAN at 360-458-3031. If you determine that you DO NOT want to complete these discussions with your child, please complete the "opt-out" form at the bottom of this page, and return it to our office no later than April 18th.

For more information on the *Teaching Boundaries* program, visit the VIRTUS *Online*™ website at <u>www.virtus.org</u> or the archdiocesan page at https://archseattle.org/for-parishes/safe-environment/

Opt-out form for use with the Teaching Boundaries program:

I do not wish for my child to participate in the *Teaching Boundaries* program.

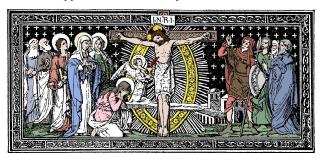
Child's Name:_	
Parent's name (printed):	
Parent's Signature:	
Date:	

Holy Week

This is a very special week. On Thursday we celebrate the day that Jesus ate the Last Supper with His apostles. This was the first Mass, when He gave His Body and Blood to them in what still looked like bread and wine. He also made them priests by giving them the power to turn bread and wine into His Body and Blood to offer them to the Father.

On Good Friday we remember the suffering and death of Our Lord. He was beaten and made fun of, and had to carry the heavy cross. Then He was nailed to the cross, where He hung for hours before He gave up His life to God for us.

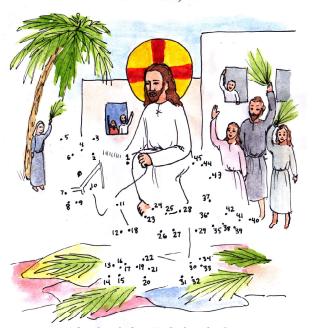
On Holy Saturday we remember the day that Mary and the apostles and Jesus' other friends were very sad and upset by what had happened. Their best friend and leader had just been killed! Do you think they knew what was about to happen on Easter Sunday?



www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

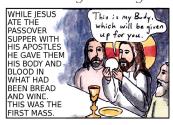
Palm Sunday / Passion Sunday March 28th, 2021



A few days before He died on the Cross,
Jesus came into Jerusalem while the people waved
palm branches and shouted, "Hosanna!"
He was riding on something that was a sign of peaceful times.
What was it? Connect the dots to find out!

The Passion of Jesus

Holy Thursday and Good Friday











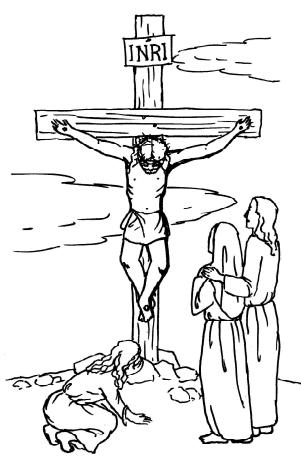




WATCHED HIM
SUFFER AND
DIE. AFTER HE
DIED, HIS BODY
WAS TAKEN
DOWN AND
LAID IN A
TOMB.
EVERYONE
WENT HOME
FOR THE
SABBATH DAY.

JESUS' MOTHER

THIS IS THE STORY OF THE FIRST HOLY THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY. JESUS ALWAYS KNEW THAT THIS WAS WHAT HE CAME TO DO: TO SUFFER AND DIE TO MAKE UP FOR THE SINS OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD. BECAUSE HE DID THIS WE ARE ALL ABLE TO GO TO HEAVEN. NOW WE JUST NEED TO FOLLOW HIM!



A Good Friday picture for you to colour.



Follow the instructions below to create your own palm cross!



Holding a palm strip with the curled edge toward you, fold up the widest end in a loop about 2" long.



Then fold the top piece downward until it covers the top of the previous fold and forms a loop about 2". Place a staple at the intersection.



Bend the thin end of the palm to the right, creasing on a diagonal line.



Fold the palm behind the cross, forming a loop about 1 1/2" on the left. Secure in the center with another staple.



Continue the fold toward the front of the cross forming a loop 11/2" on the left. Secure it with another staple.



Wrap the remainder of the palm over the top-right angle of the cross, bringing it straight across the back and over the top-left angle to the front. Cross it diagonally to the bottom-right corner...



... straight across the back and bring it to the front from the bottom-left corner. Bring it from the bottom-left corner to the top-right corner and to the back again.



Weave the small remaining piece in the back under loops and tie it off. If needed, you can use another staple of a drop of glue.



Add dried flowers or a tiny bow.

FORMED®

PICK OF THE WEEK

March 28, 2021

TRIDUUM: A SPIRITUAL **PILGRIMAGE**

In Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage, the viewer is brought deeper into the story, landscape, and reality of Holy Week. It draws those with open hearts and minds toward a deeper understanding of Christ's victory while offering rich meditations for the pilgrimage of daily life.



FORMED LIVE! Jesus' Descent into Hell

FORMED NOW! HOLY SATURDAY-**JESUS' DESCENT INTO HELL**

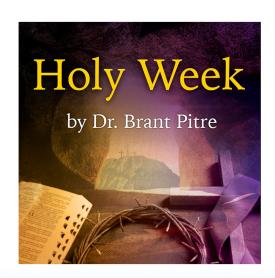
What do we mean when we profess that Jesus descended into Hell? Join Drs. Tim Gray and Michael Barber as they discuss this mysterious event of Holy Saturday.

LEARN

LISTEN

HOLY WEEK BY DR. BRANT PITRE

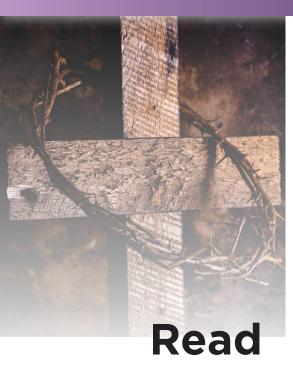
Join Dr. Brant Pitre, author and Scripture scholar, as he walks us through the events of Holy Week. Pitre's insights and clarity allow the listener to enter into a deeper appreciation of the most important events of Christ's earthly ministry.



Our parish has a FORMED subscription. To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.



Hearing the Palm Sunday readings reminds us of the seriousness of Jesus' sacrifice for us. He was willing to face the worst of sin and death in order to redeem us: the ultimate act of love.



Take time to read and reflect on the Scriptures for this day.

Don't have access to a Bible?

Visit <u>www.usccb.org/bible/readings</u> or download an app such as *Laudate* or *iBreviary* to access the Mass readings.

Our Palm Sunday readings conclude with the Passion of Jesus, his suffering and death on the cross. If concerns for safety prevent us from attending Mass on Palm Sunday, we should not miss the opportunity to participate in Mass at our parish by livestream. We should also take the opportunity to explore Holy Week with our children through some of the excellent digital resources available on our Faith Formation website.

Our faith describes Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross as a <u>mystery</u>, or <u>something that requires help from God to understand</u>. We all benefit from hearing these readings and reflecting on what Jesus did for us and how he repeats this sacrifice for us though the Eucharist.

Mark 11:1-10

Jesus prepares his disciples for his entry into Jerusalem.

Isaiah 50:4-7

I gave my back to those who beat me.

Psalm 22:89, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

My God what have you abandoned me?

Philippians 2:6-11

Jesus humbled himself, obedient to the point of death.

Mark 14:1-15:47

The passion of Jesus Christ

At Home with Faith

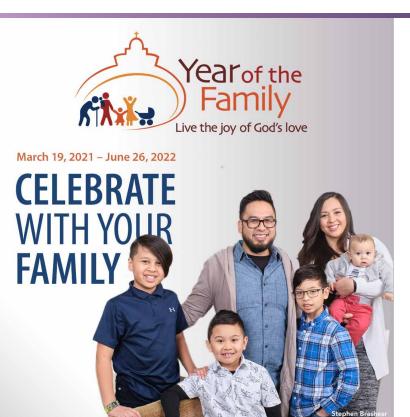
Talk

Here are some reflection questions to help you have **Great Conversations** with the whole family.

Encourage your children to do the following:

1) Reflect on the experience of some of the people present in St. Mark's account of Passion:

- Think about how Peter must have felt. Peter loved Jesus and promised to be with him no matter what. But he didn't keep his promise, denying Jesus three times. What do you think Peter experienced during the Gospel account?
- Think about Simon the Cyrenian who helped Jesus carry his cross. The Gospel tells us about a man named Simon who was passing by and was forced by the soldiers to help Jesus carry the cross. What do you think the experience was like for Simon? Did he feel good about having a chance to help?
- Think about what Mary Magdalene would have experienced. The Gospel describes how Mary Magdalene looked on from a distance. She had come to love and trust Jesus and believe all that he promised. What would she have experienced?
- 2) Let them reflect on how it can sometimes feel like we are separated from God. It can be very helpful for us to empathize with the experience of anxiety or fear that the disciples felt when they didn't know what would happen during Jesus' Passion. Let them know that God is always present, even if we don't feel it.



When we hear the proclamation of the Palm Sunday Gospel, we cannot help but feel sadness at the suffering endured by Jesus. We might also feel astonishment at how the creator of all things, the embodiment of truth, goodness and beauty could walk the way of the cross stumbling and falling in the mud of the street. Yet, that is exactly what our Lord chose to do.

This is a powerful reminder that every Christian is called to follow Jesus' example of looking past the sins and failings of others. In paragraph #308 of Amoris Laetitia, *The Joy of Love,* Pope Francis writes: "I sincerely believe that Jesus wants a Church attentive to the goodness which the Holy Spirit sows in the midst of human weakness, a Mother who, while clearly expressing her objective teaching, 'always does what good she can, even if in the process, her shoes get soiled by the mud of the street."

When we find ourselves upset or frustrated at the human weakness we encounter within ourselves and those we love, we must remember what Jesus did. Even if we fall in the mud, he never worries about getting dirty in order to lift us up.

For more resources, visit us online at:

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion



As we celebrate Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, we are reminded that Lent is coming to close and the Resurrection is nearing. In one week, we will celebrate Easter Sunday. Pray that the Lord allow you to accompany him serenely during these Easter mysteries and you may emerge from them renewed in faith, hope and charity.

Meet Me in the Desert

Lord of Lent, Lord of Easter, As you went into the desert So do I follow Putting aside that which distracts me Grabs at me Falsely claims me. To search inside To confront myself My best, my worst My good works and my sins.

And each time, I find you there To call to me again With words of challenge and words of mercy.

And as I fall to my knees, in prayer, in fasting In sacrifice and penitence Somehow, you have it in yourself to reach out and gently lift me To renew me To claim me as nothing of this world can claim me.

Meet me in the desert, Lord. Claim me anew. **Amen**.

The Easter Triduum

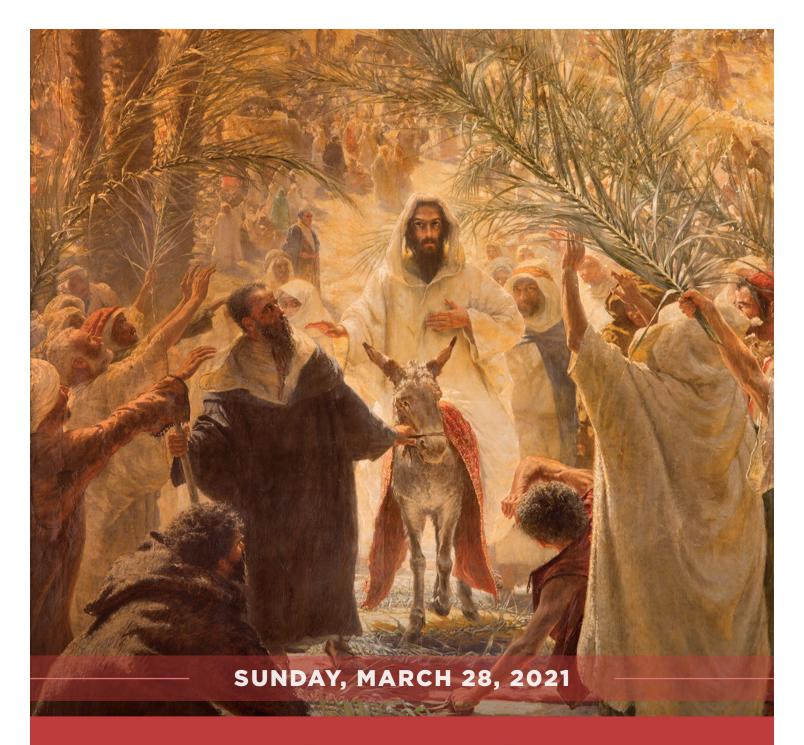
The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum–from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery.

The single celebration of the Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season, and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at the Easter Vigil.

Holy Thursday—April 1, 2021 Good Friday—April 2, 2021 Easter Sunday—April 4, 2021 Mass of the Lord's Supper Good Friday of the Lord's Passion Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord







PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

610⁻

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

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 28, 2021

SUN 3/28 Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/ls 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

MON 3/29 Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14 [1a]/|n 12:1-11

TUE 3/30 Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

WED **3/31** Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34 [14c]/Mt 26:14-25

THR 4/01 Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [2a]/Rv 1:5-8/Lk

4:16-21 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

FRI 4/02 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

SAT 4/03 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 16:1-7

SUN 4/04 Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-

8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or Lk 24:13-35

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 28, 2021

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

Thursday: Holy Thursday; April Fools' Day

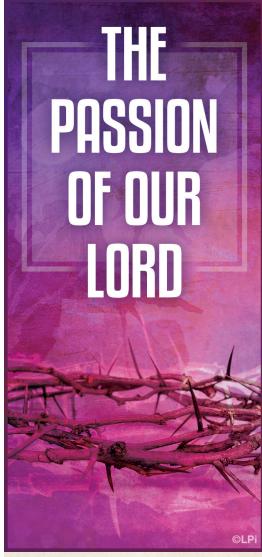
Friday: Good Friday; Day of fasting and abstinence

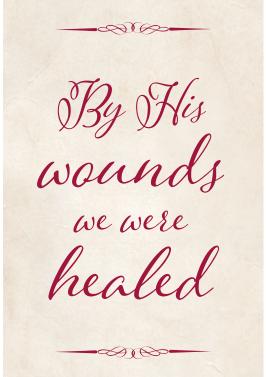
Saturday: Holy Saturday Sunday: Easter Sunday

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

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!





CLPI

FIRST READING

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. (Is 50:7)



PSALM

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22)



SECOND READING

Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; (Phil 2:7)



GOSPEL

They clothed him in purple and, weaving a crown of thorns, placed it on him. They began to salute him with, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and kept striking his head with a reed and spitting upon him. (Mk 15:17-19)

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WORSHIP & MEDITATION



GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

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?

LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING Call

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.

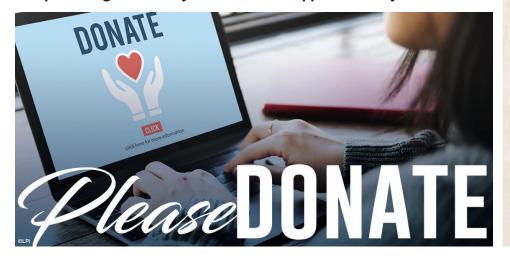
It may sound strange, to advise someone to savor the moments of Holy Week. There are so many violent and heartrending moments, after all. But this is the valley of tears, remember — we are not in Heaven yet. And here, in our fallen, sin-filled world, it is the heartrending moments that seem to matter the most.

These are the moments that define us as Catholics. Live them. Cherish them. Be present for each one.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

Why haven't Catholic Churches gone the way of disposable cups for wine distribution?

Answer:

If a Catholic has ever attended a Protestant worship service and saw the communion service that was offered for that community, one of the things that might have stood out was the use of small, disposable cups for distributing the wine or grape juice. This is in stark contrast to the precious metal chalices used in Catholic churches during the Mass. Although practices for Protestant Christians can vary (ranging from large shared chalices, to personal-use cups, to dipping the bread in the wine/grape juice), the norms governing Catholic practices are fairly direct: "Sacred vessels are to be made from precious metal. If they are made from metal that rusts or from a metal less precious than gold, then ordinarily they should be gilded on the inside. In the Dioceses of the United States of America, sacred vessels may also be made from other solid materials that, according to the common estimation in each region, are precious ... they are to have bowls of nonabsorbent material" (nos. 328-330). Rather than being a commentary on the beliefs or practices of those other communities, these rules are intended to highlight the reverence that Catholics have for the bread and wine consecrated at Mass, which become the Body and Blood the Lord.



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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 9:2-3

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LITURGICAL LIFE

OUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

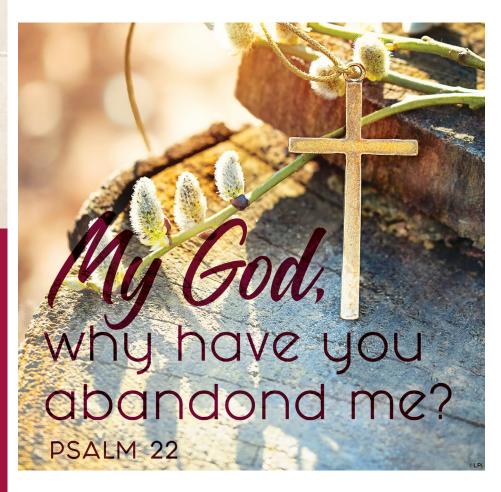
The prophet Isaiah reflects on his obedience to God's call regardless of personal suffering that he endured. Isaiah found strength in his faith and fidelity to God. How does your faith help frame your suffering?

Second Reading

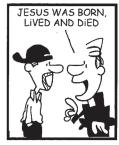
Paul speaks of Jesus' humility as central to his divine identity. What does this teach us about God's nature?

Gospel Reading

We hear today Mark's account of the Passion of our Lord. What parts of the passion narrative are you drawn to?



PALM SUNDAY









LITURGICAL LIFE

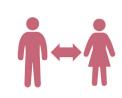
3 EASY STEPS

To Keeping Yourself & Others Healthy!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.







Wash Your Hands

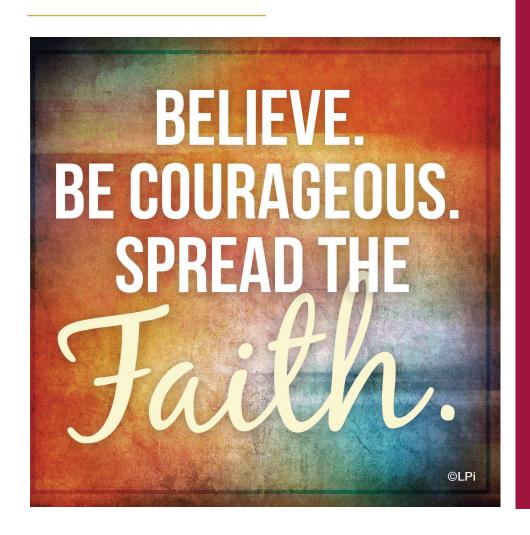
Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.

Don't Touch Your Face

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.

Keep Your Distance

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.



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

"Hosanna!

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

Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!

Hosanna in the highest!"

- Mk 11:9-10

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READ THE GOSPEL AND COMPLETE A PUZZLE!

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SHARING THE GOSPEL

In today's Gospel, Jesus spent forty days in the desert. Jesus stayed close to God, and he followed God's directions every day of his life. When Satan came to test Jesus he was ready. Jesus passed every test beautifully. He said "No" to temptation. When you write spelling words over and over, it is easier to remember them. If you are learning a new language, it helps to make flash cards to practice with. Once you memorize all your words, taking the test is pretty easy. The more you read the Bible and do what God asks in his word, the easier it will be for you to pass Satan's tests, too.

PRAYER

God, help me to stay close to you so that I am ready for my tests.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Memorize Proverbs 1:3, "You will learn what is right and honest and fair." Practice writing it and saying it every day, until you know this verse by heart.

KIDS CORNER

Find and circle ten things that are different:









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