

# PALM SUNDAY of the PASSION OF THE LORD

Blessing and Distribution of Palms starting in the Church Hall for all weekend Masses



29 March 2026 | Sunday



Hosanna

Today we begin Holy Week, the days during which we journey with Jesus on his way of the cross and anticipate his Resurrection on Easter. Today's liturgy begins with the procession with palms to remind us of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem.

The events of Jesus' Passion are proclaimed in their entirety in today's Liturgy of the Word. Those events will be proclaimed again when we celebrate the liturgies of the Triduum Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Good Friday of the Lord's Passion, and the Easter Vigil. In communities that celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation with catechumens, these liturgies take on special importance because they invite the catechumens and the community to enter together into the central mysteries of our faith. These days are indeed profound and holy.

There are many vantage points from which to engage in Jesus' Passion. In the characters of Matthew's Gospel, we find reflections of ourselves and the many ways in which we sometimes respond to Jesus. Sometimes we are like Judas, who betrays Jesus and comes to regret it. We are sometimes like Peter, who denies him, or like the disciples, who fell asleep during Jesus' darkest hour but then act rashly and violently at his arrest. Sometimes we are like Simon, who is pressed into service to help Jesus carry his cross. Sometimes we are like the leaders who fear Jesus or like Pontius Pilate, who washed his hands of the whole affair. Jesus dies so that our sins will be forgiven.

The events of Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection are called the Paschal Mystery. No amount of study will exhaust or explain the depth of love that Jesus showed in offering this sacrifice for us. After we have examined and studied the stories we have received about these events, we are left with one final task to meditate on these events and on the forgiveness that Jesus' obedience won for us.

As we gather, let us remember and pray for . .

## Monday, March 30

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Sylvia Phillips



## Tuesday, March 31

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Nora Kirley

7:30 pm Mass of Chrism (celebrated at the Cathedral)



## Wednesday, April 1

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Carmela Mignelli

## Thursday, April 2

7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper  
Followed by Adoration until 11:00 pm



## Friday, April 3

11:00 a.m. Passion Service for Children and Families

3:00 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross



## Saturday, April 4

12:00 p.m. Blessing of Easter Baskets

8:00 p.m. Solemn Easter Vigil Resurrection of the Lord

## Sunday, April 5

9:00 a.m. ♦ People of the parish

11:00 a.m. ♦ Sam Rotundo



**NO 5:00pm MASS**

### CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The parish office will be closed Good Friday, through Easter Monday. We wish you all a very "Blessed Easter."



On **HOLY SATURDAY**, we will welcome into the Catholic Church our recipients who have journeyed through the R.C.I.A. process. They will receive Holy Communion and celebrate Confirmation. We will welcome them.



MAY GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP!

Sunday Collection March 22 \$7,810

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for the Month of April:** For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.



### THE MASS OF CHRISM

Will be celebrated in the Cathedral Church of St. Catherine of Alexandria on Tuesday of Holy Week, March 31 (7:30 p.m.). The holy oils are blessed (or consecrated); the priests of the Diocese renew their dedication. Everyone is invited to attend, including those journeying through the R.C.I.A. and preparing for Easter sacraments.

### AT HOLY THURSDAY'S MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Following the washing of feet, a blessing of parish ministries and activities will take place. The procession with the gifts at that Mass will include the holy oils as well as gifts for the poor -- a good occasion to present your gift for ST. VINCENT de PAUL. Please note that incense will be used at the Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil liturgies.



### PASCHAL FAST

This should be observed everywhere on Good Friday and continued, where possible on Holy Saturday. Good Friday is a universal day of fasting and abstinence from meat. In this way, the people of God will receive the joys of the Lord's resurrection with uplifted and responsive hearts.

### HOLY LAND COLLECTION - GOOD FRIDAY

This collection helps maintain Christian sites of the Holy Land and supports the Church in the pastoral, educational, and social works that contribute to a sustained Christian presence in the land where Jesus the Christ once walked.

### BLESSED EASTER WATER

Blessed Easter water will be available following Easter Vigil. Please bring containers if you wish to take some home. The silver water vessel is normally located in the front foyer but during the Easter season it will be placed nearer to the altar.



### SSVP - SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:

**THANK YOU** all for your generous donations! **ONE "TWOONIE", PER FAMILY, PER WEEK** really does help us to help more of our neighbours in need. St. Vincent de Paul, bless our ministry.



### LAST DAYS OF LENT

The liturgical celebration of Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week continue to show Christ to us as the obedient, suffering servant, but also as the servant who dies only to be victorious in the end. Monday's fragrance (Mary) and Tuesday's overconfidence (Peter) set the stage for "Spy Wednesday," alluding to Judas' agreeing with the chief priests to betrayal of Jesus.

### COME, CELEBRATE WITH OUR PARISH WHEN AT OUR BEST!

Beginning on Holy Thursday, we enter into the Easter Triduum—the three holiest days of our Church year. Through prayer, scripture, and ritual, we celebrate the heart of our faith: the death and resurrection of Jesus. These sacred days invite us to step away from our usual routines and make time for reflection, prayer, and community. From Holy Thursday evening through the Easter Vigil, we are called not only to attend, but to gather fully as a parish family. Please plan now to join us for these most important celebrations of the year, as we come together in faith and joy to share in the Paschal mystery.

### LENT CONFESSIONS

Take note of the added times for Reconciliation on Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week, before Mass. There are no opportunities for the sacrament formally scheduled from Holy Thursday to Holy Saturday, as Lent is ended by then and the Sacred Paschal Triduum ("Three Days") begins.



### ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH CHILDREN'S LITURGY TEAM

Presents GOOD FRIDAY PASSION PLAY for CHILDREN and FAMILIES April 3, 2025 at 11:00 am.

### SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY - APRIL 12

Live and share the powerful message of Divine Mercy In preparation for the feast, The Divine Mercy Chaplet is to be prayed during Easter Week. Our parish's Divine Mercy celebration is Sunday, April 12 at 2:30 p.m., with time for individual Reconciliation, during holy hour from 2:30 to 3:30p.m., including the Stations of Light ("Way of Joy"), and the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and concluding with Benediction.



### PARKING FOR THE UPCOMING SUNDAYS

As we approach Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, please note that parking will be limited due to the short time between Masses. On both Sundays, there will be two morning Masses (9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.), and we expect a high volume of attendance. To help ease congestion, we kindly encourage parishioners to consider parking at nearby lots, such as Our Lady of Mt. Carmel or the former St. Thomas More School, both within a short walking distance of the church. This will help create a smoother and more welcoming experience for everyone specially for senior parishioners and those with mobility challenges. We also ask for your cooperation in following all posted parking lot signs when entering and exiting. Please do not exit through the entrance, and be mindful not to block other vehicles or restrict access for emergency services. **THANK YOU** for your understanding and consideration as we celebrate these important liturgies together