

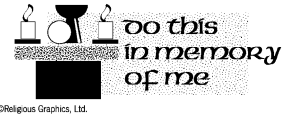
PARISH CALENDAR

Palm Sunday of The
Passion of the Lord

April 14, 2019

Glory and honor and praise
to you, Son of David!

Saturday, April 13	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, April 14	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, April 15	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	FOOD PANTRY CLOSED
	..... 7:00 p. m.	<u>Rehearsal - Holy Thursday</u>
Tuesday, April 16	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Mass
Wednesday, April 17	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	FOOD PANTRY CLOSED
	..... 7:00 p. m.	<u>Rehearsal - Easter Vigil</u>
Thursday, April 18		NO MORNING MASS
	..... 7:00 p. m.	MASS OF THE LORD SUPPER
Friday, April 19	.... 9:00 pm-12am	ADORATION
		NO MORNING MASS
		PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
	... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	FOOD PANTRY CLOSED
	..... 2:00 p.m.	STATIONS OF THE CROSS
 7:00 p. m.	GOOD FRIDAY - THE LORD'S PASSION
Saturday, April 20 8:00 p.m.	EASTER VIGIL



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NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Acts:10:34a 37-43: *Everyone who believes will receive forgiveness of sins through Christ's name*

Col:3:1-4: *Think of what is above, not of what is on earth*

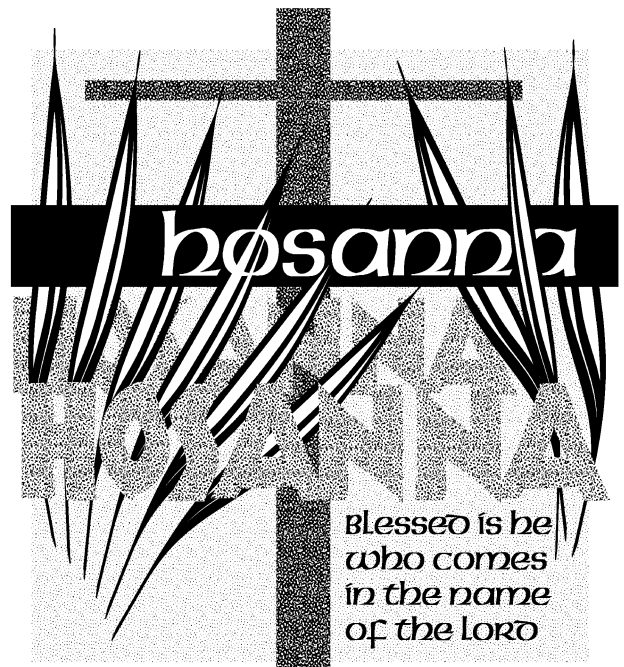
1 Cor:5:6b-8: *Celebrate the feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.*

John:20:1-9: *Mary of Magdala arrived at the tomb while it was still dark.*

Reflection

Each evangelist opens to us some facet of Jesus' passion and death. For Luke, the cross is the cause of our conversion, and his telling of the story introduces people all along the via dolorosa, at the foot of the cross, and indeed, on the cross itself. A disparate assembly of people named and unnamed meets Jesus in today's account. First, we meet a reluctant Simon from Cyrene, who is pressed into service. It is he who carries the cross for an exhausted Jesus. Jesus pauses to speak to the women for whose future he weeps as much as they weep for his. There are also the women who were with him during his entire public ministry. They watch at the foot of the cross, but at some distance. Luke mentions the good thief, repentant at last, and the unnamed multitude who regret this crucifixion. And the centurion who realizes a great deal a little too late: "This man was innocent beyond doubt" (Luke 23:47). And Joseph of Arimathea steps forth, offering to lend the women a tomb for Jesus' body. All of these people along the way! All in attendance and somehow touched—idling, doing their job, helpless, or making small and great gestures.

As we read and meditate on this via dolorosa and recall all that occurred on that singular day; the terror of these moments was Jesus' alone. But the narrative is for our sakes. The story is retold, as Paul says just before today's second reading, not only that we might hear and follow along, but so that we might hear and be moved: "Let your attitude be Christ's." Copyright © 2003, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

PIZZA WITH A PURPOSE: Don't forget we are having a Fund-raiser at California Pizza Kitchen, **Tuesday, April 23, 2019.** Flyers are at the back of church, please share with your family and friends. Help support St. Rita!

OPERATION RICE BOWL: ENCOUNTER OUR NEIGHBORS: We encounter Jesus this week in Jerusalem, a community he knew well. We prayerfully enter our own communities too, encountering those who are hungry and thirsty, and those who need our help. How does our Lenten journey motivate us to serve those we meet in our daily lives? Visit www.crsricebowl.org for more.

WORD OF LIFE: "When battered by life's storms, or immersed in dense fog of suffering and uncertainty, we may feel alone and unequipped to handle the circumstances. Yet with words that echo through thousands of years into the corners of our hearts, the Lord says to us, "do not fear: I am with you" (Isaiah 41:10)." **USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities 2018-2019 Respect Life Reflection**

WEEKLY READINGS

Apr 14 Sun: Palm Sunday

Isa:50:4-7; Ps:22; Phil:2:6-11; Lk:22:14-23:56

Apr 15 Monday of Holy Week

Isa:42:1-7; Ps:27:1, 2, 3, 13-14; Jn:12:1-11

Apr 16 Tuesday of Holy Week

Isa:49:1-6; Ps:71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 & 17; Jn:13:21-33, 36-38

Apr 17 Wednesday of Holy Week

Isa:50:4-9a; Ps:69: 8-10, 21-22, 31 & 33-34; Mt:26:14-25

Apr 18 Thu: Holy Thursday

Exo:12:1-8, 11-14; Ps:116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor:11:23-26; Jn:13:1-15

Apr 19 Fri: Good Friday

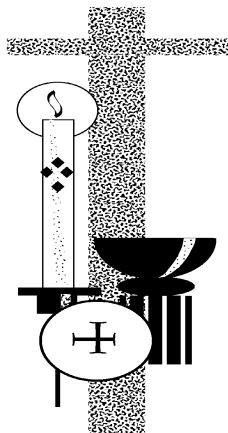
Isa:52:13-53:12; Ps:31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25; Heb:4:14-16, 5:7-9; Jn:18:1-19:42

Apr 20 Sat: Easter Vigil

Gen:1:1:2:2; Ex:14:15:15:1, Isa: 55:1-11; Eze: 36:16-17a, 18-28; Rom 6:3-11; Lk:24:1-12

The Way of the Cross

We would not be able to walk this way of the cross were it not for the Resurrection. We would not be able to repeat the words of Jesus' loneliness on the cross were it not for the life it yields for us. But we can walk this way and sing this song and tell this story to a people yet to be born; we can do this because of the Resurrection. Copyright © 2003, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.



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NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

In the prelude to today's great Passion Narrative, Saint Paul reminds us that we find our hope in the "emptiness" and "humility" of Christ Jesus; a life that led to the cross, but through the cross, to glory and exaltation. The way is not easy. Good stewards know that it requires a willingness to lay aside all rights of personal privilege; emptying ourselves in the service of others; embracing values different from the values of the world. It requires an understanding that to be "in Christ" means to be a servant because Christ came into the world, not as Lord but as servant. What crosses are we willing to carry? What worldly values are we willing to forego in order to share Christ's glory? (**International Catholic Stewardship Council**)

This Sunday has long been called Palm Sunday, and though the name and focus are now on the Passion, the uniqueness of this celebration is so ancient we must mention it here before we pass on to a consideration of the Passion. Children usually enjoy this Sunday for a number of reasons. They get to have something interesting—a palm branch; they get to do something akin to a parade; they are sung about. They are among the heroes of the reading that precedes the procession, and the processional song mentions them joyously.

This procession, which was first mentioned in writings from Jerusalem at the end of the fourth century, continues to this day in our parish churches. It introduces us to Holy Week, the most sacred and solemn week of the Church year. It is fitting that we begin with a procession bearing palms, those ancient signs of victory.

The first two readings of this Sunday are the same every year, and they make the passion and death of Jesus Christ their focus. The first reading from Isaiah identifies specifically the sufferings of one servant who bears the burden of pain for others. The book of Isaiah contains four so-called Songs of the Suffering Servant. We read the third song today. We cannot help but see the connection between this song and the story of Jesus' life. With a little imagination, we can hear Jesus saying these words, as he describes the events of his public ministry as none other than a school of compassion. Day by day he had given himself over to his mission, no matter the consequences, which were harrowing, to say the least. This Song of the Suffering Servant prepares us to read the Passion story. We are also given a hymn that balances the flintiness of the first reading—Paul's letter to the Philippians. We are forever grateful to Paul for this marvelous hymn that gives us a cameo, not only of Jesus' life and death but of his resurrection and exaltation as Lord. But for the whole story, set down in this hymn from Philippians, it is hard to see how we could bear the poignancy of the Passion story itself. Copyright © 2003, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

Enter into
the PASSION
and GLORY
of the LORD



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