

*****ATTENTION*****

On December 13th, the following was inserted into the parish bulletin, along with verbal announcements by the celebrant before the final blessings. In this reprint version, I have added emphasis with **bold**, *blue italic*, and *new comments in red italics with some emphasized in bold*.

PRUDENCE WITH PALMS

As you well know, Palm Sunday 2020 was amid the height of the pandemic uncertainty. You will also remember that the parishes of our diocese we were not permitted to distribute the blessed palms. In fairness, at that time, there was even more uncertainty and fear over how COVID-19 was spread. We did our best to keep the palms hydrated and cool for when the church was open again. Unfortunately, despite our best efforts, as the pandemic lockdown dragged on, mold began to grow on the palms. We had to dry them out and save them for burning. It was a great disappointment to most of us, and is making me, your pastor, leery about the next Holy Week. *I was concerned about this, and we were planning before Christmas. Why? Palms are not cheap, and* Each year, ***we must submit our palm orders before the end of the calendar year.*** This year, our order must be in by December 28, 2020. Since this has been a challenging year for both parishes financially, and as to not have any unnecessary waste, we are trying to be more accurate in our palm order. Therefore, ***I am asking you to please fill out the following form and place in one of the collection boxes in the Church. The form was at the bottom of the insert which was also available online. We also announced this for the weeks leading up to December 28th.*** When the palms are received, we will prepare bundles (of about 5 per household unless otherwise indicated for larger households—*each palm branch is two parts. They can be separated down the middle to make two. Therefore, the regular bundles contain 3 strips which can be split into 6 palms*), and work out the procedure for the blessing and distributing of palms to you, adapting to the situation as it occurs on Palm Sunday, 2021. We will order some extra, of course, but will most likely not order as many as we have in the past. ***The Diocese of Buffalo, in their Guidance for Holy Week 2021 stated: “Please Note: The distribution of palms to the congregation should be done prior to Mass by ushers or other ministers of hospitality who don masks and perhaps gloves (hands should be sanitized ahead of time). Blessed palms left behind in the pews after Mass should be set aside and disposed of properly. Palms should not simply be made available on tables in church vestibules, given the likelihood that they would be handled by many individuals coming and going.”*** Thank you for your cooperation. ***We also noted: Of course, if you purchase your own decorative palm branches (or weaves) or olive branches and bring them to Mass on Palm Sunday, they will be blessed. Now is the time to plan. For the most people possible to have a chance to obtain blessed palms, while avoiding unnecessary waste, the extra palms will be distributed on a first come first served basis, with no single person receiving more than one “double” strip. I know this will leave many disappointed, but this is our current “COVID-19” reality. We are doing our best to spread the available palms among the Masses based on attendance trends.*** Thank you and God Bless.

St. Francis Cemetery Updates

You will see that a great deal of tree work has been done at the cemetery. To keep our cemetery looking nice, we are asking that you remove your winter/Christmas decorations and, if possible, DISPOSE OF THEM AT YOUR OWN HOMES, rather than filling the trash receptacles at the cemetery. Thank you for your help!



Teams of Our Lady

ATTENTION SPOUSES ENRICH YOUR MARRIAGE

Grow spiritually while growing closer together!
Enjoy fellowship with other Catholic couples in a social setting!

A *Team of Our Lady* is a group of 5 to 7 couples who meet monthly, share a meal, pray together, and share on a study topic.

A Team is starting in this area!

To learn more about it, join our meeting on Tuesday
April 6th at 7pm via Zoom:

From home

*From the Our Lady of Mercy/St. Brigid Parish Center
(44 Lake Street, LeRoy)**

*From the St. Brigid Parish Hall/Center
(18 Gibson Street, Bergen)**

**Depending on interest and convenience
for those attending.*

For the meeting link,
to ask questions,
or to obtain more information
about Teams of Our Lady,

Please email Mike and Emily Hoffman at
mhoff99@yahoo.com

Subject: TOOL 4/6

[If you prefer to meet at one of the parish centers, let them
know so arrangements can be made.]

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Monday, March 29 th	Holy Thursday, April 1 st	Good Friday, April 2 nd	Holy Saturday, April 3 rd
7:30am – OLM Mass 8:30am - St. Brigid (Mass or Communion Service) 6pm – 7:00pm OLM - Confessions	7am-8am – OLM Confessions 8:00 – OLM Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9am-9:30am - St. Brigid Confessions	8am – OLM Church Tenebrae (Office of Readings & Morning Prayer) 10-11:30am - OLM Confessions in Parish Center	8am – OLM Church Tenebrae (Office of Readings & Morning Prayer) 1:45pm – St. Brigid Parking Lot Blessing of Easter Foods
Tuesday, March 30th 7:30am – OLM Mass 8:30am - St. Brigid (Mass or Communion Service) NO TUESDAY CONFESSIONS 7pm CHRISM MASS AT CATHEDRAL	7pm - OLM Mass of the Lord's Supper Procession from church to Repository in Parish Center Gym) 11:45 Compline – OLM Parish Center Gym	12 Noon – OLM Stations of the Cross 1:30pm-2:30pm - OLM Confessions in Parish Center 3pm – OLM Commemoration of the Lord's Passion	2-2:30pm – St. Brigid Confessions 2:45pm – OLM Parish Center Blessing of Easter Foods 3-4:30pm – OLM Confessions 8:30pm – OLM Easter Vigil Mass
Wednesday, March 31st 7:30am – OLM Mass 8:30am - St. Brigid (Mass or Communion Service)	Easter Sunday Masses 7:15am Our Lady of Mercy 9am St. Brigid 10:45am Our Lady of Mercy NO ADORATION OR HOLY HOUR FOR OUR NATION. NO 5:30PM MASS		