



# Blessed Trinity

## Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

March 29, 2026 • Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

## How Palm Sunday is connected to the Book of Exodus



*Philip Kosloski - published on 04/09/25*

*The first mention of palm trees in the entire Bible occurs in the Book of Exodus and points to the spiritual reality behind Jesus' procession into Jerusalem.*

**P**alm Sunday is a spiritually rich day when the Church focuses her attention on Jesus' final journey that would lead to his passion, death, and resurrection.

There are many layers of meaning to this day, and one that is not always focused on is the connection between Palm Sunday and the Book of Exodus.

### **Flight from Egypt**

The St. Andrew Daily Missal explains how Palm Sunday historically included a reading from the Book of Exodus before the procession of the bishop into Jerusalem:

This ceremony was preceded by the solemn reading of the passage from Exodus in which the Flight from Egypt is related. God's people, encamped under the shadow of the palm trees.

This particular event takes place after the People of Israel are saved from the Egyptians and pass through the Red Sea:

*Then Moses led Israel onward from the Red Sea, and they went into the wilderness of Shur ... Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees; and they encamped there by the water.*

(Exodus 15:22,27)

It may seem like a strange passage to recite on Palm Sunday, but the St. Andrew Daily Missal provides a commentary on the spiritual symbolism behind it:

[N]ear the twelve fountains where Moses promised them the manna, is a type of the Christian people, who,

*Continued next page . . .*

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breaking off branches from the trees, bear witness that God's Son Jesus comes to deliver souls from sin, leading them to the baptismal font and nourishing them with the Manna of the Eucharist.

Furthermore, Jerusalem is often referred to as the "Promised Land," and Jesus is the one who will lead us to the new Promised Land of Heaven.

Jesus is the new Moses, who leads us through the waters of sin and death into Eternal Life.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* relates this symbolism in its section on Baptism:

[T]he crossing of the Red Sea, literally the liberation of Israel from the slavery of Egypt, announces the liberation wrought by Baptism:

You freed the children of Abraham from the slavery of Pharaoh, bringing them dry-shod through the waters of the Red Sea, to be an image of the people set free in Baptism.

Finally, Baptism is prefigured in the crossing of the Jordan River by which the People of God received the gift of the land promised to Abraham's descendants, an image of eternal life. The promise of this blessed inheritance is fulfilled in the New Covenant. (CCC 1221-1222)

In many ways Palm Sunday prepares the way for the rest of Holy Week, setting the stage for what will happen on Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

Originally published at [Aleteia.org](http://Aleteia.org),  
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## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, March 28, Vigil for Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

4:00 p.m. Barbara Tirone (dec)

### Sunday, March 29, Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

8:00 a.m. Petty Lewis and Marijo Huetten (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Getgen Family (liv & dec)

### Monday, March 30, Monday of Holy Week

8:00 a.m. Leonides Molina (liv)

### Tuesday, March 31, Tuesday of Holy Week

8:00 a.m. Jean Dorski (dec)

### Wednesday, April 1, Wednesday of Holy Week

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

### Thursday, April 2, Holy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Abstetar, Strzeszynski, & Coston Families (liv & dec)

### Friday, April 3, Good Friday

3:00 p.m. The Lord's Passion

7:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet

### Saturday, April 4, Holy Saturday

8:00 p.m. Raymond George Fisher, Jr. (dec)

### Sunday, April 5, The Resurrection of the Lord

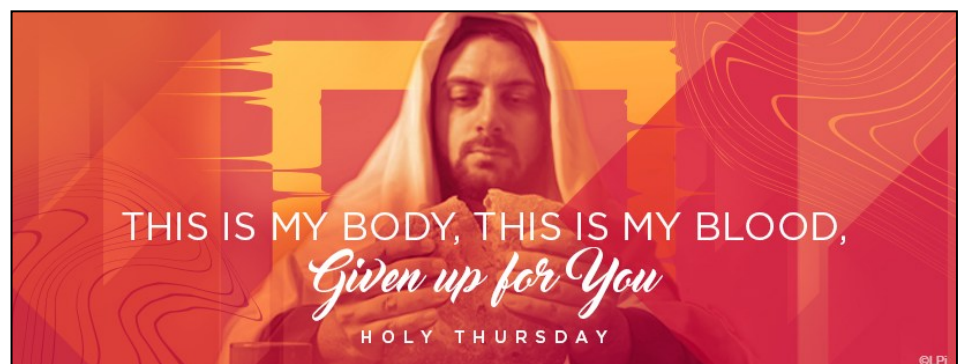
8:00 a.m. Elly McManus (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Stanley Conniglio (dec)



Good Friday, April 3 at 8:00 am





March 29, 2026

## Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

Mt 21:1-11 | Is 50:4-7 | Phil 2:6-11 | Mt 26:14—27:66

### GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Pay attention to the prominence of Scripture in today's Mass. At Masses where there's a Procession or the Solemn Entrance, we'll hear the Gospel reading proclaiming Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. During our regular Liturgy of the Word, we'll also read through the lengthy account of Christ's passion (this year, from the Gospel of Matthew). Following the reading of the passion a brief homily may be given, but there may also be a period of silence rather than a homily. In so many ways, it seems that beginning with Palm Sunday (and all throughout Holy Week), the Church is inviting us to feast on God's Word in a deeper way than perhaps at any other time in the liturgical year. As disciples, our whole Christian life must be nourished not only by the sacraments, but by the Word of God. As Lent comes to a close, we can think back to our Gospel of the First Sunday of Lent, where Jesus tells us that "One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God." (Mt 4:4) The events we hear about during this time are the climactic moments in the unfolding plan of our salvation. By reading the Gospel accounts, we're invited to *participate* in them through this liturgy which makes them present to us, here and now.

### GO EVANGELIZE

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Paul's Letter to the Philippians speaks of Jesus' self-emptying love. Although he was God, Jesus took on our humanity and offered his life in humble obedience to the Father, accepting, willfully, even death on a cross. When we consider our efforts to lead others to know the Lord, we're invited to adopt his own way of reaching out to humanity. Do we enter into the lived experience of those we seek to evangelize? In what ways do we empty (humble) ourselves in order to draw near to them? Are we willing to set aside our plans, our agenda, our way of doing things, and willingly accept God's way of doing things? Following the example of our Lord, our own efforts at evangelization should be marked by humility and self-emptying love.

### STUDY

One of the best ways we can participate in the celebration of these sacred days is to spend time reading the Scriptures for each day of Holy Week. Read the text, then sit in silence, allowing the words to wash over you. What moments or lines stand out to you? As you re-read the Gospel of Christ's passion, read the words knowing that Jesus has done all of this *for you*.



## Are You Hoping to Receive One of the Following Sacraments With Us?

### Matrimony

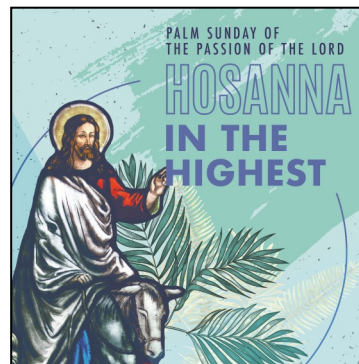
Congratulations on your engagement! Every Diocese in Florida requires at least six months preparation before marriage. Please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Genereux, at the Parish Office for an appointment before setting a date.

### Baptism

We are honored that you would like to choose Blessed Trinity Catholic Church for the baptism of your child! We ask that you please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Genereux, at the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.

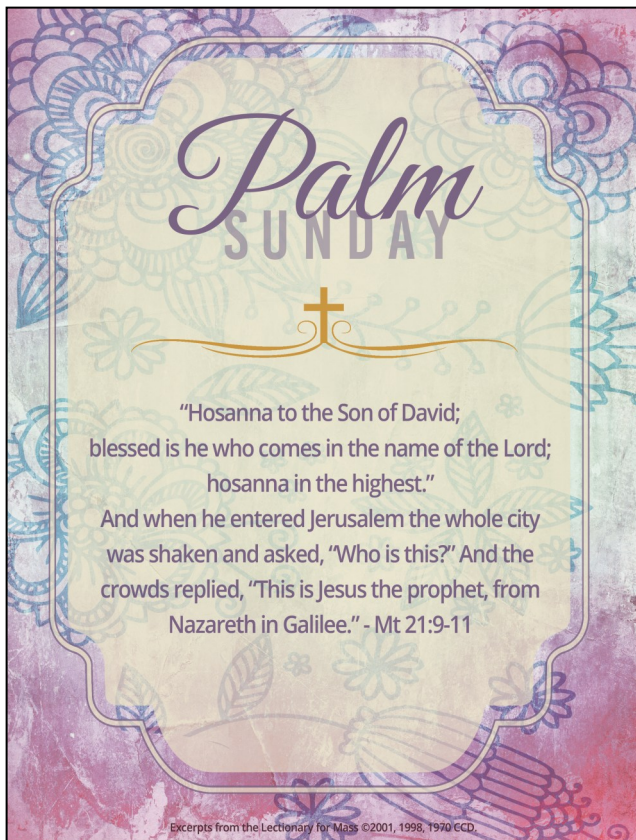


## Hosanna to the Messiah!



While Jesus would not be crowned an earthly king, Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem has many parallels to the Messianic expectations of the Hebrew people. Before entering, Jesus requisitions a donkey from its owner. In the ancient world, kings had this right. Yet the

animal that Jesus requests is rare -- a colt upon which no one else has sat yet. Yet, it's a donkey. This is no great war-charger, no magnificent animal. Jesus acts with all the authority of an earthly king, yet his kingdom is one of simplicity and peace. As the disciples throw cloaks over the donkey, the crowd spreads theirs on the road. This ancient gesture dates back to the line of kings descended from David. Not only are these physical kingly gestures, but the crowd of followers cries out in jubilation and praise. The Messiah has come to Jerusalem!





### Weekly Offering

Offertory totals will be reported in next week's magazine. They were not available at the time of printing.

**Thank you for your generosity!**



### An Evening to Remember Dinner Cruise Experience

Thursday, April 23

Starlite Dinner Cruise

3400 Pasadena Ave S

Boarding at 6:30 pm

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Cost is \$67.45

Includes this amazing cruise, dinner, a choice between 10 entrees, house dessert, coffee or tea and entertainment, tax and tip included.

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## Has DIVINE MERCY been

# "Hijacked?"

The Divine Mercy **Promises**

The "**Key**" to Divine Mercy

God's Mercy and **Justice**

Message from Fr Chris Alar (video clip)

Preparing to receive the Radical Graces of

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

With Rachel and Joe

Date: Tuesday March 31 at 7pm

Place: Parish Center

### Everyday Stewardship

As a Catholic, I am very grateful for the wonderful expression of the Mass. When united in this liturgical experience, we are not only present to the reality of the bread and wine becoming the real presence of Jesus, but are also connected spiritually to the institution of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper and to the future heavenly banquet at the end of time. During the Eucharistic Prayer, this is a time to be truly as mindful as we can to what is happening in our midst. Our effort to completely surrender ourselves to the moment is a true act of stewardship.

When we hear the Gospel reading of the passion and death of Jesus at Mass, we are also being called to give of ourselves completely to the moment and to be truly caught up in the story. We should strive to be there at the events of over two thousand years ago, but also to what the reality of those events mean for us today. To do this effectively, we need to spend more time reflecting on the dynamics of the events of Jesus' passion. Hopefully, our Lent has been fruitful and we have spent time with devotions like the Stations of the Cross. Maybe we have taken time to read Scripture slowly and deliberately, taking time to let each aspect sink into our mind and spirit. If Lent has been instead a time of too much business and not much prayer and reflection, the good news is that it is never too late.

During this Holy Week, take some time to enter into the story of the Passion. Good stewardship calls us to not only give of that which can be seen, but also that which cannot be seen. Surrender your mind, body, and spirit to Jesus. He carries his cross before you and beckons you to follow him.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © Liturgical Publications Inc

## Upcoming Events

**Please note: Parish Center will not be available for use after March 15**

### Saturday, March 28

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm Confessions in the Cry Room CH

### Sunday, March 29, Palm Sunday

Coffee & Donuts after the 8:00 am and 9:30 am Masses CYH  
and Faith Community Nursing Event CYH

### Monday, March 30

6:30 pm Life in the Spirit CYH

### Tuesday, March 31

10:00 am Scripture Class CYH

11:00 am Chrism Mass at Cathedral of St. Jude

### Wednesday, April 1

Adoration

5:30 pm Rosary CH

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Holy Hour CH

### Thursday, April 2, Holy Thursday

7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper CH

### Friday, April 3, Good Friday

\*No 8:00 am Mass

8:00 am Stations of the Cross CH

3:00 pm The Lord's Passion CH

7:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet CH

### Saturday, April 4, Holy Saturday

\*No 8:00 am Mass

\*No Confessions today

\*No 4:00 pm Mass

6:00 pm Divine Mercy Novena Chaplet CH

8:00 pm Easter Vigil CH

### Sunday, April 5, Easter Sunday

Masses at 8:00 am, 9:30 am, and 11:30 am CH

7:00 pm Divine Mercy Novena Chaplet CH

### Key for Events

PC= Parish Center, MR=Music Room, CYH= Courtyard Hall, CH=Church,  
CYH-1= Courtyard Hall Classroom #1, CR=Choir Room, FF=Faith Formation Room,  
PL=Parking Lot



### Pastor

Rev. Wayne C. Genereux

### Clergy Assistance

Fr. Jack McDowell, OFM

Fr. Randall Roberts, OFM

Fr. Anthony Fortunato, OdeM

Fr. Ken Breen, OdeM

Fr. Victor Bartolotta

Fr. Eric Peters

### Mass Schedule

#### Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday 8:00 am

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil at 4:00 pm

#### Sunday

8:00 am, 9:30 am and 11:30 am

Follow the Sunday Mass on our website, [btsp.org](http://btsp.org)

### Confessions

Saturdays 2:30-3:30 pm

### Parish Office

Monday – Friday

9:00 am – 12:00 pm and 1-4 pm

Closed for Lunch Noon to 1:00 pm

1600 54th Ave S

St. Petersburg, FL 33712

**Phone,** (727) 867-3663

**FAX,** (727) 864-2679

**Website,** <http://btsp.org>

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 Henry  
 Clark, Brittany Noel  
 Clark, Matthew Pierce  
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 Cortez, Patrick  
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 Curcio, Louis  
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 Grimberg, Carol  
 Gutske, Karl  
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 Hawkins, Barbara  
 Helbig, Len  
 Hoffman, Bette  
 Hoskins, Kevin  
 Joyal, Christina  
 Kartsaklis, Michael  
 Kehoe, Jonna and Michael  
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 Kraynak, Gary  
 Lague, Norbert  
 Lashley, Diana  
 LeVan, George  
 Lewis, Cynthia  
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 Narinelly, Sarah  
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 Palys, Constance

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 Parillo, Dave  
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 Riordan, Donald  
 Romani, Angelo  
 Sacks, Laura  
 Schulz, Ingrid  
 Shelby, Montez  
 Smith, Elizabeth  
 Stankiewicz, Cy  
 Vanderbeck, Cindy  
 Vanderbeck, Jay  
 Walsh, Thomas  
 Watson, Linda  
 Youngman, Ruth  
 Zajac, Leslie

### Anointing of the Sick



To request the Anointing of the Sick for yourself or a loved one, please contact the parish office, 727-867-3663.

### Grief Support

At this time, individual/one-on-one *Grief Support* is available by calling Rachel at the church office. Group support meetings will take place when a group is formed. For more information call 867-3663.

If you or a close family member would like to be added or removed from our prayer list, please contact the parish office at 727-867-3663.

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