

PALM SUNDAY

OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

MARCH 28, 2021

Christ became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.

PHILIPPIANS 2:8-9



It may be Palm Sunday, but the Passion is far more prominent in today's liturgy, which invites us to follow Jesus from his triumphant entrance into Jerusalem to his crucifixion and burial. It simply overflows with the sorrow and intimacy that will be dominant themes in Holy Week.

The first reading from the book of Isaiah gives voice to the suffering of an innocent person—perhaps a prophet—or the people as a whole. The refrain for the Psalm is Jesus' cry from the cross (Mark 13:14), a cry of absolute, existential loneliness. The great kenotic (emptying) hymn in Philippians provides a stunning portrait of Jesus' ultimate emptying, simultaneously intimate and cosmological.

INTIMACY

All four Gospels have a Passion narrative. While there is agreement on the main events—an intimate meal shared by Jesus and the disciples, betrayal by Judas, prayer in Gethsemane followed by Jesus' arrest, trial, and crucifixion—each Gospel has unique variations that give it a particular meaning or tone. In today's Gospel from Mark, Jesus is anointed by an unnamed

woman in the house of Simon the leper. All the Gospels have Jesus being anointed by a woman, but only Mark puts this scene just before the Last Supper. Jesus says the anointing is preparation for his burial; it is as if the woman could see a prophet's suffering in Jesus' life and feel it in his presence. Moved by compassion, she empties her jar of expensive nard on his head, pouring out her love in a profoundly intimate act. Perhaps she will also join the women who witness the crucifixion from afar (Mark 15:40-41), after the Twelve seem to be long gone.

Palm Sunday invites us to follow Jesus through the rest of Holy Week. By moving us to feel the injustice and the suffering endured by Jesus, this week's liturgies and devotions present us with those same choices. Perhaps, like the unnamed woman, we can open ourselves to others' suffering and respond with love and compassion. Or perhaps, like the Twelve, we will be conspicuous by our absence.

Today's Readings: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]

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PASTOR: Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider
PERMANENT DEACON:

MASS TIMES:

Sat., 5:00PM & Sun., 9:00AM

Tues. - Fri. 9:00AM

CONFESSIONS:

Tues. & Wed., 9:00 - 10:00AM

Wednesday: 3:00 - 5:00 PM

Reconciliation:

Saturday & Sunday: 45 minutes before Mass

Marriage or Baptism:

Contact the parish office six (6) months prior to the anticipated date 903-769-3235

Holy Spirit

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Welcome Visitors!

We hope that you have enjoyed celebrating Mass with us and felt welcomed in our church as your "home away from home." Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years, you are invited to join our parish family. Please come again!

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the following:

Valerie Branch. Garry Fetsch. Karee Haney. Yvonne Scott. Ulysses Cormier. Szczepanski Family. Bollinger Family. Kate Guthrie. Charlie Parker. Molly Dunn. Richard Schuetz. Regina Davies. Tammy Johnson. Carolyn Simmons. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Gayle McCloskey. Shay Mikalonis. Wanda & George Duke. Fleming Family. Doris & Jo Hoffman. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Jacob Stephens. Frankie Durst. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Ester Coronel. Ed & Diane Stanley. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Judy Fazzio. Marsha & Marty Blahitka. Joshua & Chase Larsson. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda & Mike Stephens. Jim & Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month.

Please pray for the men and women active military service from our parish community:

New active recruit, Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 2LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jemigan) Seaman Logan Adkinson (great grandson of Fr. Mike). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Senior Airman, Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Pvt First Class Randall Scheaffer US Army (Grandson of Carlos & Pat Gallardo). Lt. Col. William P Shea. (Nephew of Deacon Sam and Nancy Mullen). Colonel John Anthony Fontana. U.S. Army (Son of John & Mary Fontana). Ensign Gary Buchanan; 2ndLt. Blake Gaughan (Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno E4 AMT 3rd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Eamma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (Son of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & brother of Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

TODAY'S READINGS

Gospel at the Procession with Palms: Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16).

First Reading: In spite of my sufferings I am not disgraced. I am not put to shame (Isaiah 50:4-7).

Psalm: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Psalm 22).

Second Reading: Christ emptied himself, and God filled this emptiness with exaltation (Philippians 2:6-11).

Gospel: The account of Christ's passion according to Mark (Mark 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

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

Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9; Ps 89:21-22, 25, 27; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21. **Lord's Supper:** Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

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

Saturday: a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-22; b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; Ps 16: 5, 8-11; c) Ex 14:15 — 15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18; d) Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13; e) Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-6; f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; Ps 19:8-11; g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Mk 16:1-7

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or (at an afternoon or evening Mass) Lk 24:13-35

Mass—Intentions

Sat. 3/27 Suzanne Miller (M/M Bonicard)

Sun 3/28 Karee Haney (Joe Fazzio)

Tue of Holy Week 3/30 NO 9:00am Mass

Wed of Holy Week 3/31 Jeff Quinn+ (M/M Laudt)

Holy Thurs. 4/01 NO 9:00am Mass. 7:00PM Mass of our Lord's Supper

Good Fri. 4/02 NO 9:00am Mass. Hall open from Noon –3:00PM. At 3:00PM Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross & Communion.

Holy Sat. 4/03 NO 5:00pm Mass. Easter Vigil 8:30PM.

PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts through February 28, 2021

Expenditures \$ 4,051

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 3,745

Attendance 3/20 Sat 51 3/21 Sun 53

One can Give without Loving...But one cannot Love without Giving.

April Pope's Intention:

Fundamental rights. We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

SUFFERING

Jesus did not come to do away with suffering or remove it. He came to fill it with his presence. —Paul Claudel

HOLY WEEK

For the Palm Sunday Gospel, we return to the Gospel according to Mark. The account of the Passion takes up nearly one-third of Mark's entire Gospel and, of all the evangelists, he is the one who presents the details most graphically. He depicts the humanity of Jesus most intensely, describing his sufferings thoroughly. Mark portrays Jesus as a complete fulfillment of the "Suffering Servant" of Isaiah, the obedient, humble slave dying on a cross of whom Paul speaks in Philippians. But it is important to remember that we call this "Holy Week" and not "sad week" or "suffering week," for each of the readings today, even the lamentations of the psalm, end in the promise of the strength and hope that is granted by God to those who faithfully give of themselves in love. As we enter into this week through these readings, we must reflect deeply on the sufferings of Jesus, but still be confident in the joy of risen, eternal life that awaits all of us who faithfully walk with him through these days. Copyright © J. S. Paluch



4/1—HOLY THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT 7:00PM

4/2—FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (Good Friday):

Parish hall open from Noon-3:00PM for visitation/prayers.

3:00PM Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross & Communion.

4/3—THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT (Holy Saturday) at 8:30PM.

4/4—EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD at 9:00AM

All the above will be held in our parish hall



Vespers
(evening prayers)
every Friday during Lent at
4:00pm, followed by the
Stations of the Cross

**March Second Collections:
20th & 21st: "Easter Flowers"**



Please join us as we pray the
patriotic rosary for peace in America



**First Saturday of each month after the 9:00am Mass
Due to Holy Saturday, rescheduled to Saturday April 10th**

Cenacle of Life: Cenacle of Life devotion each Wed. from 3:30—
4:30pm. Please join us in church as we pray two rosaries for an end to
abortion, euthanasia and all sins against the sanctity of human life. **Ques-
tions call Vicki 817-637-9382**

To fulfill the **Legion of Mary** work obligation they are making infor-
mation posters for our parishioners & visitors. The information will
not be new to most of you, though some of it may be.
It is their hope that each of you will find something in the infor-
mation that encourages your spiritual growth.
Look for these posters in the entrance to the parish hall. They may
also be placed outside also be placed outside, weather permitting.



➔ **Volunteers needed to help with our Meditation Garden, Sat., Mar. 27th at 9:00am.** We only need 5 -
10 volunteers for only a few hours to help cut back dead plants from frost damage, pull some weeds and refresh
our garden before Easter. Please show up at 9:00am on Sat., Mar. 27th with your gloves, pruners, etc. Weather
permitting.



EASTER Food Donations: *We are expecting to have 20 food boxes for Easter.* We are in need of
box pudding mix (pie shells we already have), **canned meats, soups, instant potato's, pkgs of
gravy, canned fruit,** etc. by 3/31/21.

**Delivery of the boxes will be on 4/2/21 starting at 9:00am. Volunteers are needed for delivering
boxes.** Plastic container is located in the **parish hall** for food. **Please call or email Bob Mailliard at 903-769-3963
or theduckdude@att.net.** Many blessings to all that help us to feed needy family's at Easter.



**Holy Spirit Garage Sale
June 4th & 5th**

We started pricing and you can **drop off items every Wednesday
between the hours of 9:30—11:30am. NO CLOTHING or ELEC-
TRONICS.** Call Jean Kelly 903-857-9868 if you have questions or
unable to drop off items on Wednesday mornings.



FR. MIKE IS HEARING CONFESSIONS

**3/31—WEDNESDAY ONLY
9:30—10:30AM**

**SATURDAYS 4:15—4:45PM
&**

**SUNDAYS 8:15—8:45AM
BEFORE MASS ON WEEKENDS**

**Temporary Weekend Mass held in parish hall: Sat., Mar. 27th
at 5:00pm and Sun., Mar. 28th at 9:00am.**

Protocols for weekend Masses:

- 1. Limitations on Attendance:** Limited seating maximum 81 seats are available. In order for the households to maintain at least 6-foot separation.
- 2. Masks: read page three**
- 3. No socializing** in the parish hall. Enter & exist double glass doors into the parish hall to the left of the overhang.
- 4. Chairs** set-up 6-foot separation. Please **DO NOT MOVE CHAIRS.**

Weekday Mass Tues. — Fri. of this week.

Protocols for weekday Masses:

- 1. Masks: read page three**
- 2. No socializing** in the Narthex. Enter & exit same set of double glass doors into the church through the overhang.
- 3. In church alternating every other pew.** Households must maintain at least 6-foot separation.
- 4. Limited seating maximum 31.** In order for the households to maintain at least 6 feet separation.



Because of the progress being made against the COVID-19 pandemic in Texas, Governor Greg Abbott has announced that he is increasing the capacity of all businesses and facilities in the state to 100 percent and lifting his mask requirement for the state.

Governor Abbott said that COVID-19 has not disappeared and that “removing state mandates does not end personal responsibility.” The governor stressed that removing these mandates doesn’t abandon safe practices. The same applies to our churches. We are still in a pandemic that has tragically caused over 500,000 deaths in the United States and there is still a virus that can easily spread if we are not careful.

I ask and expect all clergy and faithful to continue to take measures to keep everyone safe. This is essential in order to protect the health of our communities and so that we do not lose the progress that, by God’s grace, has been made against COVID-19.

In light of the actions taken by the governor, I issue the following updates and instructions:

Dispensation. The general dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Day of Obligation that I issued in March of 2020 is withdrawn as of **March 10, 2021**. Many have already returned to Mass, and I encourage everyone to do so now, aware of the centrality of the Mass to our lives as Catholics and the obligation attached to it.

One does not have an obligation to attend Mass if you are sick or in a high-risk category for COVID-19; if you were recently in contact with a sick person; if you care for the sick or homebound; if you are pregnant; or if you have a *significant* fear or anxiety of becoming ill by being at Mass.

Seating at Mass. Pastors may open additional pews in churches, but all must be responsible for observing social distancing (6-feet between households) according to CDC guidelines. Depending on the church, seating every other pew may still be the best way to maintain social distancing, per the Texas Minimum Standard Health Protocols for churches. Pastors should consider making special areas available for vulnerable persons.

Masks. While there is no requirement to wear masks, and it is an individual choice, I encourage all to continue to follow the recommendations of the CDC.

Holy Communion. Churches in the diocese will continue to distribute Holy Communion only under the form of bread. Ministers of Communion must continue to observe the practices that are currently in place.

Holy Water and Hymnals. Parishes may make holy water, hymnals, and missalettes available. Holy water should be changed, and fonts/stoups cleaned frequently.

Events. Parish social events, classes, and other activities are permitted if CDC guidelines can be followed.

Other. Parishes should continue to observe heightened sanitization and hygiene standards for common surfaces. Hand sanitizer should continue to be made available.

Let us continue to be mindful of the sanctity of the life of each person we encounter and, in love, do our part to keep our families, friends, and communities safe and healthy.



+ Joseph E. Strickland
Bishop of Tyler

Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 17 March 2021 Edition
(Submission date: 12 March 2021) Submitted by Randy Munoz

A few words from the site, <https://www.aboutcatholics.com/beliefs/good-friday/> help us understand that **Good Friday** is the second day of the Easter Triduum (Triduum is Latin for “three days”) and the day that Catholics and Christians throughout the world commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus. According to Mark 15:42, Jesus died “on the day of preparation, the day before the sabbath.” The Hebrew Sabbath is celebrated on Saturday which is preceded by Friday. Therefore, the Friday before Easter (the day that we celebrate Jesus’ resurrection from the dead) is traditionally marked as the day Jesus died on the cross.

Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence (from meat). [Fasting means that the faithful should partake of only one meal and abstinence means that that meal should not have any red meat or fowl. This is requested of Catholics who are between the ages of 15-59 without any medical restrictions or special medical requirements.]

Many public and all Catholic schools do not schedule classes on this day and the Faithful are asked to refrain from attending parties or other unusual joyous celebrations. Some Catholics even remain silent and in prayer from 12 – 3 p.m.

The Good Friday liturgy [often begins at 3:00 p.m.] and has three parts: The Liturgy of the Word, The Veneration of the Cross, and The Service of Communion.

[During the Liturgy of the Word, Bible Scripture of the Passion is shared with the congregation. During the Veneration of the Cross, congregation members are offered an opportunity to genuflect before or kiss a crucifix held by the Presider (usually the Pastor). In this act, Catholics honor the great sacrifice Jesus made on the cross. During the Service of Communion, parishioners receive the Eucharist.]

The service itself is the unbloody re-presentation of Jesus’ death on the cross at Calvary. ... From the earliest days, Good Friday has been kept as an **liturgical day**, that is, **one on which Mass is not celebrated**. [The difference between a Mass and a service is that bread and wine are only consecrated – to become the body (or Eucharist) and blood of Christ – during a Mass.] The Eucharist received on Good Friday, was consecrated a day earlier at the Holy Thursday Mass. At the end of the Good Friday service, the ministers and assembly depart in silence. [Most return home to a quiet evening meal (if this was the chosen “one meal” and remain reflective or prayerful for the rest of the day.)

Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 24 March 2021 Edition
(Submission date: 19 March 2021) Submitted by Randy Munoz

Excerpts from the site, <https://www.ncregister.com/blog/12-things-you-need-to-know-about-holy-saturday>. On Holy Saturday the earth waits in stillness for the Resurrection of the Lord. ... Every time Catholics recite the Apostles' Creed, they note that Jesus "descended into hell." Holy Saturday is the day that commemorates this event. ... What happened to Jesus while he was dead? ... Scripture calls the abode of the dead, to which the dead Christ went down, "hell" - Sheol in Hebrew or Hades in Greek - because those who are there are deprived of the vision of God. Such is the case for all the dead ... evil or righteous, while they await the Redeemer which does not mean that their lot is identical, as Jesus shows through the parable of the poor man Lazarus who was received into "Abraham's bosom" It is precisely these holy souls, who awaited their Savior in Abraham's bosom, whom Christ the Lord delivered when he descended into hell. Jesus did not descend into hell to deliver the damned, nor to destroy the hell of damnation, but to free the just, who had gone before him. The gospel was preached even to the dead. The descent into hell brings the Gospel message of salvation to complete fulfillment. This is the last phase of Jesus' messianic mission, a phase which is condensed in time but vast in its real significance: the spread of Christ's redemptive work to all men of all times and all places, for all who are saved have been made sharers in the redemption. ... On Holy Saturday the Church is, as it were, at the Lord's tomb, meditating on his passion and death, and on his descent into hell, and awaiting his resurrection with prayer and fasting. ... the Church abstains strictly from the celebration of the sacrifice of the Mass. ... The celebration of marriages is forbidden, as also the celebration of other sacraments, except Penance and the Anointing of the Sick. ... Baptism in danger of death is permitted. ... A vigil is the liturgical commemoration of a notable feast, held on the evening preceding the feast. ... Easter Vigil is held on the evening before Easter. ... the Church has celebrated that annual Pasch, which is the solemnity of solemnities, above all by means of a night vigil. ... The full meaning of Vigil is a waiting for the coming of the Lord ... and takes place at night. It begins after nightfall ... and ends before daybreak on Sunday. ... Per Paschales Solemnitatis (the Latin Rite for the Solemn Paschal): The order for the Easter Vigil is arranged so that after the service of light and the Easter Proclamation (1st part of the Vigil), Holy Church meditates on the wonderful works which the Lord God wrought for his people from the earliest times (2nd part, or Liturgy of the Word), to the moment when, together with those new members reborn in Baptism (3rd part), she is called to the table prepared by the Lord for his Church—the commemoration of his death and resurrection—until he comes (4th part). [To be continued.]



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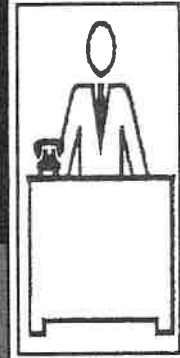
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