

**MARCH 25, 2018
PALM SUNDAY**

FROM THE PASTOR

HOLY WEEK

This weekend we begin the most sacred week in the Church's calendar. As important as Christmas is, it is the Suffering, Death and Resurrection of the Lord that has won for us the great victory. It is why Jesus was born. I hope that each of you will take part as fully as possible in the Holy Week services. They are unique in that they plunge us into, not just the memory of his Passion, but into the event itself.

PASSION/PALM SUNDAY--9:30 am and 11:30 am

Holy Week begins with the Triumphant Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. As he comes down the Mount of Olives, the crowds welcome him, proclaiming he is the Son of David (the Messiah), expecting that he would overthrow the Romans and take the throne as the King of Israel. We process into church holding the palm branches and move into the Liturgy of the Word, during which we will read the Passion according to Mark. This reading begins with the Last Supper and extends to the burial of Jesus.

CHRISM MASS--7 pm at the Cathedral

On Tuesday night at 7 pm in the Cathedral, Bishop Foy will gather with the priests of the diocese and with representatives from each parish. The priests will renew their priesthood, the Sacred Oils (Oil of the Infirm, Oil of the Catechumens, and the Sacred Chrism) will be consecrated and distributed to the parishes.

**HOLY THURSDAY--5:30 pm Dinner,
7:30 pm Mass**

On the night before he died, Jesus gathered with his disciples in the Upper Room to celebrate the Passover. During that meal, he took bread and wine, blessed them and gave them, saying, "Take and eat, take and drink, this is my Body, this is my Blood." This is the Mass of the Lord's Supper, remembering the Institution of the Eucharist. As a parish, we will celebrate a meal before the Mass. The meal will be at 5:30 pm, and the Mass will be at 7:30 pm. After Mass, the church will be open for one hour for adoration before the Blessed Sacrament.

GOOD FRIDAY—Noon, Passion of the Lord, with Stations following

The Passion of the Lord begins in silence with the Blessed Sacrament removed from the tabernacle. It is a ceremony that remembers the suffering and death of the Lord and the terrible darkness and sadness of that day. We had murdered God. We had rejected the one who came to us to bring us salvation. We dare to call this

most terrible and tragic day, Good Friday, because we know the rest of the story, and that it is through his death and resurrection that Christ has won for us the victory over sin and death. Our service will be at noon and will be followed by Stations of the Cross.

HOLY SATURDAY--8:30 pm Easter Vigil

We remember the saddest day that the world has ever seen. Christ is dead. But even in death, he is active. Between his death on the Cross and his resurrection from the tomb, Jesus descends to the dead to preach to those just who have died before his victory and to lead them into the joys of Heaven. The Jews counted their day from sunset to sunset, so Holy Saturday officially ends at sunset on Saturday, and Sunday the Sabbath begins. At 8:30 pm on Holy Saturday, we will celebrate the first of the Easter Masses, the Easter Vigil. At this Mass, those who have been preparing to enter the Church will receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

EASTER SUNDAY--9:30 am and 11:30 am

At all of the Easter Masses, beginning with the Easter Vigil, Catholics throughout the world will stand, and together renew their baptismal promises. "Do you reject Satan? And all his works? And all his empty promises? Do you believe in God? Do you believe in Jesus Christ? Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Catholic Church?" This is what we have prepared for throughout the Easter season. And we celebrate the great victory, which is ours, over sin and death.

INVITE A FRIEND TO EASTER MASS

Easter, like Christmas, is one of those days when people who do not normally attend church are willing to do so. Many of them just need a loving invitation. Who will you invite to join you at the Easter Masses this year? You could change someone's life by doing so little.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

Sunday, April 8, is Divine Mercy Sunday. Jesus promised Saint Faustina Kowalska that on that day, "an ocean of mercy" would be poured out for even the worst sinners." He also gave to her a Novena to Divine Mercy that was to be prayed, beginning on Good Friday, up to Divine Mercy Sunday. On each day, we are to pray for a particular group of people, designated by Jesus himself.

- Day 1: All mankind, especially sinners
- Day 2: The souls of priests and religious
- Day 3: All devout and faithful souls
- Day 4: Those who do not believe in Jesus and those who do not yet know him
- Day 5: The souls of separated brethren
- Day 6: The meek and humble souls and the souls of children

- Day 7: The souls who especially venerate and glorify Jesus' mercy
- Day 8: The souls who are detained in purgatory
- Day 9: The souls who have become lukewarm

If you wish to learn more about Saint Faustina and Divine Mercy Devotions, including the Divine Mercy Image, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and the prayers included in the Divine Mercy Novena, go to: www.ewtn.com/devotions/mercy/index.htm. You can also learn about Divine Mercy Sunday and the plenary indulgence offered that day.

The diocese will have Vespers and Divine Mercy prayers at the Cathedral on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 8, at 3 pm.

DIOCESAN PARISH ANNUAL APPEAL

Thank you to all who took part in the DPAA last weekend, which was Commitment Sunday. For those who have not yet pledged, we will have a follow-up Sunday in a few weeks, but you can drop your pledge envelope in the collection, mail it to the parish, or directly to the Diocese of Covington. It will take some time to get solid figures on what the pledges and donations will be.

The programs supported by the DPAA are very important, serving the neediest of our neighbors and friends, and every penny above our parish goal, (\$46,200.00) comes back to the parish. The project that we need to take care of immediately is the replacement of the steps across the street, going up into the north parking lot. It is our hope that the DPAA rebate will cover the cost of the restoration.

PARISH NEWS

NOTICE: Hearing-impaired devices available. Please see an usher if you need one.

NOTICE: No coffee and donuts on Easter Sunday and no Fair Trade coffee or tea sales.

HOLY THURSDAY DINNER: All are invited to share a simple meal as a parish community prior to the Holy Thursday Liturgy on March 29. We will be gathering for dinner in the Parish Hall at 5:30 pm. Mass will follow at 7:30 pm. We will welcome free will offerings to help us defray expenses. The cost for dinner per person is approximately \$7.50. If you wish to donate wine, please contact Cindy Hassan (859-291-9453 or chassan@fuse.net). Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES: Please check Our Sunday Visitor budget envelopes for an Easter Flowers

donation envelope. Please use the envelope to remember a loved one. Envelopes will also be in the pews for your use. Thank you for helping beautify the altar for Easter!

Thank you from the Opportunities for Life Ministry:
Thank you for your participation in the recent Opportunities for Life Annual Appeal collection. Through your generous support, this statewide ministry offers information, support, encouragement, hope, and referrals to those who are experiencing an untimely pregnancy. Please continue to pray for the Opportunities for Life Ministry and those who are in crisis pregnancy situations.

CELTIC CONCERT AT MOG: Award-winning Irish tenor and Celtic Thunder lead singer Emmet Cahill will be in concert at Mother of God on Wednesday, April 25. The Contemporary Ensemble will perform at 7:10 pm, followed by Emmet at 7:30 pm. He will perform songs from his debut orchestral album, "Emmet Cahill's Ireland," which went to number one on the Amazon, iTunes and *Billboard* World Music charts and offers the very best of the traditional Irish repertoire. Emmet will also sing Broadway standards ("This Is The Moment," "Music Of The Night," "Bring Him Home"), nostalgic favorites ("Moon River," "Beauty and the Beast") and hymns ("How Great Thou Art," "Be Thou My Vision"), plus an occasional operatic aria that will showcase his classical vocal training received at the Royal Irish Academy of Music. General admission tickets are \$30. A limited number of Meet & Greet tickets, which include a pre-concert meeting with Emmet plus the concert, are available for \$45. Tickets may be purchased at church after both Sunday Masses, online at <http://www.emmetcahill.com/tour-dates/> or at the door the night of the concert. For more information, contact Cindy Duesing at cduesing@twc.com or 859-512-1063.

SUNDAY COLLECTION NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINTING

DIOCESAN NEWS

CHRISM MASS: The Most Reverend Roger J. Foys encourages all the faithful to join him and the priests and deacons of the diocese for the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption on Tuesday, March 27 at 7 pm. Confessions will also be heard beginning at 6 pm prior to and during the Chrism Mass.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION: Our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land are in a constant state of need and suffering. The Holy Sites, now places of active worship, are in real danger of becoming nothing more than stone cold museums and archeological digs,

controlled solely by secular governments. The land where Jesus walked and worked through God's plan of salvation may no longer have living stones, the living human Christian presence actively worshiping God at these Holy Sites in testimony and thanksgiving for the gift of His only Son. (John 3:16) "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life."

Generously donating to the *Good Friday Holy Land Collection* means we are making a commitment of love to the needs of the Church in the Holy Land. In the last plus-60 years, political and economic forces have caused the Christian population there to dwindle from 18 percent to less than 2 percent. Concurrently, there has been the confiscation of Christian lands, the demolition of Christian homes, and the building of concrete walls that separate Palestinians from each other, actually dividing families, with the accompanying loss of food and water resources, jobs, access to medical care and education, and the freedom to worship and travel freely. Through the Good Friday Holy Land Collection, we ease these burdens and instill Hope through our solidarity with their sufferings. Please give generously; please love generously.

LET US PRAY FOR OUR SICK

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Les Miley | Hannah Donoghue |
| Tom Heidrich | Dan Ries |
| Pam Neal | Beth Redwine |
| Robert Gander | Trudy Koehling |
| Shirley Hensley | Ralph Kunkemoeller |
| Pat Ruttler | Margie Huesman |
| Peggy Beckman | Tom Donoghue |
| Fr. Ray Hartman | Jill Felix |
| Fr. Ralph Hartman | Baby Eli |
| Kelly Bowman | Clarence Dickman |
| Ann Jurgens | Amber Collins |
| Kristin Donnelly | Becky MacIntyre |
| Greg Scanlon | Peggy Price |
| Rose Kleier | Fred Stave |
| Elizabeth | Nancy Salzer |
| Carolyn James | |

12 pm Passion of the Lord followed by Stations of the Cross
Holy Saturday, March 31
 11:00 am Confessions
 8:30 pm Easter Vigil
Sunday, April 1 – HAPPY EASTER
 9:30 and 11:30 am Masses

MASS INTENTIONS

- | | | |
|---------|----------|--------------------------------|
| Mar. 25 | 9:30 am | Jim Nold |
| | 11:30 am | Maury Price |
| Mar. 26 | 12:05 pm | Ian Willett |
| Mar. 27 | 12:05 pm | Santel Family |
| Mar. 28 | 12:05 pm | No Mass |
| Mar. 29 | 7:30 pm | Parishioners & Memorials |
| Mar. 30 | 12:05 pm | No Mass
Passion of Our Lord |
| Mar. 31 | 8:30 pm | Parishioners & Memorials |
| April 1 | 9:30 am | Tony Wirtz |
| | 11:30 am | Alex Varga |

SCRIPTURE FOR MARCH 25, 2018:

Isaiah 50: 4-7; Psalm 22; Philippians 2: 6-11; Mark 14:1-15: 47.

HYMNS FOR 9:30 AM MASS

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 428 | All Glory, Laud, and Honor |
| Response | "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" |
| 523 | Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence |
| | Verses 1, 2 and 3 |
| 434 | O Sacred Head Surrounded |
| Choir | |

PLEASE LEAVE THE CHURCH IN SILENCE

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 25 – PALM SUNDAY

9:30 am Ladies Altar Society
 Blood pressures taken in hall after Masses

Tuesday, March 27

6:30 pm RCIA Mtg. (SAC)
 7 pm Chrism Mass at Cathedral
 7 pm St. Vincent de Paul Mtg. (Hall)

Thursday, March 29 Holy Thursday-Office Closed

5:30 pm Dinner (Hall)
 7:30 pm Mass followed by Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Friday, March 30 Good Friday-Office Closed