

APRIL 14, 2019
PALM SUNDAY

FROM THE PASTOR

HOLY WEEK

Today we begin the most sacred week of the Church's year--Holy Week. Through the liturgies of this week, especially those that make up the Sacred Triduum, we not only recall the saving events of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection—we enter into those events and become part of them. I hope that as many of you as possible will join with us in these great celebrations of our salvation.

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

This Sunday we begin with the blessing of palm branches and a procession into church commemorating the Triumphal Entry of Christ into Jerusalem. The crowd, believing that he was perhaps the Messiah, greeted him by laying down the palm branches and calling out, "Hosanna to the son of David." Their excitement and hope will quickly turn to disappointment and fury when they realize that he is not the kind of Messiah they had hoped.

At this Mass we will also read the story of the Passion of Jesus as told in the Gospel of Luke. It begins with Luke's account of the Last Supper, the Agony in the Garden, Jesus' arrest and trials, and finally his Way of the Cross and Crucifixion.

THE SACRED TRIDUUM

The Sacred Triduum (Three Days) are considered by the Church to be one continuous liturgy that extends over Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. As I stated above, we actually enter into and participate in the saving actions of Jesus over these three days.

HOLY THURSDAY—On this day the Church celebrates the Mass of the Lord's Supper. We celebrate the institution of the Eucharist, and with it, the institution of the priesthood. The Gospel for this Mass is from the Gospel of Saint John and tells the story of Jesus washing the feet of the Apostles. It is followed by a ritual washing of feet by the priest and deacon.

At the end of the Mass, the Blessed Sacrament is taken in procession through the church, recalling the journey of Jesus and his Apostles from the Upper Room to the Mount of Olives and the Garden of Gethsemane. This will be followed by one hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in honor of Jesus' words to his Apostles in the Garden of Gethsemane—"Could you not stay awake one hour with me?"

GOOD FRIDAY—Today our liturgy is known as the Passion of the Lord. The Blessed Sacrament is removed from the church, reminding us that he is gone. The

priests and ministers enter in silence, and the priest and deacon prostrate themselves before the empty tabernacle, as a sign of grief and sadness. We will read together, the Passion from the Gospel of Saint John. This is followed by a series of special General Intercessions chanted by the priest.

Next is the Veneration of the Cross. Because we have a relic of the True Cross here at Mother of God, we will come forward to venerate the relic as a sign of our love for Christ and our appreciation for Jesus' suffering and death on the Cross for our sake.

This liturgy is not a Mass. No Mass can be celebrated anywhere in the world between the Mass of the Lord's Supper and the Easter Vigil. But hosts consecrated at the Holy Thursday Mass are brought out and distributed to the congregation. After Communion, the priest and ministers process out in silence.

HOLY SATURDAY—Holy Saturday begins as the saddest day the world has ever known. Jesus is in the tomb. God has been murdered. The Savior of the world has been killed. All hope is dead. But, though he is dead, he is busy. Jesus "descends to the dead." He goes to the realm of the dead and leads forth all who came before him, who hoped in him, including our first parents, Adam and Eve. He leads them to heaven.

On Holy Saturday evening, we celebrate the Easter Vigil. A vigil is a watch. In the early Church, this watch would have gone all night, with readings and prayers, with the people waiting and watching for sunrise when they would have celebrated the Resurrection of the Lord. In our time, the Easter Vigil cannot begin until after sundown. This year that will be 8:30 pm.

We begin outside with the lighting and blessing of the Easter Fire and the lighting of the Paschal Candle. After we have processed into church, the deacon will proclaim the Exsultet.

Then we have a series of readings from the Old Testament, which make up the Vigil. These readings tell the story of salvation and those events leading up to the Resurrection of Christ. Finally, we will have the Gospel of the Account of the Resurrection.

After the homily, we have the Liturgy of Initiation, in which our Catechumens and Candidates will receive the Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism and Confirmation and Eucharist. We who are already baptized will stand and renew our Baptismal Promises, rededicating our lives to following Christ as his disciples.

The Easter Vigil ends with the celebration of the Eucharist and final blessing and dismissal.

EASTER SUNDAY

The Masses on Easter Sunday can almost feel anti-climactic after the drama of the Sacred Triduum. At these Masses, the Gloria and the Alleluia return to our celebrations. Most notably, as at the Easter Vigil, we

will all renew our baptismal promises together, recommitting ourselves to following Christ.

THE CHRISM MASS

On Tuesday of this week, Bishop Foys will gather with the priests and representatives of the parishes of the diocese to celebrate the Chrism Mass. At this Mass, the priests will renew their priestly promises, the three Sacred Oils will be blessed, and the liturgy concludes with a procession of banners, as the representatives of the parishes come forward to receive the Sacred Oils.

The three oils that are blessed by the bishop are: the Oil of the Catechumens, the Oil of the Infirm, and the Sacred Chrism.

All are invited to join in the Chrism Mass at 7 pm on Tuesday, April 16, at the Cathedral.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 14 **Palm/Passion Sunday**
9:30 am and 11:30 am Mass

Tuesday, April 16 **Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption**
7 pm Chrism Mass

Thursday, April 18 **Holy Thursday**
5:30 pm Holy Thursday Dinner
7 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday, April 19 **Good Friday**
12:05 pm The Passion of the Lord
1 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 20 **Holy Saturday**
9:30 am Practice for the Easter Vigil
11 am Confessions
8:30 pm Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 21 **Easter Sunday**
9:30 am and 11:30 am Easter Mass

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY AND DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

The Sunday after Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday. Jesus himself, in his revelations to Saint Faustina Kowalska, requested that the Second Sunday of Easter be so designated. It is especially fitting as the Gospel for that day is the institution of the Sacrament of Mercy—Reconciliation. Jesus breathes on the Apostles and says, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you shall forgive are forgiven them. Whose sins you retain, are retained." He told her that an "ocean of mercy" would be poured out on those who approach him on that day.

He also gave her a Divine Mercy Novena that he wanted people to pray in preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday. They were to begin the Novena on Good Friday. It can also be prayed at any time throughout the year.

We have copies of the Divine Mercy Novena at the exits of church.

PARISH NEWS

NOTICE: No coffee and donuts on Easter Sunday.

Mother of God Parish's 2019 Spring Wildflower Hike will take place TODAY, at 2 pm, on the Highland Cemetery Black Squirrel trail. Enter cemetery across from Kroger plaza, Ft. Mitchell. Keep bearing right; at chain link fence turn left. Park and meet at the pet cemetery. N. KY Naturalist Tim Williams, guide. Hike cancelled if it's raining. *Vickie Cimprich*

HOSPITALITY MEETING AND POTLUCK: If you are involved in parish hospitality, or wish to be, please join us on Monday, May 6, at 6 pm, in the parish hall for a potluck and organizational meeting. BBQ will be provided. If you wish, bring a small side, salad or dessert, or just come! Please direct RSVP and any questions to Cindy Hassan (chassan@fuse.net) or Mary Ann Kelly (kellymaryg@fuse.net). *Please note that this is a new date, rescheduled from the original April 1 date.

HOLY THURSDAY DINNER AND LITURGY: Please join us on Holy Thursday for our annual dinner and Mass of the Lord's Supper. The hall will open at 5, a pasta dinner will be served at 5:30, and Mass will begin at 7 pm. Cost is \$5 per person, \$10 per family. Donations of wine and soft drinks for the evening are gladly accepted and can be dropped off to the kitchen in the parish hall. Desserts to share are always welcomed as well. Hope to see you there!

TICKETS FOR THE EMMET CAHILL CONCERT are on sale after both Sunday Masses in the back of church. The concert is slated for Wednesday, April 24, here at Mother of God. Tickets for the meet-and-greet (starting at 6 pm), plus the concert (7:30 pm), are \$45. Tickets for the concert only are \$30. You can also purchase them online at www.emmetcahill.com or at the door the night of the concert. The Contemporary Ensemble will be performing before the concert, starting at 7:10 pm.

SUNDAY COLLECTION FIGURES NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINTING

DIOCESAN NEWS

ST. HENRY CATHOLIC CHURCH cordially invites you to their annual Tenebrae service. Through readings and music, Tenebrae is a religious program of Christ's passion, characterized by the extinguishing of candles. It is a memorable experience. Under the direction of our choir director, Patrick Mason, the Tenebrae service will take place on Wednesday, April 17, at 7 pm, in church, 3813 Dixie Highway, Elsmere. All are welcome.

CINCINNATI CATHOLIC MEN'S

CONFERENCE: ATTENTION men, fathers and sons!
The Cincinnati Catholic Men's Conference is Saturday, June 15, at St. Maximillian Kolbe Parish. Get your ticket today for a faith-filled half-day where men from all over the Tri-state will enjoy Catholic inspiration and spiritual growth. Speakers include Super Bowl champ Matt Birk, Cooking Priest, Fr. Leo Patalinghug and New York Mets coach, Rich Donnelly. Get complete information on the conference and purchase tickets at www.CincinnatiMensConference.com

YOUTH 2000 will be at Covington Catholic High School on October 11-13. This event is open to eighth grade and high school students. For more information, visit the YOUTH 2000 website at nkyouth.com. If you have questions, call 859-466-1283.

FOOD SERVICE PROVIDER
Diocesan Catholic Children's Home, a residential treatment facility for children ages 6-14 in Ft. Mitchell, KY is seeking a food service worker. Hours are Monday thru Friday, from 8 am to 2 pm. Experience preferred, but not necessary. References and a background check will be completed. This position also includes a very comprehensive benefit package. Interested individuals please fax your resume to (859)-344-5022, attn: Tim Lucas, or call Tim at 859-331-2040 ext 8215. Resumes also accepted via e-mail at tlucas@dchcenter.org.

HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT invites you to the 2nd Annual Spring Choral Concert on Thursday, April 25, at 7 pm until 8 pm, at Notre Dame Academy's Theater. This year they will be singing a variety of pop songs and more. There is no charge, but free will offerings will be accepted. .

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK
Sunday, April 14 - PALM SUNDAY
Tuesday, April 16
7 pm Chrism Mass at Cathedral
Thursday, April 18 - HOLY THURSDAY
5:30 pm Parish Dinner
7 pm Holy Thursday Mass
Friday, April 19 – GOOD FRIDAY
12:05 pm Passion of Our Lord
1 pm Stations of the Cross
Holy Land Collection
Office Closed
Saturday, April 20 – HOLY SATURDAY
11 am. Confessions
8:30 pm Easter Vigil
Sunday, April 21 – EASTER
9:30 and 11:30 am Mass

HYMNS FOR 9:30 A.M. MASS

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 139 | All Glory, Laud, and Honor |
| Response | My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? |
| 138 | Hosanna to the Son of David |
| 378 | Here I Am, Lord |
| 723 | Rejoice, the Lord is King |

SCRIPTURE FOR APRIL 14, 2019: Isaiah 50: 4-7; Psalm 22; Philipians 2:6-11; Luke 22:14--23:56.

MASS INTENTIONS

- | | | |
|----------|------------|--------------------------------|
| April 14 | 9:30 am | Lois Hardin |
| | 11:30 am | Ed Hunkemoeller |
| April 15 | 12:05 pm | Denny Wolking |
| April 16 | 12:05 pm | Bud Imbus |
| April 17 | | No Mass |
| April 18 | 7 pm | Holy Thursday
Alice Heath. |
| April 19 | 12:05 p.m. | Passion of Our Lord |
| | 1 pm | Stations of the Cross |
| April 20 | 8:30 pm | Easter Vigil
Louise Dickman |
| April 21 | 9:30 am | Edward and Noreen Comer |
| | 11:30 am | Parishioners and Memorials |

LET US PRAY FOR OUR SICK

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Les Miley | Hannah Donoghue |
| Ralph Kunkemoeller | Margie Huesman |
| Shirley Hensley | Tom Donoghue |
| Fr. Ray Hartman | Jill Felix |
| Fr. Ralph Hartman | Greg Scanlon |
| Kelly Bowman | Nancy Salzer |
| Robert Shircliff | Connie Gillum |
| Ed Salzer | Christy Egan |
| Rachel Hub | Jack Kearns |
| Pat Wiedemann | Richard Kearns |
| Marie Braun | Mary Lou Wilson |
| Joy Rolfsen | Jim White |
| Trudy Koehling | William Freddie |
| Carolyn James | Special Intention |
| Paula Schwarte | Bessie Plymesser |
| Baby Gunther | Vicki Brunner |
| Rita & Ron Hopper | Debbie Bartlett |
| Rose Manning | Marcie Arnett |
| Joyce Mesler | Jerry Gibson |
| Special Intention (2) | Archie Williams |
| Michael Carter | Jim Timon |
| Hattie Grace Sutter | |