

March 29 – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And He sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. – Mk 11:7-8

LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, March 29 (Mk 11:1-10/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1--15:47)

8:00 am- Our Parish Family
10:30 am- Eddie & Georgie Janak
5:00 pm- Daniel Silgero (Spanish Mass)

Monday of Holy Week (Is 42:1-7/Jn 12:1-11)

7:00 am- Julia Kallus
10:00 am- Special Intention (H'ville Rehab)

Tuesday of Holy Week (Is 49:1-6/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38)

7:00 am- Hilbert & Agnes Bludau

Wednesday of Holy Week (Is 50:4-9a/Mt 26:14-25)

7:00 am- Marie Voelkel Holy
8:05 am- Gilbert Butschek
12:05 pm- Bill & Helen Mitchon

Holy Thursday (Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15)

10:00 am- Julius, Sidonia & Jerome Mikulenska (Stevens)
7:00 pm- (Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper) Special intention for those suffering from cancer
9:00 pm- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until midnight

Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Is 52:13--53:12/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1--19:42)

12:00 noon- Liturgy of the Lord's Passion – Living Stations, Veneration of the Cross, Holy Communion
2:00 pm- Liturgy of the Lord's Passion – Living Stations, Veneration of the Cross, Holy Communion
6:00 pm- Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil (Gn 1:1--2:2/Gn 22:1-18/ Ex 14:15--15:1/Is 54:5-14/Is 55:1-11/Bar 3:9-15, 32--4:4/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Rom 6:3-11/Mk 16:1-7)

7:00 pm- Dwayne Janak, Alvin & Annie Schneider, Sr.

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4/Jn 20:1-9)

6:30 am- Our Parish Family
8:00 am- Bernie & Stephen Bludau
10:30 am- Bill & Helen Schulte

Bulletin Sponsor: Hoffer's Drive-In Grocery.

Radio Broadcast Sponsor: In memory of Bill & Helen Mitchon by their family.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$6,740.50; Loose-\$2,243; Children-\$46; Rice Bowl-\$1,384; Manna-\$1,127.

Pray for the repose of the soul of *Donald Laas* of our parish family. *May he and all the faithful departed rest in the peace of Christ.*



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

-Covered Dish Supper after Spanish Mass, Family Center.

MONDAY, MARCH 30

-Rosary & Evening Praise, 5:30 p.m.
-Adult Choir Practice, 6:00 p.m., Church.
-Parish Finance Council Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Mary's House.
-Parish Advisory Council Mtg., 7:00 p.m., Mary's House.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

-Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., K.C. Hall of Fame Room.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

-CCD: K-12th Grade, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

-RCIA Class to attend Mass.
-Soup and Sandwiches in the Family Center after Mass.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

-Stations of the Cross, 6:00 p.m., Church.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

-Easter Sunday—Easter Egg Hunt after 8:00 Mass sponsored by Youth Ministry



Among our sick: Donna Avant, Lorene Christ, Josephine Muniz, Wilbert Kalinec, Barbara Kubena, Kathy Davis, Elrose Ehler, Marilyn Palmquist, Doug Blumberg, Becky Pekar, Amanda Gutierrez, Karen Kahanek, Harvey Drozd, Monte Staha, Marie Hermes, Karen Perez, Georgie Meyer, Doris Anders, Jack Crandall, Gary Trojcek, Brian Wisnoski, Jeanne McClain, Frances Kutach, Sweet Hrcir, Henry Konvicka, Clorisa Hartensteiner, Betsy Brown, Leo Haas, Jr., Marcella Henke, Mark Henneke, Kirk Remmers, Richard Grahmann, Margie Becker, Dollie Parr, Joyce Tesch, Msgr. Celestino Say, Steve Grasshoff, Buddy Boehm, Sr. Rosalyn Henke, John Moore, Jr., Lillian Haas, Victor Roeber, nursing home residents, & the homebound.

Sacred Heart Confessions during Holy Week:

Monday: 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 5:00-6:00 p.m. **Wednesday:** 10:00-11:00 a.m.

St. Mary's Holy Week Services:

Palm Sunday Mass, March 29, 9:15 a.m.

Good Friday Service, April 3, 3:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Mass, April 5, 9:15 a.m.

Ascension Church, Moravia Holy Week Services:

Confession – Wednesday, April 1, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil Mass), April 4, 6:00 p.m.

St. John's Holy Week Services:

Palm Sunday Mass, March 29, 9:30 a.m.

Holy Thurs., Apr. 2, Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:00 p.m.

Adoration after Mass until 8:30 p.m.

Confession – Friday, April 3, 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Good Friday Service, April 3, 1:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Mass, April 5, 9:30 a.m.

Adoration in the Chapel ends at 6:00 p.m. on Holy Thursday and resumes on Easter Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

Happy Anniversary!

Ronnie & Libby Bludau	30 years	March 30
Glenn & Donna Leopold	25 years	March 31

From the Desk of Msgr. John

Today is Palm Sunday, which marks the beginning of Holy Week with a remembrance of the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. The Gospels tell us that when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the crowds greeted Him by waving palm branches and covering His path with them. Immediately following this great time of celebration in the ministry of Jesus, He begins His journey to the cross.

Palms can be dried and displayed throughout your home all year long – standing tall in a vase, tucked behind a crucifix, or even pressed in your Bible. Palm branches remind us that Jesus is our light and salvation – and that is something to celebrate.

As we return to the teaching documents of the Church, we are reminded that the Triduum (Holy Week) is the foundation of our Catholic faith. Triduum means three. For three days – Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday – we suffer with Jesus and await His rising from the dead. The Second Vatican Council restored the Triduum as the holiest days in the Church year.

On Holy Thursday, we recall the Last Supper that Jesus shared with His disciples, and the powerful lesson He taught about service when He washed their feet. Attend Holy Thursday Mass, which recalls the Last Supper. Give thanks for the gift of the Holy Eucharist.

Good Friday is the somber remembrance of the day Jesus died on the cross. Attend the Good Friday services.

Holy Saturday is traditionally the final day of preparation for the great feast of Easter. The Easter Vigil that takes place on Holy Saturday night is the high point of the Church calendar. The Paschal candle that is lit at the Easter Vigil will remain in the church as a sign of Christ's death and resurrection. Attend the Easter Vigil and savor the symbols – fire represents Christ's light in the world, and the color white reminds us of Christ's victory over death.

On Holy Saturday night we will welcome several new members into the Church either through Baptism or Profession of Faith. Please try to attend this Easter Vigil Mass to welcome these new members into the Church.

Holy Thursday Special Collection for the Education of our Seminarians. Please do your part in helping to educate our future priests who will someday serve our parishes. If you did not receive an envelope, please place your donation in an envelope with your name and "Education of Seminarians" written on the front, and drop it in the collection basket or bring it to the Rectory.

The Good Friday Collection is requested by the Holy Father and allows for the care of Christianity's holiest sites and for God's people living in the Holy Land. Please be generous in your support.

Raffle prize donors are needed for our Spring Picnic on May 24. Please come by the Rectory at your earliest convenience if you are able to donate a prize.

This year at the Easter Vigil we will welcome ten adults into the Catholic Church. There will be a basket in the foyer of the church where parishioners can put cards and letters of welcome. These will be given to the new Catholics (Neophytes) at the Easter Vigil. The names are:


Jeremy Hill, Melanie Janssen, Roxanne Pilat, Nicole Gilliam, Ruben Gilliam, Shane Stovall, Jolene Janak, Brandon DeLaRosa, Bruce Ziegler, and Christine Ziegler.

Confirmation Retreat: On April 19 the Confirmation candidates will be participating in Catholic Relief Services' Food Fast. During the 12-hour retreat, we will be fasting in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world who struggle with poverty and hunger. Participants explore the reality of hunger in a world of plenty and come face-to-face with the impact of hunger on nearly 1 Billion people in the world. The fact is there really is enough food for all. Following the lead of Pope Francis, we ask ourselves, then, what we can do to help end hunger in our world. We ask that you pray for us as we journey with the poor around the world. We will have a special "RICEBAG" collection during the 10:30 a.m. Mass to support the work of Catholic Relief Services.



Sacred Heart Youth News ~~

Our Steubenville on the Bayou trip is coming up! Our first fundraiser will be a bake sale after the Masses on Easter Sunday! All youth are encouraged to bring baked goods! The \$50 deposit to reserve your spot to SOTB is due by April 19. Anyone currently in 8th-12th grade is eligible to attend SOTB on June 25-28. Please contact Troy if you have any questions concerning the trip or if you would like to register your child.

Sacred Heart CCD News ~~

Apr. 1: Stations of the Cross 2nd-12th Grades.

Apr. 2: Juniors participate at Holy Thursday Mass.

Sacred Heart School News ~~

Apr. 3&6: Easter Holiday – no school

Easter Flowers: If you would like to contribute towards the Easter flowers, you may place your donation in an envelope with your name and drop it in the collection basket or drop it off at the Rectory.



The Sacred Heart Picnic Country Store will be in need of handmade craft items for our Spring Picnic. If you are a "crafty" person, please be working on handmade aprons, potholders, embroidered pillow cases, cup towels, or any other craft items.



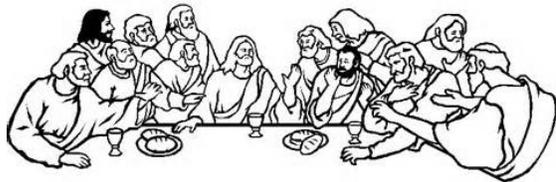
*Blessed is He
Who comes in
the name of
the Lord!*



The Shroud of Turin Exhibit in San Antonio has been extended to July 15th! Bishop Fellhauer has three hundred free tickets to this informative, educational and faith-moving exhibit. This is a great opportunity for children and adults to learn more about the Shroud of Turin, which is one of the greatest mysteries of mankind and to which modern science has devoted enormous resources. For the first time, this Shroud Exhibition brings to one place an in-depth analysis and visual display that explains why The Shroud continues to remain one of the most studied and controversial objects in human history. Call the Bishop's Office, at 361-573-0828, for information on how to obtain free tickets to the exhibit. Go to www.shroudexpo.com for details on the exhibition.

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion –

"They began to be distressed and to say to Him, one by one, Surely it is not I?" During this dramatic scene at the Last Supper, we can picture Judas Iscariot, the betrayer,



trying to play up his innocence as long as possible.

He knew he had already betrayed Jesus, and if he joined in the "who, me?" ritual, he was just putting on appearances. But what about the others? The rest of the Twelve were deeply disturbed by the idea that they might betray Jesus. As we know, however, when push came to shove, Peter's fear of betraying Jesus was trumped by fear for his own life. "I do not know this man about whom you are talking," he said in order to protect himself. But notice Peter's reaction when he realized what he'd done: "He broke down and wept."

How different was humble Peter's response from that of prideful Judas, who acted as if he hadn't done anything wrong: "Who, me?" Both men were unfaithful to the Lord, but only Peter immediately felt real sorrow, what we traditionally call contrition, for his sin.

The betrayers in today's Gospel readings are not just these two men. We also follow the crowd who hailed Jesus one day with "hosannas!" and a week later nailed Him with their angry "crucify Him!" How quickly our faith can turn fickle. For some of us, it may be easy to condemn the crowd and Judas and Peter, thinking that we would never do such a thing: "Who, me?" But today, let us resolve not to be so proud as to think we are perfect disciples. Let us have the humility of Peter who wept over his imperfections

and, ultimately, repented of his sins. Only when we acknowledge that we need God's help will we be able to hail Him and praise Him as He truly deserves.



SACRED HEART CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of George Koncaba, Sr.: Peoples State Bank-\$10.

In memory of Terry Wick, Anita Pesek, & Emil Grahmann: Marvin & Annette Grahmann-\$60

In memory of Sylvester Grahmann: Marvin & Annette Grahmann-\$15; Don & Louise Kasperek-\$25.

SACRED HEART CHURCH CCD PROGRAM

In memory of Georgia Bohuslav, Lilly Nilsson & Don & Yvonne Muska: Jim & Sandra Mullen-\$125.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND

In memory of Anita Pesek: Peoples State Bank-\$10.

In memory of Henry Barnabei: Thomas & Marjorie Staha-\$100.

In memory of Sylvester Grahmann: Greg & Iris Grein-\$25.

In memory of Terry Wick: Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Matula-\$20.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL LEARNING CENTER

In memory of Sylvester Grahmann & Viola Strauss: Virginia Pustka, Michael & Rebecca Till-\$50.

SACRED HEART CHURCH BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

In memory of Anita Pesek: Frank & Elrose Migl-\$25.

SACRED HEART CHURCH QUILTING CIRCLE

In memory of Bill Curley: Bill & Fran Byrd-\$20.

Prayer for Palm Sunday –

All-powerful, eternal God, You have chosen to give mankind a model of humility; our Savior took on our flesh, and subjected Himself to the Cross.

Grant us the grace to preserve faithfully the lessons He has given us in His Passion and to have a share in His resurrection.

Favour this dwelling, Lord, with Your presence. Far from it repulse all the wiles of Satan. Your holy angels, let them live here, to keep us in peace. And may Your blessing remain always upon us.

This we ask of You through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son. May the almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless and keep us. Amen.

Passion Of Christ, Strengthen Me –

Passion of Christ, strengthen me! Strengthen me under the pressure of temptation. Strengthen me when principle is at stake. Strengthen me to do Your Will, My God. Strengthen me in moments of suffering, in times of loneliness, in periods of depression.

Strengthen me that I may never swerve from You, dear Christ, nor weaken through human respect, through a desire to be popular, through hope of social distinction. Strengthen me to accept my cross and carry it generously to the end.

On the battlefield of life, stand by me that I may never prove a traitor in the ranks.

Stand by me that I may not be dazzled by the glitter and glow of the enemy camp. Amen.



Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

April 2015

Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Bernadette Soubirous

Bernadette was a good but simple teen from a poor family in the south of France. The Blessed Virgin Mary chose to visit Bernadette eighteen times in a cave beside the Gave River (1858-59). A miraculous spring with healing waters poured from the spot and Lourdes remains one of the most visited religious sites in the world. Bernadette suffered terribly, but bravely, from learning difficulty, poor health, world scrutiny. After becoming a nun, she died at the age of 35.



We are one Body

On the road to Damascus, Jesus told Saul that when he attacked Christians, he attacked Jesus. "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting" (Acts 26:15). Our Lord cannot be separated from the members of his Body. We stand united with all who suffer for Christ.

"He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

John 6:54

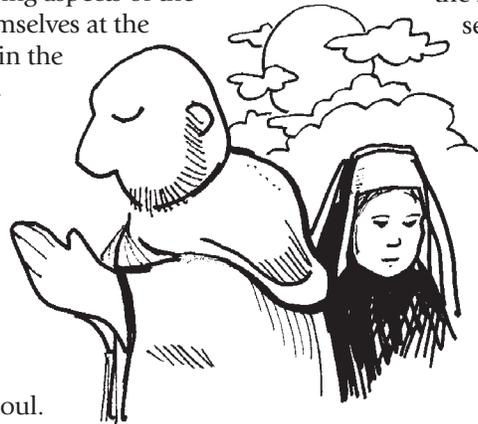


The Year of Consecrated Life

Most of us are called to a vocation of marriage and family, but some are called to live with Christ in a different relationship. For some of these chosen, this involves leaving aspects of the world to put themselves at the service of others in the Consecrated Life.

Caretakers of Christ's Church:

The role of a someone consecrated to God by vows of chastity, poverty and obedience is often as a caretaker of the soul. Whether it is teaching in schools, providing aid to the sick and dying, caring for those in need, or living a life dedicated to manual labor and prayer, they bring Christ's charity to the world.



Someone to pray for us: For the consecrated religious, praying can be a full time job. To better understand the needs of God's children and to learn the Father's will, they often

separate themselves in some manner from worldly cares. This way, they can freely represent us on the front lines of the battle for salvation.

Real role models:

"Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). Those living

the consecrated life try to live their baptismal promises more intensely and serve with open hearts and willing spirits. When looking for role models, we can look to these men and women striving to live a holy life for God.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics need faith?

"Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). Christians know that Jesus is our Savior and our lives are in his hands. We also know that by virtue of his suffering,



death, and Resurrection, we have hope of sharing in his glory in Heaven. He said so.

It is through faith that all the other virtues flow. Through faith we believe, *"For with God, nothing will be impossible"* (Luke 1:37).

The path that Easter built

Easter is more than a happy ending to Jesus' travels on Earth. In fact, it leads to a new life for anyone who follows Jesus. Here are some ways to find the right path.

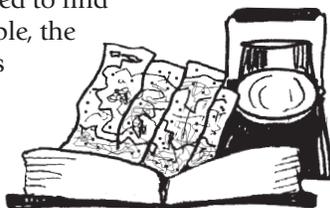
Use a map. Our faith holds all the tools needed to find peace, personal well-being, and security. The Bible, the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Mass point the way.

Travel light. Avoiding materialism is the challenge of our time. Keeping only what we need reminds us of our dependence on

God, gives us an appreciation for what we have, and helps us be more sensitive to others in need.

Follow a guide. The journey can be easier when someone lights the way. Perhaps a priest, deacon, or religious in your parish can become a spiritual mentor. Or choose one of the saints to be a role model who can light the path.

Bring a friend. Spiritual companions can help us maintain perspective, challenge us to grow, and make the trip more enjoyable.

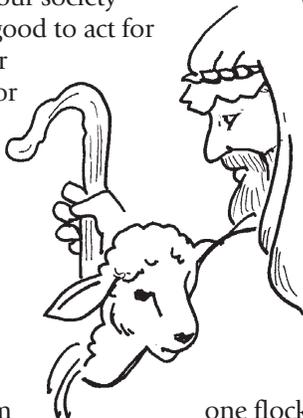


from Scripture

From Scripture: John 10:11-18, The Good Shepherd

This Gospel describes the ideal for our relationship with Jesus. In our society today, we are told that it's good to act for ourselves first, stand on our own, and do what is best for us as individuals. Our allegiance to others is secondary. The problem becomes, on whom can we rely for help when we encounter trouble?

In Jesus' day, a shepherd lived with his sheep, cared for them, and even put himself at risk to keep them safe. He kept them in a flock for safety to protect them from predators. Their shepherd was trusted and familiar, and



the sheep recognized his voice and wouldn't follow another, unknown voice. He was their Good Shepherd.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd for all of humankind. Jesus placed himself in the role of a shepherd and predicted that he would give his life for his sheep. Although his sheepfold began in

Israel, he hopes to have one flock made up of the whole world. His flock is the Church he founded and all who follow his voice are his sheep.



Q & A Is it better to say formula or spontaneous prayers?

Prayer is raising our hearts and minds to God and any form of prayer is key to maintaining a strong relationship with God.

Formula prayers are memorized prayers someone has written, while spontaneous prayers are vocalizations that come from the heart. Both types of prayer have the same goals – to praise God, ask for his help, to thank him, and reflect on his goodness.

When young Catholics are often taught formula prayers, such as the "Our Father", "Apostles Creed", and "Hail Mary", to help us learn about God and to develop the habit of speaking with him. Then, as we grow in our faith, praying spontaneously from the heart becomes another, more personal option. It is possible, and even fruitful, to combine both forms in our communication with God.

For example, spontaneous prayer during Eucharistic Adoration is made richer by enjoying the silence and presence of God. In turn, beginning Adoration with the Rosary – a formula prayer - can lay the groundwork for a higher level of spontaneous prayer.

Feasts & Celebrations

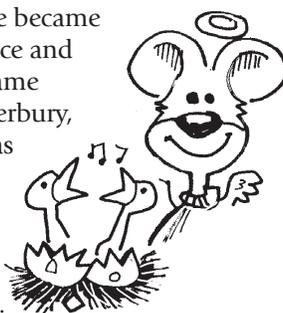
April 5 – Easter Sunday. The solemnity that marks Jesus' Resurrection. It is a Holy Day of Obligation.

April 11 - St. Stanislaus (1079). As Bishop of Krakow in 1072, St. Stanislaus attempted to reform the violent and depraved king of Poland, Boleslas II. When his efforts failed, he excommunicated the king. In retaliation, Boleslas murdered the saint as he said Mass.

April 12 – Divine Mercy Sunday. In 1931, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina and asked that the Sunday after Easter

become the "Feast of Mercy." Jesus promised that anyone who honors him as the King of Mercy and prays The Chaplet of Divine Mercy – the prayer he gave to St. Faustina – will receive special graces and great mercy.

April 21 – St. Anselm (1109). A native of Italy, St. Anselm initially enjoyed a carefree life at court. After his mother died, he became a monk in France and reluctantly became bishop of Canterbury, England. He was exiled for rebuffing the king's interference in Church matters.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

Success Publishing & Media, LLC
Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™
(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.growinginfaith.com>

(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

You are invited to attend an informational presentation at Sacred Heart Family Center on Monday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m.



VETERANS . . . SURVIVING SPOUSES OF VETERANS



Veteran Benefits in Texas

Are you or your spouse a veteran with:

- 90 days of consecutive, active military service
- One day of service during wartime
- With a discharge of any kind other than dishonorable
- At least age 65 or older
- In need of Aid and Attendance thru Home Health Care, Assisted Living or Nursing Home

If you can answer **yes** to these questions, then you should learn more about your benefits!

Learn how you can qualify for a little known, little used VETERAN'S IMPROVED PENSION BENEFIT of up to **\$23,396** a year **TAX-FREE**

- Especially reserved for Veterans & Surviving Spouses of Veterans
- According to a VA estimate, only one in seven of the surviving spouses of veterans who qualify for the pension actually receive the monthly checks.
- A VA study says that the veterans generally "are completely unaware that the program exists."
- The VA knows that many veterans and surviving spouses are missing out on the benefit.
- Only 27 percent of veterans and 14 percent of surviving spouses currently receive the money.*
*Knight Ridder Newspapers

Veteran Benefits in Texas has helped veterans, and their surviving spouses learn about benefits that can **INCREASE their INCOME, tax free**. We have helped Veterans receive benefits through Veterans Affairs, Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

Robert Dornak is an Accredited Agent with Veterans Affairs and can assist you in filing for the benefits.