

St Bernadette Parish

1343 Wheeling Road NE (740) 654 • 1893
LANCASTER, OH 43130-8701

St Mary Parish

602 Marietta Street (740) 569 • 7929
BREMEN, OH 43107

[stbernadetteparish . net](http://stbernadetteparish.net)



The entry of Christ into Jerusalem

scene of today's first gospel reading

12th century mosaic
in the Palatine Chapel of the Norman Palace, Palermo, Sicily

Palm Sunday

APRIL 9, 2017

belonging to a parish

It makes sense that Holy Mother the Church expects that we will worship in the parish where we live. There are exceptions: military people, college students, people visiting or caring for relatives, and the like. But we all live somewhere and have neighbors. We go to the Church there, with them. If you have moved to another place (or from another place), for more or less all of the foreseeable future, you should register in the parish in the new place. If you are going to be a practicing Catholic, you will most likely practice your faith with the people who live nearby and in the church that is nearby. We are not like some Christian denominations for whom membership in a congregation is permanent and is a matter of taste preferences. Our permanent membership is in the Catholic Church; parish membership needs to be registered with the parish where we live. Our “home parish” is important to us, but if we don’t live there anymore it is not likely to be our actual place of worship on anything like a regular basis. For purposes of baptism, first Communion, confirmation, marriage, sacramental sponsorship, burial, and such, the parish where we have registered and where we ordinarily worship is the one that counts. This has been the practice of the Catholic Church for a very long time, but it only becomes obvious when people grow up, establish a home, and sometimes have to move to another place. Whether it is here or there, register in the parish where you worship on Sundays!

our parishes

FATHER THOMAS KESSLER (614) 634-0499
pastor wnthomaskessler@icloud.com

AT ST BERNADETTE PARISH

<http://stbernadetteparish.net>

MARK SCARPITTI (740) 438-3970
deacon dcn.mark@frontier.com
JEFF CARPENTER (740) 681-9918
deacon carpenter.277@osu.edu
ANN ESSMAN (740) 653-9347
pastoral minister aessman001@att.net
STEVE HUBER (740) 654-3137
facilities coordinator shuber57@yahoo.com
LIZ LATORRE (740) 243-1872
liturgical music lizlаторre@gmail.com

The St Bernadette Parish office is in the Mary Good Center, across the back parking lot from the school.

Hours are: 9 AM-1 PM, MWThF; 11 AM-1 PM, Tu.
1343 Wheeling Rd NE,
Lancaster, OH 43130-8701 (740) 654-1893

AT BREMEN ST MARY PARISH

BEN FACTOR
liturgical music b_factor@lancaster.k12.oh.us
JIM SCHMELZER
maintenance chair (740) 215-3894
TYNA FOX-SCHMELZER
religious education (614) 371-7702

The St Mary Parish office is at the church vestibule.

Hours are 9-11 AM, Tu.
602 Marietta St,
Bremen, OH 43107 (740) 569-7929

AT BOTH PARISHES

NIKKI SCHMELZER (740) 654-1893
bookkeeper businessmstbparish@yahoo.com
KATHY KEHNAST (740) 654-1893
pastoral coordinator stbernparish@yahoo.com
ANGIE & KENT KERNS (740) 654-2588
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JULIE & CHASE STALFORD (740) 808-7294
youth ministry maristellaspirit@gmail.com

AT ST BERNADETTE SCHOOL

PAM ELTRINGHAM peltring@cducation.org
principal
BARB HUBER bhuber@cducation.org
secretary

Saint Bernadette School is located at
1325 Wheeling Rd, (740) 654-3137
Lancaster, OH 43130-8701
www.stbernadetteschool.com
stbernlan@cducation.org.

sacramental life

BAPTISM

To have a child baptized, you must register and attend a class as a couple (unless attendance just isn’t possible, in which case some discussion with Kathy Kehnast will be necessary). Sessions are held quarterly for both parishes. Try to take the class before the child is born. If you are expecting, call Kathy to register for the class.

Please don’t ask if you “have to go.” This is an opportunity to meet with parents of children about the same age as your little one; those parents are in the same wonderful boat as you are.

At least one parent must be a practicing Catholic. Both godparents need to be practicing Catholics. If you don’t attend Sunday Mass regularly (a major component of being a practicing Catholic), there is something you can do about it: Start coming to Sunday Mass.

PENANCE

The priest is available for Penance

- at St Bernadette Saturdays at 3 PM and Thursdays at 5:30 PM, and
- at St Mary Bremen on Sunday at 8 AM.

In addition to Advent and Lenten Penance Services, every Catholic priest is available whenever there is a need. There are Penance opportunities for parochial school children **four times during the year so that they will learn the beauty of frequent confession**. The Church’s law requires us to receive the sacrament of Penance at least once a year.

ANOINTING AND CARE OF THE SICK

The Sick receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick when dangerously ill, facing major surgery, or suffering from the ravages of old age. We celebrate the sacrament communally at a Sunday Mass before Advent and during the Easter season so that we can all pray with you for “health of mind and body.”

And, we are happy to bring Penance, Anointing, and Holy Communion to the homes or hospitals of the sick or shut in. It is very helpful to call the parish office to let us know before a hospitalization or when it has been too long since the sacraments were last available.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Couples wishing to marry should contact the parish office six months before they wish to celebrate the sacrament. Why so long? Because **this sacrament, not just the ceremony, requires serious preparation**. And the Church needs to be involved in that preparation.

Remember, Catholics who marry outside the Church have left the sacramental life and need to change that situation before receiving the other sacraments.

The Church wishes to support couples **through the years** of their married life. That’s why our diocese offers programs to enhance married life. To learn about these programs, watch the weekly bulletin.

praying this week

with the Church on

Palm Sunday

Almighty ever-living God,
 who as an example of humility for the human race to follow
 caused our Savior to take flesh and submit to the Cross,
 graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering
 and so merit a share in his Resurrection.
 Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, for ever and ever.

Holy Thursday

O God, who have called us
 to participate in this most sacred Supper,
 in which your Only Begotten Son,
 when about to hand himself over to death,
 entrusted to the Church a sacrifice new for all eternity,
 the banquet of his love,
 grant, we pray, that we may draw from so great a mystery
 the fullness of charity and of life.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, for ever and ever.

Good Friday

Remember your mercies, O Lord,
 and with your eternal protection sanctify your servants
 for whom Christ your Son, by the shedding of his Blood,
 established the Paschal Mystery.
 Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Easter Vigil

O God, who make this most sacred night
 radiant with the glory of the Lord's Resurrection,
 stir up in your Church a spirit of adoption,
 so that, renewed in body and mind,
 we may render you undivided service.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, for ever and ever.

God's word at

sunday Mass

Sunday, Apr 9, Isaiah 50:4-7 Psalm 22
Palm Sunday Philippians 2:6-11 **Matthew 21:1-11**
Matthew 26:14-27:66

Sunday, Apr 16, Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118
Easter Sunday Colossians 3:1-4 **John 20:1-9**

during the week

Monday, Apr 10 Isaiah 42:1-7 Ps 27 **John 12:1-11**
Tuesday, Apr 11 Isaiah 49:1-6 Ps 71 **John 13:21-38**
Wednesday, Apr 12 Isaiah 50:4-9 Ps 69 **Matt 26:14-25**

for the sacred triduum

Holy Apr 13 Exodus 12:1-14 Ps 116
Thursday 1 Cor 11:23-26 **John 13:1-15**

Good Apr 14 Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Ps 31
Friday, Hebrews 4:14-5:9 **John 18:1-19:42**

Holy Apr 15 Genesis 1:1-2:2 Ps 33
Saturday Genesis 22:1-18 Ps 16
 Exodus 14:15-15:1 Ex 15
 Isaiah 55:1-11 Is 12
 Ezekiel 36:16-28 Ps 42
 Romans 6:3-11 Ps 118 **Matt 28:1-10**

with the pope in april: for young people

Pope Francis asks us to pray
 that young people may respond generously to their vocations
 and seriously consider offering themselves to God
 in the priesthood or consecrated life.

in both parishes

the triduum together

Our two parishes will celebrate the Triduum together. We can't have separate liturgies because we only have one priest now. We will celebrate these liturgies **at St Bernadette because that church has more room.** But this will be a joint liturgy with servers, lectors and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion from both parishes. The times are set for us more or less by the times of the events commemorated in the liturgy:

- Holy Thursday April 13 7 PM
- Good Friday April 14 1 PM
- The Easter Vigil April 15 9 PM

christian initiation

Please pray for the new members (albeit not yet full members) of the household of faith, who have ratified their desire to become baptized members of the Catholic Church and are preparing for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Our elect include **Ralph Mohler** and his son **Bryant** of Bremen St Mary, and **Jennifer Palmer** of St Bernadette. They are in the period of final, more intense preparation for the sacraments of initiation, during which they will be encouraged to follow Christ with greater generosity. Lent is the season of their final preparation to become baptized members of the Catholic Church through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

And **Dick Usilton** of St Bernadette Parish will make a profession of his Catholic Faith, be confirmed, and receive Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday, the Sunday after Easter. He has been preparing for entry into the Church on a separate schedule because of scheduling problems. His sacramental reception is different because he is already a baptized Christian. But your prayers for all four are still very much appreciated.

the way of the cross

There will be Good Friday evening Stations at St Mary in Bremen (but, of course, without Benediction) at 7 PM on Good Friday, but no Stations or Benediction at all on Good Friday evening at St Bernadette.

at st bernadette parish

parish family lunch

You and your family are invited to the St Bernadette and St Mary Parish Family Lunch on Sunday, April 30, **at noon in the St Bernadette Parish Hall to meet and share a meal with the members of our two parishes.** Our **Parish Family Lunch** begins right after the 11 AM Mass at St Bernadette. Arrive at Mass a little early to set up and reserve your place. Bring a tablecloth and table settings as well as a dish to pass. Last names beginning with A-J supply a meat or main dish, K-T donate a salad or side dish, and U-Z contribute a dessert. Drinks (coffee, tea, lemonade, water)

will be provided. Sign-up sheets are located at all church entrances. For information, to reserve your spot, or to sign up to bring a dish to pass, contact Kathy at St Mary at (740) 569-7929 or at St Bernadette at (740) 654-1893. See you there!

friends forever

Join the **Friends Forever** gathering on Thursday, Apr 20, as they meet for lunch at Scrambler Marie's. Contact Ann Essman at (740) 654-1893 for information.

ministry at Mass at st bernadette

PALM SUNDAY	VIGIL MASS Saturday, Apr 8, 4 PM	PALM SUNDAY Apr 9, 11 AM
lector	Tara Craaybeek Brad Rider Jennifer Spiegel	Patrick Gins Dave Shonk Scott Wood
servers	Avee & Drew Solt, Gus & Olivia Spiegel	Isabel Gentile, Logan & Tori Loy, Addy Myers
processional banners	Rosalie DeFillippo Brad Rider	Ashlyn & Brennan Quaintance
extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion	Joyce Guenther Lee Guinan Jim & Becky Kuhn Denise McGuire Brad Rider	Ben Peters Larry Sanford Anna Sevigny David Shonk Mary Jane Vajen Amy Woo

WEEKDAYS	Monday, 8:20	Wednesday, 8:20
lector	Mary Jane Vajen	Bob Christy
servers	Becca Fuller, Joey Mannella	Brianna Hilyard, Carley Matson
extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion	Patricia Dreyer, Kathy Kehnast	Angie Christy, Mary Jane Vajen

THE SACRED TRIDUUM	HOLY THURSDAY 7 PM	GOOD FRIDAY 1 PM	Holy Saturday, THE EASTER VIGIL Apr 15, 9 PM	EASTER SUNDAY Apr 16, 11 AM
lector	Marguerite Grimm, Barb Van Fossen-Cook	Bob Christy, Kathy Kehnast, Sandy Landefeld Jeanne Schmelzer	Dennis Forquer, John Hartig, Brad Rider, Teresa Scarpitti, Karen Wolfe, Joe Young	David Shonk
servers	Caroline Messerly, Ashlyn & Brennan Quaintance, Jack Tencza	Collin & Emma McCrady, Dominic & Emeline Neighbor	Anna Hartig, Samanth Kerns, Logan Loy, Daniel Turner	Eve Darfus, Dominic Neighbor, Ashlyn Quaintance, Jack Tencza
extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion	Rosalie DeFillippo, Sandy Landefeld, Teresa Scarpitti, Mickey Steyaert, Kathy Wagner	Rosalie DeFillippo, Marguerite Grimm, Kathy Kehnast, Teresa Scarpitti, Craig Shaw	Rosalie DeFillippo, Marguerite Grimm, Kathy Kehnast, Teresa Scarpitti, Craig Shaw	Tara Craaybeek, Nancy Griffith, Sandy Landefeld, Jean Robertson, Larry Sanford, Becky Wickham



st bernadette open house

St Bernadette School holds an Open House on Sunday, Apr 23, from noon until 2 PM. Meet the staff, **tour the building, enjoy refreshments, and inquire about enrollment** possibilities and financial assistance.

Mass intentions at st bernadette

Saturday,	Apr 8	4 PM	the people of the parish
Sunday,	Apr 9	11 AM	the people of the parish
Monday,	Apr 10	8:20 AM	Wilford & Loretta Beiter
Wednesday,	Apr 12	8:20 AM	deceased of Sevigny family
Thursday,	Apr 13	7 PM	Leota Bontrager
Saturday,	Apr 15	9 PM	the people of the parish
Sunday,	Apr 16	11 AM	the people of the parish

at st mary parish

your donation to the food pantry

The Bremen Food Pantry needs margarine or butter (among other things!). Place your donation in the refrigerator in the kitchen at St Mary parish hall. This will help the **Pantry Open House** in Bremen, on Saturday, Apr 22, from 9-11 AM, when any family in need can stop by to receive food assistance, with no prior registration or sign up needed.

st vincent de paul at bremen

For people in a financial jam, the season of need seems to go on throughout the year, especially when it gets really cold out. So, the **St Vincent de Paul Society in Bremen** takes up a collection after Mass on the first Sunday of the month, every month. New members are always welcome. For information, call Angi Skinner at (740) 438-0027.

Mass intentions at st mary

Sunday,	Apr 9	8:30 AM	for the people of the parish
Tuesday,	Apr 11	8:20 AM	Mary Gertrude Boch
Sunday,	Apr 16	8:30 AM	for the people of the parish

sunday at Mass at bremen st mary

TWO GREAT SUNDAYS	Sun, Apr 9, 8:30 AM PALM SUNDAY	Sun, Apr 16, 8:30 AM EASTER SUNDAY
lector	Paul Kunkler, Linda Qualls, Joe Young	Jeanne Schmelzer
servers	Reagan & Spencer Conrad, Isaac Schmelzer	Sydnee Rogers, Nicole Terry
extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion	Irene Kunkler, Joe & Cathy Young	Wyatt Borah, Pam Redding, Jim Schmelzer
gifts	Joe Young family	Maurice Schmelzer family
sacristan / usher	Joe Young	Damian Schmelzer

in the deanery

to walk with purpose

The current 9-week session of **Walking With Purpose**, our women's faith sharing group, has begun. Contact Amy Woo at acfaching@yahoo.com or (414) 882-1863 for information.

New participants and friends are welcome. Come to as many sessions as your schedule allows.

irish alumni golf

Alumni of St Mary, Bishop Fenwick and Fisher Catholic High Schools play at Pleasant Valley Golf Course, Coonpath Rd, on Saturday, June 10, at 9 AM. Cost is \$150 per team, 3 player scramble format. Send your check payable to A One Events, LLC, with entry to: A One Events, Box 961, Lancaster, OH 43130, and include player name, class year, email or phone. For information contact Mike Wolshire at (740) 687-0055 or mike @ miller-lewis . com.

easter cantata

This year's cantata, *What Love is This?*, features a 42-voice ecumenical chorus and a 28-piece orchestra. It happens at St Mark Church in Lancaster on Sunday, April 9, at 7 PM. Admission is free with a goodwill offering accepted; a reception follows the performance. Call (740) 653-1229 for information.

in the diocese of columbus

catholic church tour

Imagine making a holy pilgrimage this Easter season. What would it be like to explore the holy places and churches found right here in Ohio? Join Father Joshua Wagner and hundreds of other pilgrims on the **annual Easter pilgrimage**, "The Catholic Church Tour." This year they will be exploring the churches and shrines of Western Ohio (Maria Stein), of Perry County, and of downtown Columbus. Energize the upcoming Easter Season. Get information and reserve your spot immediately by going to CatholicChurchTour . com.

natural family planning

Natural Family Planning (NFP) methods are effective for postponing or achieving pregnancy and are completely natural—no pills, patches or devices. **Good for the body and great for the soul.** Engaged and married couples are invited to learn NFP by attending a diocesan NFP Class Series. Dates and locations are online at familylife . colsdioic . org; contact the Marriage and Family Life Office at (614) 241-2560 or familylife @ colsdioic . org for information

fisher catholic bid o' luck

You are invited to the 36th annual Fisher Catholic Bid O' Luck Dinner Auction happens Saturday, Apr 29. This year's theme is **Moonlit Masquerade**, which promises to be **an evening of elegance and splendor**. Attend a gourmet meal prepared by Cheers & Lakeside Chalet, a full selection of beverages, and fabulous items in the **Silent and Grand Auctions**. Raffle tickets will be available to win the Pot-of-Gold prizes (one \$7,500 and five \$500 payouts). For information, contact Kellie Shonk at (740) 654-1231, or fishercatholic . org/bid-o-luck.

lancaster st mary school flower sale

The St Mary Teacher Association is taking orders until Apr 13. All proceeds benefit **the St. Mary Tuition Assistance Fund**. Order forms are online at saintmarylancaster . org or by calling the school office Monday-Friday, 8AM-4PM, at (740) 654-1632. Flowers can be picked up at St Mary School on Friday, May 5, from 2-6 PM and Saturday, May 6, from 9 AM-noon. Payment is due at that time.

a principal for St John Logan

Logan St John School, a PreK-6 Catholic School, has an opening for the position of principal for the 2017/18 school year. The candidate must be a practicing Catholic, well versed in the Catholic Faith and have (or be working toward obtaining) an administrator's license, and have a **passion for Catholic education**, excellent communication skills, leadership and management abilities, a current FBI/BCI background check, proof of attendance at a Protecting God's Children seminar, and have completed the online administrator's application for the Diocese of Columbus. Salary is commensurate with candidate's education and experience. Submit materials including a cover letter of interest, resume, educational philosophy, a letter from the candidate's current pastor speaking to membership and participation in the Catholic Church, and a list of five references to the Office of Catholic Schools, 197 E Gay Street, Columbus, OH 43215. Contact Jeanne Gissel at (614) 221-5829 or jgissel @ cdeducation . org with questions.

marriage preparation volunteers

Looking for a way to serve in 2017? Engaged couples in our diocese need your help. Volunteer to serve on the Diocesan **Marriage Preparation Team** as a speaker and presenter. Present virtues-based topics to engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Matrimony. **If you are currently married, and have wisdom and experience to share**, you already qualify. For information, contact Kathleen Hall at khall @ columbuscatholic . org or (614) 241-2560.

sunday evening Mass

Holy Family Church, 584 West Broad St, Columbus, has begun offering an **8 PM Sunday Mass** to accommodate many people's work schedule. Contact their parish office at (614) 221-4323.

face forward

Developed for the **Vocations Office** of the Columbus Diocese, Face Forward app contains valuable information for Catholics right at their fingertips. It includes such features as the **verse of the day, pray for priests, care for the common home, saint of the day and the Face Forward blog**. Face Forward give young folks something meaningful to read when they power up. Discerning what God is calling you to do can be a long journey full of many questions. Having **easily accessible information is invaluable to the discernment process**. This new app provides just that. Face Forward will continue to add fresh and relevant content to the app daily with the goal of getting users to come back each day for new offerings. With the repeat visits and usage of the app, the hope is that users will gain more love, knowledge and understanding about the Catholic faith and **clarity on what God is calling them to do**. The Face Forward app is available now in the iTunes store. Face Forward is a program of the Office of Vocations that allows for interaction with the youth in the Columbus Diocese and provides platforms for communication, events and opportunities to learn more about the Catholic faith and a life in vocations. There are currently over 12,000 people within the Face Forward community. For information about the Face Forward App, contact Anne Harkin at (614) 787-2377 or anne . harkin @ mj2marketing . com.

franciscan sisters open house

The Franciscan Sisters TOR invite you to their annual **Open House and May Crowning** on Saturday, May 20, at their monastery, 369 Little Church Road, Toronto, Ohio. This family

fun day includes hay rides, a petting zoo, an inflatable slide, face painting, indoor and outdoor games, a vocation talk for two different age groups, and more. They will also have a free lunch from 11:30 AM-1:30 PM, an outdoor May Crowning at 1:30 PM, and an indoor May Crowning and Vigil Mass at 3:45 PM. No reservations necessary; donations are gratefully accepted. For information, visit www.FranciscanSistersTOR.org or call (740) 544-5542.

the holy season of lent

good friday fast and abstinence

Remember on **Good Friday** Catholics 14 or older **abstain from meat** and all adult Catholics under 59 **fast**. One or two smaller meals may be taken, but may not total one full meal. And that day we do not eat between meals. Children and those not bound by the law should exercise some form of self-denial on that very holy day.

k of c fish fry

Lancaster Knights of Columbus will fry fish on the remaining Friday of Lent (Apr 14) and also Apr 21. The cost for adults is \$8 and for children is \$6. The K of C hall is at 343 East Walnut St.

lent : one last penance service!

Come to the final Lenten Penance Service in the deanery this Sunday afternoon at **3 PM at St Mary Bremen**. The sacrament of Penance is **the Lord's default way of forgiving our sins**. What does it mean **if we opt out of his plan?**

At the first Easter, the Lord breathed on his apostles and said

“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”
And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the holy Spirit. **Whose sins you forgive** are forgiven them, and **whose sins you retain are retained.**”

It certainly wasn't the Lord's desire to make us less likely to get his forgiveness. He died for us. And this business of **confessing our sins to another visible and audible human person, one commissioned for the task by God through his Church**, is not something the Church cooked up to make God's mercy less merciful. It is **the beautiful divine plan that we submit our contrition to a merciful but audible human judgment**. And then receive the audible words of absolution in **the sacramental way that is God's usual way of touching our lives with his divine life**.

good friday collection

Once a year on **Good Friday**, our parishes are called to support Christians in the Holy Land. As a pontifical collection requested by Pope Francis, the annual Good Friday Collection offers a direct link for parishioners to be witnesses of peace and to help protect the Holy Places. Franciscans and others in the Holy Land are housing and feeding the poor, providing religious formation and education, maintaining shrines and parishes, and conducting

pastoral ministry. Visit MyFranciscan.org/good-friday. Please be as generous as your abundance allows.

it is the Easter Triduum!

Well, this Thursday, Friday and Saturday are. These three holy days are unlike any others in the year. Make a special effort to come to all three of the liturgies at our parish during these high holy days. If you have to work or have some other reason you can't make one or the other of them, still try to keep these as days of prayer and quiet reflection on the wondrous things that the Lord has done for us. Come to church here (or any Catholic church) and spend time in prayer. Jesus asked Simon in the Garden: “Could you not keep watch with me for one hour?”

operation rice bowl

We hear in sacred scripture this week how Christ redeemed us not by a one-time small gift, but by becoming one of us and giving His whole self even unto death on a Cross. Through our support of Operation Rice Bowl, Catholic Relief Services gives more than short-term assistance to poor countries; it establishes long term, person-focused, sustainable programs that provide better opportunities for each individual, and it remains in communities to help these efforts succeed. Please remember to return your Rice Bowls in the collection at Easter.

special events this lent

celebrate holy week and easter with ewtn

Learn more about your Faith during the holiest time of the year with EWTN's movies, documentaries, concerts, children's programs, and much more. Join the celebration of Mass in Rome or in Washington DC. Get program details and visit www.ewtn.com/channelfinder to find a station near you.

carry the cross

Men of the Columbus diocese, complete your Lenten fast with a truly masculine prayer and participate in “Carry the Cross”, a 12-mile hike with 14 stations of the cross. This happens on Holy Saturday, Apr 15, at Clear Creek Metro Park. Arrive at 7:30 AM, with Morning Prayer from 7:45 AM. **The Hike** begins at 8 AM in the parking lot and shelter house at the Barneby Hambleton area at the western end of the park with the reading of the first station of the cross and ends with the final prayer at 2 PM. “Carry the Cross” is sponsored by **Wilderness Outreach** for the men—fathers and sons—of the Columbus diocese. A cross constructed of 3” x 6” timber, approximately 10’ long with a 7’ cross beam is carried by the men on the journey with the Stations of the Cross prayed every mile or so. The men should bring a day pack with 2-3 liters of water, snacks, and rain gear if appropriate. During the hike, **prayer and silent meditation on our Lord's passion is encouraged**. For information contact John Bradford at wildernessoutreach2560@gmail.com or (614) 679-6761.



We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world!

What Pope Benedict said a few years ago about

the suffering of Jesus on the Cross

“Today I want to reflect with you on the cry of Jesus from the Cross, “**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**” This cry comes after a three-hour period when there was darkness over the whole land. Darkness is an ambivalent symbol in the Bible – while it is frequently a sign of the power of evil, it can also serve to express a mysterious divine presence. Just as Moses was covered in the dark cloud when God appeared to him on the mountain, so Jesus on **Calvary** is wrapped in darkness.

Even though the Father appears to be absent, in a mysterious way his loving gaze is focused upon the Son’s loving sacrifice on the **Cross**. It is important to realize that Jesus’ cry of anguish is not an expression of despair: on the contrary, this opening verse of **Psalm twenty-two** conveys the entire content of the psalm, it expresses the confidence of the people of Israel that despite all the adversity they are experiencing, God remains present among them, he hears and answers his people’s cry. **This prayer of the dying Jesus teaches us to pray with confidence for all our brothers and sisters who are suffering, that they too may know the love of God who never abandons them.**”

Psalm 22

I

My God, my God,
why have you abandoned me?
Why so far from my call for help,
from my cries of anguish?
My God, I call by day,
but you do not answer;
by night, but I have no relief.

Yet you are enthroned
as the Holy One;
you are the glory of Israel.

In you our fathers trusted;
they trusted and you rescued them.
To you they cried out and they
 escaped;
in you they trusted
and were not disappointed.

But I am a worm, not a man,
scorned by men,
despised by the people.
All who see me mock me;
they curl their lips and jeer;
they shake their heads at me:

“He relied on the LORD
—let him deliver him;
if he loves him, let him rescue him.”

For you drew me forth from the womb,
made me safe at my mother’s breasts.
Upon you I was thrust from the womb;
since my mother bore me
you are my God.

Do not stay far from me,
for trouble is near,
and there is no one to help.

II

Many bulls surround me;
fierce bulls of Bashan encircle me.
They open their mouths against me,
lions that rend and roar.

Like water my life drains away;
all my bones are disjointed.
My heart has become like wax,
it melts away within me.

As dry as a potsherd is my throat;
my tongue cleaves to my palate;
you lay me in the dust of death.

Dogs surround me;
a pack of evildoers closes in on me.
They have pierced my hands and my
 feet

I can count all my bones.
They stare at me and gloat;
they divide my garments among them;
for my clothing they cast lots.

But you, LORD, do not stay far off;
my strength, come quickly to help me.
Deliver my soul from the sword,
my life from the grip of the dog.
Save me from the lion’s mouth,
my poor life from the horns of wild
 bulls.



III

Then I will proclaim your name
to my brethren;
in the assembly I will praise you:

“You who fear the LORD, give praise!
All descendants of Jacob, give honor;
show reverence, all descendants of
 Israel!

For he has not spurned or disdained
the misery of this poor wretch,
Did not turn away from me,
but heard me when I cried out.
I will offer praise in the great
 assembly;

my vows I will fulfill
before those who fear him.
The poor will eat their fill;
those who seek the LORD
will offer praise.
May your hearts enjoy life forever!”

IV

All the ends of the earth
will remember and turn to the LORD;
All the families of nations
will bow low before him.

For kingship belongs to the LORD,
the ruler over the nations.

All who sleep in the earth
will bow low before God;
All who have gone down into the dust
will kneel in homage.

And I will live for the LORD;
my descendants will serve you.

The generation to come
will be told of the Lord,
that they may proclaim
to a people yet unborn
the deliverance you have brought.

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