

# Our Lady of Victories Church

(serving Harrington Park, River Vale and the Pascack/Northern Valley)  
150 Harriot Avenue, Harrington Park, New Jersey

www.olvh.org

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

*no sign-ups required*

### Monday of Holy Week

7:30-7:50AM  
8:00AM  
12:00Noon

Confessions in Church  
Mass in Church  
Mass in Church

### Tuesday of Holy Week

7:30-7:50AM  
8:00AM  
12:00Noon

Confessions in Church  
Mass in Church  
Mass in Church

### Spy Wednesday

7:30-7:50AM  
8:00AM  
12:00Noon

Confessions in Church  
Mass in Church  
Mass in Church

### Holy Thursday

7:30-7:50AM  
8:00AM  
7:30PM

Confessions in Church  
Morning Prayer  
Mass of the Lord's Supper in Church

Church will be open until 11:00PM for Visitation

### Good Friday

7:30-7:50AM  
8:00AM  
12:00PM  
3:00 PM  
7:30PM

Confessions in Church  
Morning Prayer  
Meditations on the 7 Last Words  
Celebration of the Lord's Passion in Church  
Living Stations of the Cross

### Holy Saturday

7:30-7:50AM  
8:00AM  
11:00AM-12:00Noon  
12:00Noon  
8:00PM

Confessions in Church  
Morning Prayer  
Confessions in Church  
Blessing of Easter Food  
Easter Vigil Mass in Church

### Easter Sunday Masses

7:00AM  
8:00AM  
9:30AM  
10:45AM  
10:45AM  
12:00 Noon  
1:00PM  
6:00PM

Mass in Church  
Latin Mass in Church  
Mass in Church  
Mass in Church  
Family Mass in Gym  
Mass in Church  
Spanish Mass in Church  
Mass in Church

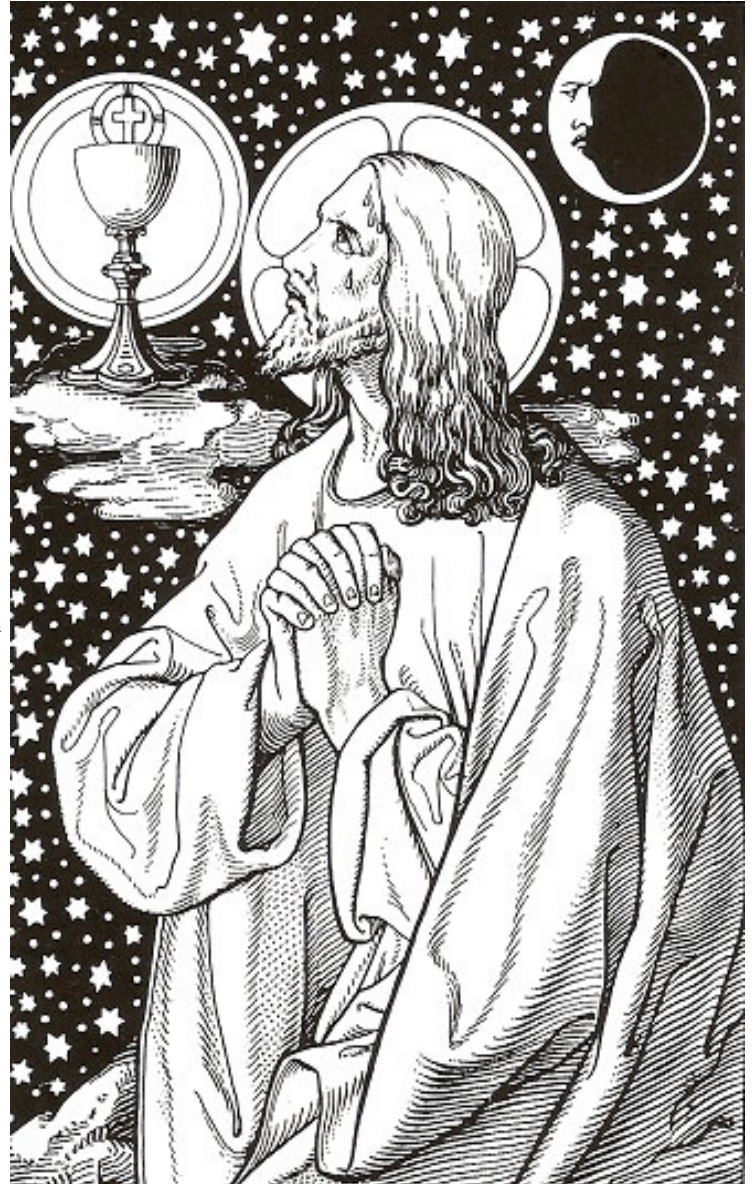
NO 7:00PM MASS

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*Be thankful for the bad things in life,  
for they opened your eyes to the good things  
you weren't paying attention to before.*

## PALM SUNDAY, March 28, 2021 A.D.

*In the Year of Saint Joseph*



**By death, He conquered death  
and to those in the grave,  
He granted life.**



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### Fr. Wojciech's Corner

Palm Sunday begins a HOLY WEEK which culminates with the Easter Triduum and VICTORY over death-Resurrection, the greatest of all Catholic feasts. Every Sunday Mass, in fact, is a "little easter". **Holiest week of all, it has the power to make us WHOLLY HOLY.** I think the following story of **Venerable Julia Navarrete Guerrero** says it all: "I used to approach Jesus frequently saying, 'What do you wish from me?' He would reply, 'that you die to yourself, that you rise above your worldly interests; die to everything, even to those affections that seem to be holy, live at a level where life's contradictions don't disturb you, where attentions don't flatter you. Seek only God and His interests.'"

Last year's Holy Week was completely different. We were in a lockdown. We were not able to celebrate together the Easter Triduum. Let this memory help us as we approach this year's celebrations. May it help to appreciate the fact, that now, we can celebrate again, May it help us not to take these celebrations for granted. May the way we live and participate in these celebrations be unique for us. May they make us HOLY. May they help us to PASSOVER with Christ.

**APART FROM THE CROSS,  
THERE IS NO OTHER LADDER  
BY WHICH WE MAY GET TO HEAVEN**  
ST. ROSE OF LIMA

There's a pretty little legend  
That I would like to tell  
Of the birth and death of Jesus  
Found in this lowly shell.

If you examine closely,  
You'll see that you find here  
Four nail holes and a fifth one  
Made by a Roman's Spear.

On one side the Easter Lily, Its center is the star  
That appeared unto the shepherds And led them from afar.  
The Christmas poinsettia Etched on the other side  
Reminds us of His birthday Our Happy Christmastide.

Now break the centre open  
And here you will release  
The five white doves awaiting  
To spread Good Will and Peace.

This simple little symbol,  
Christ left for you and me  
To help us spread His Gospel  
Through all eternity.

*Anonymous*

### **BEWARE**

Beware of your thoughts, for they become your words.  
Beware of your words, for they become your actions.  
Beware of your actions, for they become your habits.  
Beware of your habits, for they become your character.  
Beware of your character, for it becomes your destiny.

**HOLY WEEK,  
IT HAS A POWER  
TO MAKE US WHOLLY HOLY.**



**The Living Stations** will be prayed in church on Good Friday evening at 7:30 using the Via Dolorosa (The Road of Sorrows) from the Holy Land as our guide. Come join us as we follow in the footsteps of Christ on His way to Calvary and the millions of pilgrims who take this walk throughout the year as they reflect on our Lord's passion and death.

### Holy Week Liturgies via live stream

**Holy Thursday 7:30PM**

**Good Friday 3:00PM**

**Easter Sunday 9:30AM**

Visit website [olvhp.org](http://olvhp.org)

### **Good Friday & 2021 LENTEN REGULATIONS**

**Good Friday** is a day of both **Fast and Abstinence** which means only one (1) **full meal is permitted**. On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted, and **two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity**. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.

On Good Friday **no meat** may be eaten. On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

The **Fridays of the year, outside of Lent**, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.

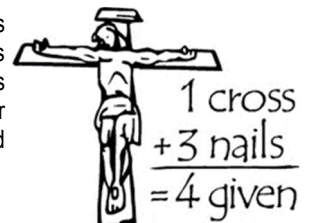
The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty\*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 21, 2021 to the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, May 30, 2021**. \*Canon 920, §1. *All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*

### **The Good Friday Collection Explained**

The Jerusalem Cross. If you have the opportunity to visit the Holy Land you will see this cross displayed everywhere. The meaning behind the Jerusalem Cross can be explained in many ways. The most famous is its representation of the Five Wounds of Jesus Christ. Another is the large cross representing the Person of Jesus, with the smaller four crosses representing the Four Gospels spread to the Four Corners of the Earth started in the Upper Room, in Jerusalem, more than 2000 years ago on Pentecost. We are blessed with rich and marvelous tradition! The Good Friday collection is taken up once a year and provides the necessary basic cash flow, operating income if you will, to sustain the Catholic institutions in the Holy Land. It is our collective privilege and duty to preserve our tangible heritage in our Christian Holy Land. Please give generously!

At the crucifixion right when the Devil thinks he's defeating God, God defeats him. This is how God takes things that are bad and makes them for good. All things work together for good for those who love God and are called according to His purposes.

- Steve Ray from Stations of the Cross



### **INRI Question????**

**What do the letters INRI stand for on the top of a crucifix?**

The letters indicated are an abbreviation for the Latin text, Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum (Jesus of Nazareth the king of the Jews) which is the inscription which Pontius Pilate had placed on the cross.

**Quit griping about your church;  
if it was perfect, you couldn't belong.**

### Pray for Those in the Military

#### US Army

Captain Ben Clemente  
 RRT Specialist James Crumb  
 Specialist Peter Dippolito  
 Major Michael Franson  
 Sergeant First Class Charles Greene  
 Private First Class Sean Keohane  
 Captain Shawn Linn  
 Lieutenant Gigi McElroy  
 Colonel John McLaughlin  
 Captain John G. Miele

#### US Air Force

Chief Master Sergeant Shawn Llewellyn

#### US Marine Corps.

Corporal Shanna Bennett  
 Sergeant Matthew Brady  
 1st Lieutenant Ryan Colomeo  
 Lance Corporal Thomas lafrate  
 Captain Stephen Ikalowych  
 Corporal Joseph Levine  
 2nd Lieutenant J.P. Maher

#### US Navy

Lt. Commander Julia Cheringal  
 Ensign Jon Clemente  
 Lieutenant Joseph Jaeger  
 Lieutenant Andrew Jaeger

### Prayer for the Safety of Soldiers

Almighty and eternal God, those who take refuge in You will be glad and forever will shout for joy. Protect these soldiers as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of Your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of Your love enable them to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise You for Your loving care. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

### Pray for Our Sick

Please Pray in the name of **JESUS**, the Healer, that the sick of the Parish may be restored to health and all those who assist and care for the sick will be given the strength to continue God's Will: baby Cordelia, baby Emmet Fischer, baby James Amicucci, baby Jonathan, baby Joseph, 5-year old Quinn, Michael Baruch, Richard Bolton, Robert Brawley, Dominic Carini, Sal Cenicola, Helen Choma, Kevin Columbo, Paul Corbett, Marie D'Ascenzo, Maryann Dean, Lorraine Degerdon, Roseann Dennehy, Vincent DePaola, Marge Devitt, Frank Diller, Mike Donohue, Carl Falasca, Michael Fallon, Jay Filippone, Marie Filippone, Christine Flatt, Mary Foley, Leslie Handler, Amy Hartwell, Peter Kellar, Mary Lowe, James McGarry, Robert Milli, Gianna Moscatello, Natalie Niebergall, Adelaide Packerham, John Pal, Tom Paskewich, Joan and Buddy Phalon, Marie Piazza, Canice Prince, William Ragu, Debra Rendon, Bruce Michael Ricciardi, Louise Ricciardi, Vincent Ricciardi, Veronica Romanchuk, Beth Sacco, Peggy Shedden, Aileen Vassar, Maria Williams, Brian, Carla, Chris, Christina, Dierdre, Edward, Elba, Jennifer, Joann, Karen, Lauren, Lisa, Lou, Lucas, Lynn, Patrick, Paul, Peter, Robert, Sean, Sharon, Tina W., Tom.

### Spiritual Communion *composed by Cardinal Rafael Merry del Val*

As I cannot this day enjoy the happiness of assisting at the holy Mysteries, O my God! I transport myself in spirit at the foot of Thine altar; I unite with the Church, which by the hands of the priest, offers Thee Thine adorable Son in the Holy Sacrifice; I offer myself with Him, by Him, and in His Name. I adore, I praise, and thank Thee, imploring Thy mercy, invoking Thine assistance, and presenting Thee the homage I owe Thee as my Creator, the love due to Thee as my Savior.

Apply to my soul, I beseech Thee, O merciful Jesus, Thine infinite merits; apply them also to those for whom I particularly wish to pray. I desire to communicate spiritually, that Thy Blood may purify, Thy Flesh strengthen, and Thy Spirit sanctify me. May I never forget that Thou, my divine Redeemer, hast died for me; may I die to all that is not Thee, that hereafter I may live eternally with Thee. Amen.

### SICK OR "HOMEBOUND"

If you are sick or "homebound" (or know someone who is), and would like to have Communion, please contact the Rectory at 201-768-1706.

### Mass Intentions

#### Monday, March 29 – St. Joseph of Arimathea

8:00 Carlton Melone R/b Mary Ann Ryan  
 12:00 Iva L. Brown R/b Joe Tobia

#### Tuesday, March 30 – St. John Climacus, Abbot

8:00 Fr. Thomas McEnroe R/b the Barrett Family  
 12:00 Kathy Soisson R/b Claire Kinn

#### Spy Wednesday, March 31-St. Benjamin, Deacon and Martyr

8:00 Mary Marlborough R/b the Barrett Family  
 12:00 Lucille Intintola R/b Marlene Thornton

#### HOLY THURSDAY, April 1 – Mass of the Lord's Supper (Church)

Watch 7:30pm Live Stream [olvhp.org](http://olvhp.org)

#### 7:30pm People of the Parish

#### GOOD FRIDAY, April 2-- No MASS TODAY

Watch 3:00pm Live Stream [olvhp.org](http://olvhp.org)

#### 3:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Church)

#### HOLY SATURDAY, April 3 – VIGIL MASS ONLY (Church)

#### 8:00pm People of the Parish

#### EASTER SUNDAY, April 4 - Watch 9:30am Live Stream

7:00 John Pat Bland R/b the Bland Family  
 8:00 Toleno and Evanella Family R/b Greg and Susan Evanella  
 9:30 Jordan and Evelyn Pedersen R/b the Pedersen Family  
 10:45 George McNamara R/b Rita McNamara  
 10:45 Gym Sr. Ann Regina  
 12:00 Edward and Winifred Pavlu R/b the Kip Family  
 1:00 People of the Parish  
 6:00 Zanetti and Walsh Family R/b Marian Zanetti

### Sanctuary Memorials

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week for the repose of the soul of John D. Kaberle Jr., r/b Tom and Ria Ragusa.

The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp will burn this week for the repose of the soul of Lucy Laquidara, r/b Sonny and Anita Garzino.

The Saint Joseph Votive Lamp will burn this week for the repose of the soul of Patrick James Burke Dolan, r/b Family.

The Hosts and Wine, which will become the Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ at holy Mass this week, have been donated in memory of John D. Kaberle Jr., r/b Tom and Ria Ragusa.

### Sanctuary Offerings

The Bread and Wine, Bl. Virgin Mary and St. Joseph Votive Lamps, and Sanctuary Lamp in Church may be dedicated on a weekly basis. And the Altar Flowers may be memorialized. Call OLV rectory for info 201-768-1706.

### My Parish—COVID-19—My Responsibility

We thank all those who so generously continue to support our parish by mailing in your donations. At the same time, we understand that some have been laid off from their work or experiencing decreased income and are unable to continue their donations at this time.

Donations / offering envelopes may be mailed to:

OLV Rectory, 81 Lynn Street, Harrington Park, NJ 07640.

Thank you for your generosity.

**2021 Annual Appeal** Please prayerfully consider making a donation. To date OLV pledges total \$36,700 toward our \$65,143 goal. Appeal envelopes are available in church. Please submit your donations to the OLV rectory to ensure that our parish receives proper credit - checks payable to 2021 Annual Appeal. Visit the Archdiocese website for information at 2021 Annual Appeal | Archdiocese of Newark ([rcan.org](http://rcan.org)). Link is available on our website.



## **THE EASTER TRIDUUM - THE EASTER VIGIL**

The Easter Vigil is the most important Mass of the year. In the complete ranking of all Catholic Church celebrations, the Triduum occupies **the top spot**. The Triduum, which begins with Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, concludes on Easter, reaching its climax with the Easter Vigil. If there is one Mass in which Catholics would make an effort to participate every year, it is the Easter Vigil. If you attend Mass on Easter Sunday morning, but miss the Easter Vigil, you have missed the most important celebration of the year. The Easter Vigil celebrates the Resurrection of Christ and the commitment of believers. It has **FOUR PARTS**. It **FIRST** begins with a Service of Light. The community of believers gathers in darkness to hear that Christ is our light, shattering the darkness of sin. The **SECOND** part of the Vigil is the Liturgy of the Word. We hear up to nine Scriptural passages that retell the story of salvation, ending with the Gospel of the Resurrection. The **THIRD** part is the Liturgy of Baptism. Some catechumens have already been listed among the elect, those chosen for baptism this year. They now come forward to be plunged into the waters of new birth. Anointed with Sacred Chrism, they celebrate Confirmation, receiving the strength of God's Spirit for the Christian life. Then all those present in the Church renew their Baptismal promises. Together we pledge our faith in the Resurrection and promise to follow Christ more closely. The Vigil culminates in the **FOURTH** part, the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Together with the newly Baptized, we will join in the Holy Eucharist. At the Easter Vigil we recommit ourselves to our faith and rejoice with the newly Baptized.

### **SPIRITUAL EXCERPT WILLINGNESS TO CHANGE**

"A woman was dragged by a friend to the monastery one afternoon. I met her and offered her a set of my mini books on the spiritual life. She declined. I said, "Why don't you want to take them with you?" She said, "Because I don't want to change." Boy, I thought, this woman is bad off. We must be constantly willing to change into what the Father wants us to be. What you want is unimportant. After all, what do you know?"

**Mother Angelica, Little Book of Life Lessons page 41.**

### **Kidz Korner Answers**

1. Palm Sunday, the final Sunday of Lent and the beginning of Holy Week.
2. Palm Sunday commemorates the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.
3. When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people welcomed Him as king and Messiah. They covered the road with their garments and palm fronds as a symbol of their worship and acceptance of Him as king (Matthew 21:8; Mark 11:8; Luke 19:35, 36; John 12:12, 13).
4. The Roman Catholic Church considers the palms to be sacramentals. Parishioners take the palms home and place them on their crosses. They remain there throughout the year, and during the next Lenten Season they are returned to the Church to be burned for ashes on Ash Wednesday.
5. Palm branches symbolize peace and victory.

### **A Little PALM SUNDAY Humor ...**

It was Palm Sunday and, because of a sore throat, five-year old Johnny stayed home from church with a sitter. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm branches. The boy asked what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as He walked by." "Wouldn't you know it!" the boy fumed, "the one Sunday I don't go, He shows up!"

## **Five Sacred Wounds**

Private revelation to St. Bridget of Sweden indicated that all the wounds Our Lord suffered added up to 5,480. She began to pray 15 prayers each day in honor of each of these wounds, their total after a year being 5,475; these "Fifteen Prayers of St. Bridget of Sweden" are still prayed today. Likewise, in Southern Germany, it became the practice to pray 15 Our Fathers a day in honor of Christ's wounds so that by the end of a year, 5,475 Paters were prayed.

The five main wounds He suffered, though -- the wound in each Foot, the wound in each Hand, and the wound in His side caused by St. Longinus's lance -- are symbolic of all the wounds, and special devotion to them arose very early on. St. John is said to have appeared to Pope Boniface II (d. A.D. 532) and revealed a special Mass -- the "Golden Mass" -- in honor of Christ's Five Wounds, and it is the effect of these Five Wounds that are most often produced in the bodies of the men and women who imitate Him best -- the stigmatics. St. Francis being the first of these, his spiritual daughter, St. Clare, developed a strong devotion to the Five Wounds, as did the Benedictine St. Gertrude the Great, and others.

Christ bore these Five Wounds after the Resurrection, when He allowed St. Thomas to cure his doubts by touching the wound in His side, and He bears these wounds even now, in Heaven. Aquinas gives five reasons why this is so:

In the first place, for Christ's own glory. For Bede says in Luke 24:40 that He kept His scars not from inability to heal them, "but to wear them as an everlasting trophy of His victory." Hence Augustine says: "Perhaps in that kingdom we shall see on the bodies of the Martyrs the traces of the wounds which they bore for Christ's name: because it will not be a deformity, but a dignity in them; and a certain kind of beauty will shine in them, in the body, though not of the body."

Secondly, to confirm the hearts of the disciples as to "the faith in His Resurrection."

Thirdly, "that when He pleads for us with the Father, He may always show the manner of death He endured for us."

Fourthly, "that He may convince those redeemed in His blood, how mercifully they have been helped, as He exposes before them the traces of the same death."

Lastly, "that in the Judgment day He may upbraid them with their just condemnation." Hence, as Augustine says: "Christ knew why He kept the scars in His body. For, as He showed them to Thomas who would not believe except he handled and saw them, so will He show His wounds to His enemies, so that He who is the Truth may convict them, saying: 'Behold the man whom you crucified; see the wounds you inflicted; recognize the side you pierced, since it was opened by you and for you, yet you would not enter.'

Honor is shown to these Sacred Wounds in many ways -- from the 5 grains of incense inserted into the Paschal Candle, to the custom of dedicating each Pater said in the body of the Dominican Rosary to one of the Five Wounds. They are symbolized in art by the Jerusalem Cross, 5 circles on a Cross, 5 roses, the 5-pointed star. They're also depicted in art quite explicitly.

The 5 wounds are seen as symbolized by many things in nature, too -- from the stamens of the Passion Flower, to the Sand Dollar, to the 5 seeds found in the almost perfect 5-pointed star in a cross-sectioned apple.

**Relevant Radio-1430 AM** Tune in to Relevant Radio, the largest Catholic radio network in the nation. Listen online [www.relevantradio.com](http://www.relevantradio.com) and on the free mobile app.

**Televised Mass** by EWTN Sunday and every morning at 8AM then rerun at Noon. Relevant Radio/Fr. Rocky broadcasts Mass at 1PM. Catholic Faith Network televises Mass live on Sunday at 11AM and weekdays at 8:30AM.

### THE HISTORY OF PALM SUNDAY

As soon as the Church obtained her freedom in the fourth century, the faithful in Jerusalem re-enacted the solemn entry of Christ into their city on the Sunday before Easter, holding a procession in which they carried branches and sang the Hosanna (Matthew 21:1-11). In the early Latin Church, people attending Mass on this Sunday would hold aloft twigs of olives, which were not, however, blessed in those days.

This Palm Sunday procession, and the blessing of palms, seems to have originated in the Frankish Kingdom. The earliest mention of these ceremonies is found in the Sacramentary of the Abbey of Bobbio in Northern Italy (beginning the eighth century). The rite was soon accepted in Rome and incorporated into the Liturgy. The prayers used today are of Roman origin. A Mass was celebrated in some Church outside the walls of Rome, and there the palms were blessed. Then a solemn procession moved into the city to the Basilica of the Lateran or to Saint Peter's, where the Pope sang a second Mass. The first Mass, however, was soon discontinued, and in its place only the ceremony of blessing was performed. Even today the ritual of the blessing clearly follows the structure of a Mass up to the Sanctus. Everywhere in medieval times, following the Roman custom, a procession composed of the clergy and laity carrying palms moved from a chapel or shrine outside the town, where the palms were blessed, to the Cathedral or main Church. Our Lord was represented in the procession, whether by the Blessed Sacrament or by a Crucifix, adorned with flowers, carried by the celebrant of the Mass. Late, in the Middle Ages, a quaint custom arose of drawing a wooden statue of Christ sitting on a donkey (the whole image on wheels) in the center of the procession. These statues (Palm Donkey; Palmesel) are still seen in museums of many European cities. As the procession approached the city gate, a boys' choir stationed high above the doorway would greet the Lord with the Latin song, Gloria, Laus et Honor. This hymn, which is still used today in the liturgy of Palm Sunday, was written by the Benedictine Theodulph, Bishop of Orleans (821): Glory, praise and honor, O Christ, our Savior-King, To Thee in glad Hosannas inspired children sing. After this song, there followed a dramatic salutation before the Blessed Sacrament or the image of Christ. Both clergy and laity knelt and bowed in prayer, arising to spread cloths and carpets on the ground, throwing flowers and branches in the path of the procession. The bells of the churches pealed, and the crowds sang the Hosanna as the colorful procession entered the Cathedral for the Solemn Mass. In medieval times this dramatic celebration was restricted more and more to a procession around the Church. The Crucifix in the Church yard was festively decorated with flowers. There the procession came to a halt. While the clergy sang the hymns and antiphons, the congregation dispersed among the tombs, each family kneeling at the grave of relatives. The celebrant sprinkled Holy Water over the graveyard, the procession formed again and entered the Church. In France and England they still retain the custom of decorating graves and visiting the cemeteries on Palm Sunday. The inspiring rites and ceremonies of ancient times have long since disappeared; only the Sacred Texts of the Liturgy are still preserved. Today the blessing of palms and the procession (if any) are performed within the Churches preceding the Mass. In America, Catholic, and some Episcopal, Churches distribute palms to all the congregation. The various names for the Sunday before Easter come from the parts used – palms (Palm Sunday) or branches in general (Branch Sunday; Domingo de Ramos; Dimanche des Rameaux). In most countries of Europe real palms are unobtainable, so in place people use many other plants: olive branches (in Italy), box, yew, spruce, willows, and pussy willows. In fact, some plants have come to be called palms because of this usage, as the yew in Ireland, the willow in England (palm-willow) and in Germany Palmkatzchen). - continued next column -

From the use of willow branches Palm Sunday was called Willow Sunday in parts of England and Poland, and in Lithuania Verbu Sekmadienis (Willow-twig Sunday). The Greek Church uses the names Sunday of the Palm-Carrying and Hosanna Sunday.

Centuries ago it was customary to bless not only branches, but also various flowers of the season (the flowers are still mentioned in the antiphons after the prayer of blessing). [35] Hence, the name Flower Sunday, which the day bore in many countries – Flowering Sunday or Blossom Sunday in England, Blumensonntag in Germany, Pasques Fleuris in France, Pascua Florida in Spain, Viragvasarnap in Hungary, Cvetna among the Slavic nations, Zaghkasart in Armenia. The term Pascua Florida, which in Spain originally meant just Palm Sunday, was later also applied to the whole festive season of Easter Week. Thus the State of Florida received its name when, on March 27, 1513 (Easter Sunday), Ponce de Leon first sighted the land and named it in honor of the great feast.

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Most Christians today receive a bunch of palm fronds, olive branches, pussy willow, or forsythia (a relative of the olive) to carry in procession and to bear home in blessing. Some even offer sprigs of palm or other branches as a gesture of peace to those they have offended. The desire is to make a clean sweep of your spiritual house before the Easter feast. Accepting the branch is a token of the bearer's willingness to journey with the Church through a grateful remembrance of Jesus Christ's passion, death, and life-giving resurrection. Traditionally, the plants associated with today's feast are planted in cemeteries as a sign of Christ's victory over death and the promise of new life. The joy of this day's opening procession soon gives way to a solemn reading of the Passion, this year according to Matthew. The ritual is meant not only to strengthen us to hear this account, but to stir us up to accompany the Church on this journey through Holy Week. It also prepares us for Easter Sunday's joyful renewal of our baptismal vows.

### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY APRIL 11

Sunday, April 11, is the feast of DIVINE MERCY. **Beginning at 3:00PM OLV will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the DIVINE MERCY devotions. Confessions will be heard during that hour to fulfill OUR LORD'S request.** Our Lord made a great promise to all those souls who would go to Confession and then receive Him in Holy Communion on the Feast of His Mercy, now called Divine Mercy Sunday throughout the Catholic Church. Jesus promised that "The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." He went on to say "I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My Mercy." (Diary 1109) **The Holy Hour will conclude at approximately 4:00PM with the Holy Mass.**

### KIDZ KORNER

1. What is the Sunday before Easter called?
2. What is Palm Sunday?
3. Why is Palm Sunday called Palm Sunday?
4. What happens to the palm after Palm Sunday?
5. What do palm branches symbolize?

Answers on page 4.