

# ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH 25, 2018

216 ALL SAINTS DRIVE, STUART, IA 50250

PALM SUNDAY

Rev. Raymond J. Higgins, Parish Priest

## DEAR PARISHIONERS

We enter the Holiest time of the year beginning with Palm Sunday and culminating in the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord. Many will not be entering prayerfully or as a community into those Sacred days for one reason or another. Yet, God entered into those dark and lonely days for you and me. So often we will not do for others because of some slight or inconvenience. Yet God was and is willing to be there us and bring us out of these dark and lonely notions. How? By being faithful. It seems that faithfulness to others and to God is scarce "these days." What does it mean to be faithful? There is no English word exactly equivalent to the biblical Hebrew terms concerning faithful or faithfulness. The most relevant carries such meanings as "strengthen," "support," or "hold up." When we think in those terms, we liken it to pillars that provide support for doors (2 Kgs 18:16). Moses used the word when he dis-

claimed any role as supporter of the Israelites (Nm 11:12). God, however, is an eternally firm support for his people (Dt 7:9; Is 49:7). (Sacks, S. D. (1988). Faithfulness. In Baker encyclopedia of the Bible (Vol. 1, pp. 764–765). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House.) Faithfulness can be seen not only as a support, but a sense of "firmness," "constancy," and "trustworthiness." Trustworthiness, or steadfastness of character, is ascribed to the object of one's trust. In the Old Testament, a synonym for "faithfulness" is "truth." Since God is consistently true, he is the logical object of human trust (Ps 71:22; Is 61:8). In the Old Testament, the word "faithfulness" frequently refers to his unwavering commitment to his promises. (Sacks, S. D. 1988 Faithfulness. In Baker encyclopedia of the Bible (Vol. 1, pp. 764–765). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House.) Faith is more than momentary assent to the truth of God. It is commitment to that truth,

and it manifests itself in continued obedience. God teaches us how to live and work through dark and difficult times by remaining faithful to His direction as well as His corrections. Why? So that we might remain true and faithful and experience the reason for fidelity—and that is love of God and one another. Many examples of faithfulness to what is just, right and true, are found both in Sacred Scripture and throughout history. People were steadfast in their willingness to do what is right and true for the sake of others. Jesus Christ is the premiere example, Jesus' determination to be guided and instructed by His Father to reconcile mankind and to bring hope amidst the suffering, loneliness, and darkness of the world. Jesus did His Father's will and even at the most difficult and hardest of times, Jesus delighted in His Father for remaining true.

(cont'd on page 4)

### MASS TIMES

10AM SUNDAY  
6PM TUESDAY/6PM FRIDAY  
4:30PM SATURDAY

### CONTACT US:

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# Humility & Gratitude

-Submitted by David Witkowski

For as many years as I can remember, those people who I've had the greatest love and admiration for were people that were humble, grateful, and generally happy with themselves and the world around them.

The key words humble and grateful have come to mean a great deal to me over the past ten years or so. I wondered, in this season celebrating the time that Christ humbled himself on the cross for us—which should inspire us to be grateful—what did the church say about these seasonal emotions?

**Regarding humility** - *"I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, but he who humbles himself shall be exalted."* (Luke 18:14)

That seems to say it all or, rather, what more could be said.

**Regarding Gratitude** - this wonderful phrase comes to mind:

*Gratitude is "the highest expression of prayer because it manifests one's experience of Divine Love [in him]." (Blessed Alvaro del Portillo)*

Once again, there is little more that could be said about this very important and blessed emotion.

At what time of year, other than this one, could or should we consider being humble and thankful to the fullness of our capability?

Even with the great celebrations of other holidays, both religious and secular, there is no gift of eternal life to celebrate. There is no salvation that should humble us in its magnitude.

I hope you can feel as I do this season and see this as a time of humility and gratitude.



**The Annual Diocesan Appeal  
Goal for All Saints is \$29,802**

**Thank you for your support of  
the Church in  
Southwest Iowa!**

**New Balance as of March  
16th:  
\$27,032**

## PRAYER & THANKSGIVING

- ◆ Please pray for Florence Cook, Donna Olson, Carol Knowlton
- ◆ To request prayer, please call the Church office at 515-523-1943, Viola Heins at 515-789-2029, or email: [stjohnallsaints@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnallsaints@gmail.com)

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS NEEDED FOR HOLY WEEK

**We still need the following ministries filled for  
Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday:**

Narrator & Voice—Palm Sunday (**SATURDAY MASS**)

Narrator & Voice—Palm Sunday (**SUNDAY MASS**)

#### Holy Thursday

Ushers—2; Cross Bearer; Greeters & Gifts—2; Lector & Commentator; 10-12 People for the Foot Washing

#### Good Friday

Ushers—2; Cross Bearer; Greeters & Gifts—2; Altar Server—2;  
Lector ; Eucharistic Ministers—3

#### Easter Vigil

Ushers—2; Cross Bearer; Greeters & Gifts—2; Altar Server—2;  
Lector (Epistle); Commentator; Eucharistic Ministers—3;  
Old Testament Readers—2 more

#### Easter Sunday

Cross Bearer; Commentator; Eucharistic Ministers—2 more

**Please refer to the sign-up sheets  
in the gathering space.**

Please contact Joyce Van Pelt regarding scheduling questions:

[joyceavp@yahoo.com](mailto:joyceavp@yahoo.com)

## CALENDAR

<u>Sunday 3-25</u>	<u>Monday 3-26</u>	<u>Tuesday 3-27</u>	<u>Wednesday 3-28</u>	<u>Thursday 3-29</u>	<u>Friday 3-30</u>	<u>Saturday 3-31</u>
<p><b>PALM SUNDAY</b>  <b>9am</b> Choir/                      Adoration  <b>10am Mass</b> for                      Ashton Maier  <b>BD:</b> Mitchell                      Dickson</p>	<p><b>BDs:</b>                      Joyce Van Pelt,                      Rick Knowlton,                      Margaret Storms</p>	<p><b>6pm Mass</b> for                      Pat Donnelly                      NO Adult RE                      Class  <b>BDs:</b> Carol Smith,                      Holly Partlow,                      Gage Trichel</p>	<p><b>6:30pm</b> Faith                      Formation  <b>BDs:</b> Kelly                      Marnin, Emily                      Smith  <b>ANN:</b> Frank &amp;                      Marilyn Wagers                      1959</p>	<p><b>HOLY THURSDAY</b>  <b>7pm Mass</b> for                      the Living &amp;                      Deceased                      Members of the                      Parish  <b>BDs:</b> Mikayla                      Newton, Caleb                      Arthur</p>	<p><b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>  <b>7pm Mass</b> for                      the Living &amp;                      Deceased                      Members of the                      Parish  <b>BD:</b> Betsy Byrnes</p>	<p><b>EASTER VIGIL</b>  <b>8pm Mass</b> for                      the Living &amp;                      Deceased                      Members of the                      Parish  <b>BD:</b> David Dubois</p>

## DAILY READINGS

<p><b>Isaiah 50:4-7;</b>  <b>Philippians 2:6-11;</b>  <b>Mark 14:1-15:47</b></p> <p><i>The Father responds to Jesus' willing self-sacrifice by raising him to glory.</i></p> <p>As we begin to recall and commemorate the events of that first Holy Week, when Jesus willingly laid aside his glory and embraced the cross for our salvation, may we be filled with gratitude and awe at one who loves us so much.</p>	<p><b>Isaiah 42:1-7;</b>  <b>John 12:1-11</b></p> <p><i>Humbly doing God's work brings joy to the soul.</i></p> <p>As we enter Holy Week, we have an opportunity to reflect on the humility of Jesus as he willingly gave his life for us. Perhaps we have that ability, in our own lives, to humbly and quietly serve others as Jesus taught. In so doing, we bring joy to others, to our own souls and to our loving</p>	<p>God.</p> <p><b>Isaiah 49:1-6;</b>  <b>John 13:21-33, 36-38</b></p> <p><i>The Word of God is a sharp-edged sword which penetrates into the deepest recesses of our hearts.</i></p> <p>In the biblical context, a name always carried not only a vocational call, but a divine sense of destiny. When one of the Lord's messengers is called a sharp-edged sword, it means that the person is able to think clearly and perceive keen possibilities about God's Word. We need to listen to that person intently and discover the meaning</p>	<p>for our lives.</p> <p><b>Isaiah 50:4-9a;</b>  <b>Matthew 26:14-25</b></p> <p><i>Let us rely upon the Father, as Jesus did, to help us endure our trials and sufferings.</i></p> <p>Holy Week is a time of deep contemplation. As we prepare to enter the Easter Triduum, we focus our attention on the events leading to our Lord's death and resurrection. Today's Gospel reveals the betrayal of Judas. His actions raise the question: have we betrayed others, ourselves or</p>	<p>Jesus?</p> <p><b>Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26;</b>  <b>John 13:1-15</b></p> <p><i>This is my body; this is my blood. This is the Real Presence.</i></p> <p>While today's Gospel tells of Jesus washing the disciples' feet to show the importance of humility, service and forgiveness, Paul's writing reminds us of our belief in the <i>Real Presence</i> of Jesus in the Eucharist—the bread and wine become his <i>real</i> body and blood. When we receive the Eucharist, Christ is in us! Therefore, we are emboldened</p>	<p>to be like Christ and serve others.</p> <p><b>Isaiah 52:13-53:12;</b>  <b>Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9;</b>  <b>John 18:1-19:42</b></p> <p><i>As we walk the Way of the Cross and hear the Passion narrative, we reflect on God's love.</i></p> <p>Today as we hear the Passion narrative, venerate the cross and receive Holy Communion, we remember how much God loves us. He loves us enough to suffer and die, to transform the cross into the tree of life and to abide with us in the sacraments.</p>	<p><b>Genesis 1:1-2:2;</b>  <b>Exodus 14:15-15:1;</b>  <b>Isaiah 55:1-11;</b>  <b>Romans 6:3-11;</b>  <b>Mark 16:1-7</b></p> <p><i>We have a faithful, loving and generous God.</i></p> <p>Throughout history, our heavenly Father has revealed to us his loving nature, even to the point of sacrificing his only Son to prove his love and faithfulness to us. Sin has constantly separated us from him, but his loving forgiveness brings us back every time.</p>
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# FAITH FORMATION

- CATHY HICKS, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Lent has gone by very quickly, and we are going into Holy Week, beginning today with Palm Sunday. Hopefully, this Lenten season has been a time of personal and spiritual growth as well as a time of drawing closer to Jesus Christ. I have provided some information about some of the events during this week which you may share as a family. The more our young people understand the extreme importance of this week, the more they can rejoice in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

## Holy Thursday/ The Last Supper

Christ celebrated the Last Supper with his disciples four days after triumphantly riding into Jerusalem. (Palm Sunday) At the Last Supper, Christ blessed the bread and wine with the very words used today to consecrate the Body and Blood of Christ during Mass. Jesus told his disciples, "Do this in memory of me." In doing this, Jesus made his disciples the first priests. Christ also said to his disciples, "A new Commandment I give unto you: That you love one another as I have loved you." Holy Thursday mass is usually celebrated after sundown. It commemorates

the institution of the Sacrament of Communion. Before the end of mass, the Body of Christ (the host) is moved to another place where it is kept overnight to be distributed during the Lord's Passion on Good Friday. After this, the altar is stripped bare and all the bells in the church are silent until the Gloria at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. Also, the baptismal fonts are emptied in many churches.

## Good Friday/The Day Jesus Died

Good Friday commemorates the Crucifixion of Christ and His death at Calvary. It is a day of fasting and abstinence from meat. There is no mass celebrated on Good Friday; instead it is a time of reflection on the Passion of the Lord according to the gospel of John. Everyone enters in silence, and there is a series of intercessory prayers (special intentions) as well as prayers for the Church, the Pope, the clergy, and laity of the Church. The Veneration of the cross is displayed, and many will proceed up and kiss or touch the cross. The service concludes with the Sacrament of Communion, using the hosts that were taken from the Tabernacle on Holy

Thursday.

## Holy Saturday/ Easter Vigil

On Holy Saturday we are anticipating the happiness in the risen Lord but not forgetting His suffering and death. It is a pause after the activities of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, and Good Friday before the realization of the resurrection on Easter Sunday. Holy Saturday is best summed up when, "sorrow turns to joy; darkness is transformed into new light, and our joyous expectations of new and eternal life are renewed." The Paschal Candle (Easter Candle) is lit; the new fire provides us with the radiant light of Jesus' Easter Triumph. Prayers from the blessing of this candle include, "Christ, yesterday and today; the first and the last, the beginning and the end; the Alpha and Omega. All time belongs to Him and all glory, forever and ever." Amen. Peter wrote, "Christ was put to death as a human but made alive by the Holy Spirit."

## Easter Sunday

Christ has risen! Alleluia!!!

*May God be forever at your side and hold you in the palm of His hand.*

## Dear Parishioners-continued

(cont'd from page 1)

Faithfulness is not to be viewed as an isolated act. Rather it is an attitude that should characterize our entire life. Although we experience betrayal and have betrayed God and others, we are given the life to follow. As we pray at the Mass, "...at the time He (Jesus) was betrayed and entered willingly into His Passion..." He said, "...take this [bread and wine] which is Me and experience Me..." "...I do this for you, so that you might know of my love and faithfulness to you." By experiencing God's love and fidelity, we might return to Him and be-

come faithful.

In light of the growing number of reports of violence and hopelessness in the world, I invite our families to teach their children the love and faithfulness of God and the call of His people (the Church) to do the same. To teach their children to pray as a family and to encourage their personal prayer as well so they may grow in faith and trust of God, even when times are difficult. I pray you will encourage and teach the importance of the Mass, which is the source and summit of our faith. It is here we gather and learn how to be together

through patience and forgiveness and focusing our attention - not on our disappointments in one another, but to focus our attention on God and the hope He gives us. There are those who give excuses or a rationale for not being faithful to reconnecting at the Mass with God and one another. Let us all change that and bring our family and friends to this Holiest of Weeks where we remember that God loves us so much that He endured trials like we did - and worse - and ultimately showed how much He loved us by willingly dying for us to prove that love.

**Mission Statement:** *"Rejoicing with gratitude in God's blessings, we invite and welcome all to share in the fullness of the Catholic faith. We live our baptismal call through worship, teaching, and serving one another."*

## Parish Business & Finance Report

### March 18th Collection

Sat/Sun: \$2,529.00  
Kids: \$8.50  
Building Fund: \$25.00  
CRS Collection: \$20.00

***This Week's Income: \$2,537.50***

***This Week's Expenses: \$231.25***

**NEW 2018 ADA Goal**  
\$29,802.00

*Balance as of 3/9: \$27,032*

### Trustees:

*Janis Gilman, Robert Bird*

### Council Members:

*Wayne Noshisch, Brenna Bird,  
Dave & Barb Boss, Eric Tiernan,  
Tom Doud*

*Rita Rilea, Bookkeeping*