

April 14, 2019

## IN PROCESSION WITH CHRIST!

**In procession with Christ!** On this great celebration **Palm Sunday**, we recall the **entrance of Christ the Lord into Jerusalem** to accomplish his Paschal Mystery: Passion, Death and Resurrection. To remember this triumphant entrance, we have a **procession with palms**. We sing: "**Hosannah to the son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosannah in the highest.**" As we process into the church, holding our palms high, we remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem **for our salvation**. We are entering the eternal Jerusalem! We are entering together with the first followers of Christ who "began to **praise God** aloud **with joy** for all the mighty deeds they had seen and proclaimed: **Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest**" (Luke 19:37-39). We too on Palm Sunday are filled with joy as **in procession with Christ**, we are entering the summit of the entire Liturgical Year: **The Holy Week!**

Since my childhood in Southern France, I have loved processions. In particular, I loved the long processions in Lourdes (for 10 years of my childhood, my father was assigned as Judge at the District Court of Tarbes (just 10 miles away from Lourdes): afternoon processions with the Blessed Sacrament and the thousands of sick pilgrims (on wheel chairs or rolling beds being pushed by nurses or volunteers) or candlelit processions at night. The first two sessions of **The gift of the Mass** (sixth and last session taking place this Saturday April 13) reminded us of the importance of the **procession at the beginning of each Mass**. In the video "**The greatest gift**", Fr. Mike Schmidt highlighted the importance of the entrance procession, by answering two questions: 1. **why do we all stand when the procession begins?** Because the priest is **In Persona Christi** -Latin for "person of Christ"- and therefore represents Christ, our standing shows a sign of deep respect. 2. **During the procession where are we going?** Together with the priest, we are all going to the **Altar of God**. Though we remain standing in our pews, together with the priest and Christ, we are on a pilgrimage, we are on a journey. Together we are moving from earth toward heaven, we are moving from our daily down-to-earth reality toward heaven, we are on a pilgrimage toward the **Altar of God**, this is our procession with Christ. We, the Kingdom priests (since our baptism, we are all called to be priests, prophets and kings), are walking with the Ministerial Priest representing Christ. At the end of the Procession, the priest venerates the Altar, kisses it: the Altar is the source of all Grace, this is the altar of the bloodless sacrifice of the Mass.

Every Mass is an Easter Mass since we celebrate the entirety of the Paschal Mystery: the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ! In the same way, one can say that **the entrance Procession at every Mass is a Palm Sunday Procession**. We may not hold palms in our hands but every Sunday we remember the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem to

"complete his work as our Messiah: to suffer, to die, and to rise again". This is the entrance of Jesus in the Paschal Mystery. At every Mass we stand when the entrance procession of the priest begins. We stay in our pews but our hearts are joining in this **procession with Christ** toward the Altar of Sacrifice. **Every Mass is a Palm Sunday Mass**. The full name of Palm Sunday is "Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord" (used to be called Passion Sunday). At every Mass, we celebrate the Passion of our Lord as we unite ourselves with Him in his suffering on the cross in the hope that we may share his resurrection and be with him forever in eternal life.

At every Mass, before the Consecration, we sing the Sanctus with all the angels and saints in heaven: "**Holy, holy, holy** Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

**Hosannah in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**" In his book "A Biblical Walk through the Mass", Edward Sri comments that "It is fitting that we repeat these words before Consecration. Just as the crowds in Jerusalem welcomed Jesus into the holy city with these words from Psalm 118, so do we welcome Jesus into our churches, for he is about to become present in the Eucharist on our altars". Besides the entrance procession, the **Sanctus** (Holy, Holy, Holy) reminds us that every Mass is Palm Sunday Mass.

As we began last Sunday, we will continue to pray at every Mass for the intentions of our Archbishop-Elect Wilton Gregory. We will do so until his official installation as Archbishop of Washington on Tuesday May 21st. As we enter into the Holy Week and the Sacred Paschal Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil), I invite everyone to pray for our Archbishop-Elect and for the healing and spiritual renewal of our entire Archdiocese, including our own parish. In union with our Archbishop-Elect Wilton Gregory, Father Santiago and I invite all of you to join us at the 7 pm Mass **Holy Thursday: The Mass of the Last Supper** in which Jesus gives us His Body and His Blood, thereby instituting the Eucharist and the Priesthood.

May we all have a most blessed **Holy Week filled with the Holy Spirit!**



*One in Christ,  
Fr. Alain*

# Palm Sunday

## Important Dates

**April 14/15** - CCD Classes (7th & 8th grade attend Sunday Retreat)

**April 21/22** - Easter, no classes

**April 28**– Sacramental prep workshops- Youth Mass– All Youth Night– **No regular CCD classes Sunday or Monday**

**May 5/6**– CCD Classes



## Attention Sacramental Preparation Families

**(CCD and Catholic School Families):** Workshop dates for First Reconciliation/Communion (10 am) and Confirmation Year 1 and 2 (2:30pm): Apr 28. Questions? Please contact Therese Thiedeman, dre@olhoc.org

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## Volunteers for Summer Activities and Beyond

We are currently recruiting adult volunteers (ages 18+) to work with our parish programs for children and youth over the summer and for the 2019-20 Year (chaperones, Vacation Bible School Volunteers, catechists, assistants, mentors, substitutes, office helpers, Youth Core Team members, All Youth Night helpers, OLLC Preschool volunteers, childcare during parish programs, etc.). If you are interested in volunteering, or are a parent of a child/youth in any of these programs, you are NEEDED!

Adult Volunteers (ages 18+) who have substantial contact with minors (under 18) or vulnerable adults are required to undergo Child Protection Training and get an electronic background check. The next Archdiocesan class for Child Protection taking place locally is Monday, June 3, 2019 at 6:30 pm at Archbishop Neale School in La Plata. Spaces are "first registered, first served". To register, establish an account at VIRTUS.org and select that particular class for training. Please see Nieda or Therese for more information or visit our website [www.olhoc.com/safety](http://www.olhoc.com/safety)

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## Volunteers Needed

Catholic Charities' Financial Stability Network is looking for volunteers with a financial background to serve the residents of Angel's Watch Shelter in Waldorf, MD. Volunteers will meet in a classroom with persons interested in addressing financial instability in their lives.

The volunteers will provide general financial education utilizing content prepared by the FDIC. The time commitment would be one evening per month. The ideal candidate would be a Certified Financial Planner, a CPA or an experienced financial professional. Catholic Charities will provide training, support and other resources for the volunteers to ensure their success.

If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please contact the Director of CC's Financial Stability Network, Deacon Jim Shanahan: 202-772-4310 or [jim.shanahan@cc-dc.org](mailto:jim.shanahan@cc-dc.org)

## OLLC Preschool Announcement

OLLC Preschool fall 2019 registration is open! Parishioners, please share this information with families you know who may be looking for Catholic Preschool for their child or grandchild, and be sure you have registered your child for fall. For info or to register: email the preschool director, Nieda, at [preschool@olhoc.org](mailto:preschool@olhoc.org) or call the church/preschool office at 301-645-7112 during office hours.

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## 2019 Annual Jubilarian Mass

The annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years will be held Sunday, June 23, 2019 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Please call the parish office, names need to be turned in by Friday, April 26.

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Scripture Study - Join us on Tuesday mornings after the 9 am Mass to study the readings for the next Sunday.

Divine Mercy– Join us on the first Saturday of each month as we pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet as a community at 3 PM.

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## Altar Guild Easter Flowers

**In Memory of, or in Honor of, a Loved One**

If you would like to donate towards Easter Flowers, please do so today! please use the envelopes that came with your regular packet. You can also pick one up in the Narthex. Envelopes can be placed in with the weekly collection.

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## Outreach News

The next Outreach meeting will be May 1, 2019 at 7p.m. in Fr. Martin Hall. New members and new ideas are always welcome!

Our next Shepherd's Table will be April 18, 2019 at Good Shepherd Church.

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We are asked to pray for:

Dennis Hook  
Ana Maria Delmira Sibrian Escobar  
Nestor Ermelindo Molina  
Doris Chesley  
James Thompson  
Thoeun Tinn  
Felicia & Myles Webster  
Rebecca (Tess) Franch  
Vicky Welch  
Naomi Lilly  
Sterling Greene  
Aleli Puzon

Dennis Wick  
Vivian Truxon  
Kenny Lindsay  
Dorian Webster Sr.  
Dionne Gause  
Pat Fisher  
Christ Goldhammer  
Melody Hudson  
Ernest Mack  
James Wiltz  
Adele Alvey  
Dorothy Neal  
Dunnie Proctor  
Shirley Ehman  
K.D. Dillard

Josephina Knapp  
Maria Townsend  
Crystal Beauregard  
Sheryl Carter  
Alex Leon  
Sharketer Butler  
Steven Bowling  
Edna Yarngo  
Kathly Grimes  
Damien Price  
and all our military and civilians serving in  
harm's way.

*Please pray for the soul of Keisha Holt.*



Mass Intentions this Week

Saturday, April 13, 9:00 AM: Lucy Coelho (+)  
Saturday, April 13, 5:00 PM: Livia Dunay (+)  
Sunday, April 14, 8:30 AM: Our Lady Help of Christians Parishioners  
Sunday, April 14, 10:00 AM: Victor Cordero  
Sunday, April 14, 11:30 AM: Marcus Williams  
Sunday, April 14, 1:00 PM: Conception Elesano (+)  
Sunday, April 14, 7:00 PM: Marlen Coles  
Monday, April 15, 9:00 AM: Nikki Lemke  
Tuesday, April 16, 9:00 AM: Lloyd Cordner (+)  
Wednesday, April 17, 9:00 AM: Ruth Koenings (+)  
Wednesday, April 10, 7:00 PM: Keisha Holt (+)  
Thursday, April 18, 7:00 PM: Michael Jacob Steele (+)

*"Men may spurn our appeals, reject our message, oppose our arguments, despise our persons, but they are helpless against our prayers." – Sidlow Baxter*

Easter Sunday - April 21st  
after the 11:30 am Mass

We are excited to offer an Easter Egg Hunt!

It will begin after the 11:30 am  
Easter Sunday Mass.

Mass Readings for April 21, 2019.

*Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord*



\*First Reading  
Acts of the Apostles 10:34a

\*Second Reading  
Colossians 3:1-4

\*Gospel  
John 20:1-9

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# *Holy Week and Easter Celebration*

*April 18- Holy Thursday*

*7:00 PM Mass (Bilingual)*

*April 19- Good Friday*

*2:00 PM- Meditation on the "Last 7 words" of Jesus*

*2:30 PM Stations of the Cross*

*5:00 PM Solemn Service of the Passion (Spanish)*

*7:00 PM Solemn Service of the Passion (English)*

*April 20th- Holy Saturday*

*11:00 AM- Blessing of the Food*

*8:00 PM Easter Vigil Mass (Bilingual)*

*\*\*\*\*\* Reminder\*\*\*\*\**

*The last opportunity for Confession before Easter is Wednesday, April 17  
from 6:00-6:45 PM, and 7:45- 8:30 PM*

*April 21 Easter Sunday  
Resurrection of the Lord*

*8:30 AM Mass*

*10:00 AM Mass*

*11:30 AM Mass*

*7:00 PM Mass (Spanish)*