St. Catherine of Siena Parish follows Jesus by welcoming all, sharing our gifts, and giving glory to God.

La parroquia de Santa Catarina de Siena sigue a Jesús dándole la bienvenida a todos, compartiendo nuestros dones y dando gloria a Dios.
**PARISH OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS:**
1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA
Martinez, CA 94553-1720

**TELEPHONE / FAX:**
925-228-2230 / 925-228-1318
925-229-2255 / 925-229-2474

**SCHOOL WEBSITE:**
http://school.stcatherinemartinez.com/

**TELEPHONE / FAX:**
925-229-2255 / 925-229-2474

**ATTENTION:**
Before serving or continuing in your ministry, complete the Diocesan required Safe Environment for Children Project Training at www.virtusonline.org. Thank you.

---

**PARISH & SCHOOL STAFF**

**FR. ANTHONY HUONG LE,** Parochial Administrator

dcnadizon@yahoo.com

**DEACON ALBERT DIZON**

dcnadizon@yahoo.com

**DEACON ALBERT DIZON**

dcnadizon@yahoo.com

**JESSICA GRISWOLD,** Principal
Saint Catherine Elementary School
jgriswold@cfsdo.org
925-228-4140

**PAULINE PORTER**
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)
stcathmtz@yahoo.com
925-228-4140

**PAMELA PORTER**
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)
stcathmtz@yahoo.com
925-228-4140

**PAUL HOLLAND**
Co-coordinators, Youth Group and Confirmation Program
paulh@cfcsoakland.org
925-229-2255

**TROY KILLORN**
Director of Music Ministry
stkillorn@aol.com
925-228-4140

**SYLVIA LLOREN**
Director Religious Education
stcathmtz@yahoo.com
925-229-2255

**ANNE TEBBUTT**
Office Manager
925-338-2128

**PILGRIMAGE OF THE BLESSED MOTHER**

**AIDA LASCAR**
7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM English

**LITURGY SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY:**
8:00 AM and 4:30 PM

**SUNDAY:**
7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM English
12:30 PM Spanish

**WEEKDAYS:**
8:00 AM

**HOLY DAYS:**
8:00 AM, 12:10 PM and 7:00 PM

**ADORATION:**
Fridays from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM

**RECONCILIATION:**
Saturdays from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

---

**MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTS**

**TROY KILLORN**
Director of Music Ministry
stkillorn@aol.com
925-228-4140

**SYLVIA LLOREN**
Director Religious Education
stcathmtz@yahoo.com
925-229-2255

**Please direct your inquiries to the email above. Thank you.**
Sixth Sunday in Lent—April 14, 2019
WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO KNOW JESUS?

A few years ago I was eating lunch at work when a young man in his thirties, on his last day as a temp, sat down and asked me what I was reading so intently on my Kindle. I told him that I was reading the daily scripture readings for Mass. That sparked a wonderful heart to heart conversation on Jesus and faith. He shared how he had lived his whole life as an agnostic, but recently had a questioning in his heart if God is real and if so, is Jesus God? I shared how God created us each in His own image and how He wants a deep intimate relationship with us, but that He has given us free will and would never force Himself upon us. However, if the young man opens his heart and says a simple honest prayer, no matter how awkward, like “Jesus I don’t know if you are God, but if so, I want to know you,” that Jesus will reveal Himself to him in little ways and opportunities. That his working for the Catholic Cemetery as a temp was already in answer to that longing that he was feeling. We talked about the Bible and how its many books tell the story of salvation history, but can be confusing, so a good place to start is reading the Gospels to get to know who Jesus is, what He did, and what He teaches in His very own words. My hope is that it was enough to start him on His journey.

I’ve been pondering what more I would say to this young man about what it means to me as a Catholic to “know” Jesus. In any deep intimate relationship we need to get to know each other. While Jesus, God the Son, already knows us better than anyone, we also need to get to know Him. A relationship can’t be one sided or it will stagnate and die out. Thankfully, our Lord has given us many ways to know Him better.

Prayer is essential at every step of our faith journey, so take time each day to pray. St John Vianney stated, “My little children, your hearts, are small, but prayer stretches them and makes them capable of loving God. Through prayer we receive a foretaste of heaven, and something of paradise comes down upon us. Prayer never leaves us without sweetness. It is honey that flows into the souls and makes all things sweet. When we pray properly, sorrows disappear like snow before the sun.” As an introvert the eloquence of the prayers of the Saints express beautifully what I have difficulty expressing in words. However, I have also found that pouring out my soul to Jesus, no matter how inadequate my own words may be, is very humbling and closely unites me to Him. Whenever possible, attend the Holy Mass, which is the greatest prayer the Church can offer to God.

Read the Bible. Make it a part of your daily prayer. Attend Bible study, so that you will start to understand God the Father’s plan of salvation. In the Bible Jesus reveals God the Father to us. See John 14: 6-10.

Jesus wants us to connect with Him on every level, not only intellectually or spiritually. It’s not an easy task; and when life beats you down it can be downright daunting. Some days, or many, when we fall it takes all our strength just to get back up again, but Jesus never leaves us, even though sometimes we leave Him. He waits patiently for that spiritual conversion and change in our heart. We often think that it should happen in some grand way like St. Paul, but as I grow in faith I have found it is a daily and even a several times a day conversion, since I fall so many times. I am reminded of the Gospel of St. Matthew 18:22 when St. Peter asked how many times he must forgive and Jesus answered, “I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times.” How many times in a day does the Lord forgive me?

This is why the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or Confession, has given me so much consolation. As I enter the confessional I come face to face with Jesus and am given true peace and unburdened when I hear the words of absolution, “through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” Only God knows how I would need to hear those words to be unburdened from sin.

As I sat praying with my older brother 21 years ago as he was dying from AIDS, he became the presence of the suffering Jesus to me and I know I was the consoling presence of Jesus for him. As we grow in our love relationship with Christ we will begin to understand the words of St. Teresa of Calcutta, “I see Jesus in every human being. I say to myself, this is hungry Jesus, I must feed him. This is sick Jesus. This one has leprosy or gangrene; I must wash him and tend to him. I serve because I love Jesus.”

Just as our Blessed Mother was the tabernacle for Jesus, the eternal Word of the Father, God the Son, when He became flesh in her womb, Jesus wants us to be His tabernacles. When I think of how He wants to be joined to me by giving Himself Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Eucharist, I am overwhelmed how He can give Himself to me so intimately. I think of how He wants to be joined to me by giving Himself Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Eucharist, I am overwhelmed how He can give Himself to me so intimately. When I pray, I am so incredibly unworthy. Yet, I know He wants to transform me and upon receiving Him take Him with me out into the world and share Him with all.

— Carolyn Susin
In this gospel, Jesus has been on the cross for six hours. He has to pull Himself up by His arms every time He wants to breathe. He is at the point of extreme dehydration and unimaginable physical exhaustion. But, He finds enough strength in Him to ask for something to drink and was given hyssop soaked on a sponge by a guard. Why did He ask for something to drink? Why not succumb to His fate with the least amount of effort possible? What does this mean to me?

Jesus needed to fulfill the prophecy. In scripture He is fulfilling Psalm 69:21 “They put gall in My food and gave Me vinegar for My thirst” But even more than that, He wanted something to drink to soothe His parched lips and throat so that He may proclaim His final words on the cross “with a loud voice.”

Jesus was perhaps an unusual person to watch dying on the cross in that He didn’t show any anger despite doing no crime. He did not retaliate when they hurled insults at Him. The guards noticed this and took mercy on Him by allowing Him something to drink. They found the grace to understand He wasn’t an ordinary person being crucified. He was something much more.

But, I think the most important thing to remember when Jesus says, “I am thirsty,” is that it reminds us of the physical form He took to be on Earth. In this moment He is not a divine being pretending to suffer on the cross for our sake. He is literally being tortured in the flesh. His throat is actually dry. His arms and torso are actually heavy under the weight of the nails. He is actually having extreme difficulty breathing. His body is responding like yours and mine would if we were suffering on the cross. We can identify with the way He is suffering.

And, in fact, we do all suffer and we do all have our crosses to bear. Our time here on this Earth is rarely an easy one. There are days when I feel like I can’t possibly do this anymore. I can’t possibly get up before the sun rises day in and day out so I can get ready for work. So I can get on the train that’s already full by the time it reaches my station. It’s even more full on the return trip home which means I’ve been standing both ways on my hour and a half commute. I can’t possibly give any energy to my family of two small children and a husband when I get home. When I’ve already given so much energy to the people at work. Coworkers who I spend more time with in my day to day activities than my family who deserve more of me. Most days I find myself saying this is too much. Will it ever get better? Maybe I should just resign myself to my hardships and give up. And, there are days when I feel like I do. Probably more days than I care to admit. But, Jesus asking for something to drink on the cross gives me solace. It motivates me to keep going. Jesus didn’t suffer and die for me so I could have an easy life in this world; but, He did so that I could live forever with Him in the next world. When I’m so exhausted and things seem like too much, I need to remember this: Jesus didn’t complain when He was on His cross. Rather, He asked for something to drink so He could do what needed to be done. I need to be more like Jesus when I am suffering.

—Jenny Holland

ST. CATHERINE SCHOOL NEWS: A LUMEN CHRISTI ACADEMY SCHOOL

St. Catherine’s Student Learning Expectation (SLEs) Awards for Academic Learners were handed out to deserving students in Kindergarten through Eighth grades at the weekly school Mass. Congratulations to all the achievers! Pictured below left in the front row from left to right: Gabriel Coggshall (8th), Jacqueline Easterday (K), Kaylee Salazar (5th), Gary Wareckiy (1st), Ryder Moore (2nd), Caitlin Solaro (7th), Angelina Rivara (6th), Katie Salazar (3rd), John McLean (4th); and with teachers in the back row: Sara Anderson, Brittany Rogers, Jannette Wilkinson, David Lutheran, and Pauline Porter. Miss Hoefler’s second grade class did an outstanding job leading the school in their version of Stations of the Cross. Right photo front from left to right: Peyton Fugate, Madeline Alford, Isla Ablaza, Luke Dobson, and Sophia Dominick; back: Daniel Seder, Kennedy Silvera, Ryder Moore, Miley Bourroux, Layla Sattes, and Evan Rogers. —Diana Corsetti, SCS Teacher Contributor

“Last Words of Christ”

In this gospel, Jesus has been on the cross for six hours. He has to pull Himself up by His arms every time He wants to breathe. He is at the point of extreme dehydration and unimaginable physical exhaustion. But, He finds enough strength in Him to ask for something to drink and was given hyssop soaked on a sponge by a guard. Why did He ask for something to drink? Why not succumb to His fate with the least amount of effort possible? What does this mean to me?

Jesus was perhaps an unusual person to watch dying on the cross in that He didn’t show any anger despite doing no crime. He did not retaliate when they hurled insults at Him. The guards noticed this and took mercy on Him by allowing Him something to drink. They found the grace to understand He wasn’t an ordinary person being crucified. He was something much more.

But, I think the most important thing to remember when Jesus says, “I am thirsty,” is that it reminds us of the physical form He took to be on Earth. In this moment He is not a divine being pretending to suffer on the cross for our sake. He is literally being tortured in the flesh. His throat is actually dry. His arms and torso are actually heavy under the weight of the nails. He is actually having extreme difficulty breathing. His body is responding like yours and mine would if we were suffering on the cross. We can identify with the way He is suffering.

And, in fact, we do all suffer and we do all have our crosses to bear. Our time here on this Earth is rarely an easy one. There are days when I feel like I can’t possibly do this anymore. I can’t possibly get up before the sun rises day in and day out so I can get ready for work. So I can get on the train that’s already full by the time it reaches my station. It’s even more full on the return trip home which means I’ve been standing both ways on my hour and a half commute. I can’t possibly give any energy to my family of two small children and a husband when I get home. When I’ve already given so much energy to the people at work. Coworkers who I spend more time with in my day to day activities than my family who deserve more of me. Most days I find myself saying this is too much. Will it ever get better? Maybe I should just resign myself to my hardships and give up. And, there are days when I feel like I do. Probably more days than I care to admit. But, Jesus asking for something to drink on the cross gives me solace. It motivates me to keep going. Jesus didn’t suffer and die for me so I could have an easy life in this world; but, He did so that I could live forever with Him in the next world. When I’m so exhausted and things seem like too much, I need to remember this: Jesus didn’t complain when He was on His cross. Rather, He asked for something to drink so He could do what needed to be done. I need to be more like Jesus when I am suffering.

—Jenny Holland
WORSHIP
To facilitate a transforming encounter with God as we come together in worship.

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SAT 4/13
4:30 Bob & Maria Conrady †
7:00 Terry Greerty †
8:30 Toby & Leo Trujillo †
10:30 Mario Rose †
12:30 Int. St. Catherine of Siena Parish

SUN 4/14
8:00 Maria Dyliacco †
8:00 Simona Nano †

MON 4/15
8:00 Maria Dyliacco †

TUE 4/16
8:00 Simona Nano †

WED 4/17
8:00 Rose Delchini †

THU 4/18
8:00 Morning prayer service
7:00 Mass of the Lord’s Supper
Special Intention

FRI 4/19
8:00 Morning prayer service
12:10 Lord’s Passion and Veneration of the Cross

SAT 4/20
8:00 Morning prayer service
8:00 Int. of RCIA Candidates

SUN 4/21
7:00 Int. St. Catherine of Siena Parish
8:30 Int. St. Catherine of Siena Choirs
10:30 Int. St. Catherine Parish & School
12:30 Int. St. Catherine of Siena Parish

Call the Parish Office for Mass intentions.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

GOOD FRI APR 19 @ 5:00 PM CHURCH
HOLY SAT APR 20 @ 5:00 PM CHURCH
EASTER SUN APR 21 @ 5:00 PM CHURCH
MON APR 22 @ 5:00 PM CHURCH
TUE APR 23 @ 5:00 PM CHURCH
WED APR 24 @ 5:00 PM CHURCH
THU APR 25 @ 5:00 PM CHURCH
FRI APR 26 @ 5:00 PM CHURCH
SAT APR 27 @ 5:30 PM CHURCH

SUN APR 28 @ 12:30 PM DIVINE MERCY MASS FOLLOWED BY RECEPTION IN THE HALL
After Mass, a procession of the Divine Mercy image will take place to the parish hall where there will be a light dinner. All are invited. Questions? Contact Esther 925-381-1835

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

MT. WANDA LENTEN HIKE GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 19 @ 3 PM
JOURNEY ON THE MOUNTAIN WITH JESUS. HIKE UP MT. WANDA. ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THIS TREK. MEET AT MT. WANDA PARKING LOT ON ALHAMBRA AVENUE BY 3:00 PM. WE WILL EXPERIENCE THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON THE WAY UP. LIVE THE JOURNEY, PRAYING, CONVERSING. FAMILIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO COME. CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY ADULTS. BRING YOUR WATER BOTTLES, WEAR YOUR HIKING SHOES. INTERESTED? SEE FR. ANTHONY.
STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL ALSO BE HELD IN THE CHURCH @ 3 PM

Today you will be with me in paradise.

The Lord GOD is my help,
Therefore, I am not disgraced.
— Isaiah 50:7a
DISCIPLESHIP
To empower a community of Christian people walking together as disciples of Jesus in order to share His good news.

And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God.
Micah 6:8

"Beneath His Cross" Apostolate
First Thursdays Monthly beginning @ 6pm

“Beneath His Cross” invites all to gather at the church the first Thursday evening of each month, before the Blessed Sacrament, for a Holy Hour and Prayer Cenacle. During the cenacle we pray to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, we pray the Litany of Humility, The Luminous Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary for Priests, special prayers for the Church, prayer to Saint Michael, the Chaplet of Reparation, and end with the Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by a brief reflection. Please join us the first Thursday monthly. For the sake of our Holy Catholic Church and her indispensable priests and deacons, join this monthly Holy Hour. Let us pray that we can all gather together beneath His cross as a community for a purpose far greater than ourselves.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT JESSICA PRECIADO @ 925-354-1656 OR VISIT: BENEATHHISCROSS.COM
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS GROWING APOSTOLATE

THE STORY OF OUR REDEMPTION
We begin the final week of Lent with these familiar readings. This year, we hear the Passion from the Gospel of Luke. These readings for Palm Sunday and the Passion used to be read on successive Sundays. Now they are combined into a single feast, so that we may see the whole sweep of the glory and the suffering played out. Jesus accepts the adulation of the crowd, the foreshadowing of His glory in the Resurrection. He bids farewell to His disciples in His last Passover, and forgives His tormentors as He dies on the cross. Later this week, we enter the Holy Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, when the whole story of our redemption will play out once again.

St. Catherine Parish offers deepest sympathy and prayers for the families; and, the repose of the souls of Barry Jackson, Rev. Jay Matthews who entered eternal life.

And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God.
Micah 6:8

Jesus accepts the adulation of the crowd, the foreshadowing of His glory in the Resurrection. He bids farewell to His disciples in His last Passover, and forgives His tormentors as He dies on the cross.

St. Catherine of Siena Parish & School
Commemorating 46 Years of Faith Celebrating 70th Anniversary of Our School

Enjoy You're Invited

• Friday, May 3 •
5:00 pm Consecration of our Parish & School to the Immaculate Heart of Mary
5:30 pm Festival

• Saturday, May 4 •
10:00 am Procession
11:00 am Holy Mass
12:00 pm Parish Lunch Celebration

RSVP: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-catherine-of-siena-feast-day-tickets
Be grateful for your sins. They are carriers of grace.

APRIL 7, 2019 CONTRIBUTIONS
Due to the publishers holiday’s deadlines, the amounts were not yet collected when this bulletin went to print.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

REMEMBER ST. CATHERINE PARISH IN YOUR WILL & LIVING TRUST

2019 Bishop’s Appeal
SCS Goal Summary:
Parish Goal: $23,000.00
Funds Raised: $0.00
Remaining: $23,000.00
% of Goal Raised: %

STEWARDSHIP
To create a culture in the parish rooted in gratitude and generosity.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

End-of-Life Questions: A Practical Workshop
Calling All Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Ministers to the Sick and Homebound, and Grief Ministry Team as well as anyone else who is interested.

SUNDAY, APRIL 27 FROM 10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM
ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH HALL

Facing major healthcare decisions while living out your Catholic faith? Choosing your healthcare decision-maker to help navigate end-of-life issues? Understanding & completing healthcare forms? Knowing when to request the Sacrament of Anointing? Seeking practical legal advice on these issues? Hear a priest, doctor & attorney discuss these concerns, ask questions & find resources we’ve prepared for you.

REGISTER NOW OR FIND MORE INFO
WWW.OAKDIOCOSE.ORG/CATHOLICS-CARE OR CALL
LAURA 510-267-8395 / ESPANOL=SANDRA 510-267-8371

OPERATION RICE BOWL
ENCOUNTER OUR NEIGHBORS

We encounter Jesus this week in Jerusalem, a community he knew well. We prayerfully enter our own communities too, encountering those who are hungry and thirsty, and those who need our help. How does our Lenten journey motivate us to serve those we meet in our daily lives? Visit crsricebowl.org for more. Please return your Rice Bowls to the collection basket next weekend.

I CAN, YOU CAN, WE CAN. FORTY CANS FOR LENT
Please place your contributions of non-expired, non-perishable canned foods for donation to Women’s Shelter, Loaves and Fishes, and St. Vincent de Paul in barrels in the vestibule of the church. Thank you.

Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat offers a safe time and place to renew, rebuild, and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreat offers a supportive and non-judgmental environment to transform the pain of the past into love and hope.

Women, men, & couples are encouraged to attend.
In Danville from May 17-19. For details and to register, Gloria Maldonado at afterthechoice@oakdioadmin.org or 510-485-2574, or visit www.rachelsvineyard.org

The Legion of Mary under the banner of the Blessed Mother has a long tradition at Saint Catherine of Siena Parish. Weekly meetings are held on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center Library. Members perform two hours of service each week visiting the homebound, nursing homes, distributing Catholic literature, or other works of evangelization. If interested in joining this rewarding ministry, please call Den Dave Holland for more information or just come to a meeting to see what’s it’s all about.

Facebook.com/oakdiocese www.facebook.com/oakdiocese
Twitter.com/oakdiocese www.twitter.com/oakdiocese
Linkedin: Diocese of Oakland www.linkedin.com/company/dioce-oakland

If you haven’t got any charity in your heart, you have the worst kind of heart trouble.” —Bob Hope
Fr. Anthony invites all parishioners to take part in this hospitality outreach to our community. He is asking all ministries and organizations to participate by selecting and serving at one or two Sundays during the year. If you as an individual or as part of a group of friends would also like to host a Sunday in 2019, please email: bulletinsubmissions@gmail.com. Your selected date(s) will be confirmed. Thank you for your participation.

—Stewardship Committee

**Earthquake, revolution, openness... How to define the “Francis effect”?** This Pope has gained global popularity. His style is humble and joyful... How do people see him, and what do they expect from him? Where is he leading the Church? What will he change? How will it affect us? This film describes the surprising ascension to the top of world’s popularity of the almost unknown Argentinian Cardinal. It also reflects the renewal of the Catholic Church’s image that he has generated.

This feature can be enjoyed through the SCS Access:
Go to internet explorer and click http://formed.org. enter code: XPTJK8 (case sensitive)
**WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE**

Week-at-a-glance dates, times, and locations are taken from the web site calendar: www.stcmtz.org. If further clarification is needed, please contact the parish office at 925.228-2230 ext.0

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 4/14</td>
<td>8:00 AM PH Palm Sunday</td>
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<td>11:00 AM PCL The Passion of the Lord</td>
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<td>4:30 PM CH Hospitality—Choir hosts</td>
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<td>Monday, 4/15</td>
<td>7:00 PM PH RCIA Retreat</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 4/16</td>
<td>5:30 PM off site ICF Meeting (moved from 4/18)</td>
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<td>6:00 PM CH Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00 PM PH YLI Meeting</td>
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<td>7:30 PM CH Scripture Reflection with Clergy</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 4/17</td>
<td>5:00 PM CH St. Elias, pray for us.</td>
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<td>6:00 PM CH/SC/PH Children’s Choir Rehearsess</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:30 PM PCL Scripture Reflection with Clergy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 4/18</td>
<td>8:00 AM CH St. Apollonius, pray for us.</td>
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<td>8:45 AM CH Morning Prayer—No Mass</td>
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<td>9:00 AM PH Art &amp; Environment Decorating</td>
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<td>7:00 PM CH SCS School Seder Meal</td>
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<td>Friday, 4/19</td>
<td>8:00 AM CH St. Alphege, pray for us.</td>
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<td>12:10 PM CH Morning Prayer—No Mass</td>
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<td>3:00 PM CH Passion of the Lord and Veneration of the Cross</td>
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<td>3:00 PM off site Stations of the Cross</td>
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<td>5:00 PM CH Stations of the Cross—Mt. Wanda</td>
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<td>9:00 PM CH Divine Mercy Novena #1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, 4/20</td>
<td>8:00 AM CH St. Marian, pray for us.</td>
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<td>9:00 AM CH Art &amp; Environment Decorating</td>
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<td>9:30 AM PCL NO Faith Formation PreK to 8th</td>
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<td>3:00 PM CH Mass of the Lord’s Supper</td>
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<td>5:00 PM CH NO Veneration of the Cross</td>
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<td>6:45 PM YD Easter Vigil Mass begins in the yard</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 PM PH Divine Mercy Novena #2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, 4/21</td>
<td>8:00 AM PH Hospitality—Host Needed</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00 PM CH Easter Vigil Mass begins in the yard</td>
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**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19 @ 9 PM**

In Church history Tenebrae services date back to medieval times. All are invited to join our Youth Group who will lead this annual service at 9 PM on Good Friday, April 19, 2019. **Tenebrae** is Latin for “shadows” and through the use of light, shadow, darkness, and silence the events of the first Good Friday will be explored. There are seven “shadows” that represent seven stages of the Good Friday events. At each stage scripture will be read, some thoughts will be shared, and a period of silence will be observed. The scripture will consist of an Old Testament prophetic reading, a New Testament passage, and the Gospel narrative that describes one of the Good Friday events. At each phase, a candle and a light will be extinguished until all the lights in the church are out; the Paschal candle will be removed from the sanctuary. After a short time of darkness and silence, a strepitus, or loud noise, will be created. Often it is made by slamming books on the pews, stamping feet, or shouting, evoking the earthquake that is said to have occurred following Christ’s death. After the strepitus, light will again illuminate the church; the return from death of Christ our Light. This is a solemn ecumenical service and all are welcome to attend and experience it personally, especially local Youth Groups. Invite your friends and family to experience this moving service.

“Our whole day should be concentrated on the Eucharist, on that conversation, where many things in the world can be set right.”

**“The Sun That Daily Rises” by Chiara Lubich**

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SUN, APR 14, 2019: PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD—Hats off to Jesus’ message

Imagine a baseball-cap seller in the first century. Further imagine the catchy phrases on the brim of his wares: “The last will be first.” “Let me wash your feet.” “Love your enemies.” “Bless those who hurt you.” “Be like the children.” “Feed my sheep.” “Take up your cross.” “The humble will be exalted.” “Blessed are the meek.” Who’s going to buy this misguided fellow’s hats? The rest of us want to boast, not bow. This guy doesn’t get it. He needs to get into another line of work. Would you wear a hat that says, “I come to serve”? 

Today’s readings:  Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25 (259).

MON, APR 15, 2019 Monday of Holy Week—Oil of gladness

In the Hebrew Bible, we read of kings, priests, and prophets being anointed by the pouring of oil on them. In the Catholic tradition, oils are used in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders, and Anointing of the Sick. We also use oil to bless altars and other objects. But why? Its purpose is to recognize the presence of the Holy in the person or thing anointed. To be anointed is to be set apart as special, cleansed, healed, and strengthened. Reflect on how you’ve been marked as belonging to God and called to share in the holy mission of Christ.


TUE, APR 16, 2019: Tuesday of Holy Week—Don’t fail to find God

One of the lessons of Holy Week is that God draws grace and goodness out of any situation—even one that to us looks like a complete failure. God uses all of what is—every person’s strength and weakness, every experience, encounter, accident, war or act of kindness, natural beauty or disaster—to make strength and weakness, every experience, encounter, accident, war or act of kindness, natural beauty or disaster—to make God’s love and sustaining presence in the world. The psalmist put it this way: “For darkness is as light” to God. The message ofHoly Week is one for the entire year. Make a habit of looking for the ways God redeems our “failures.” See how grace abounds.


WED, APR 17, 2019: Wednesday of Holy Week—Suffer the servant

Holy Week highlights the “Servant Songs” found in the Book of Isaiah. These are lyrical poems written about a servant whom God calls to leadership but the people abuse. The servant sacrifices himself for the sake of the people and is vindicated by God. The traditional Jewish interpretation is that the servant is a metaphor for the Israelites. Christians see the servant as a prefiguring of Jesus and the servant’s suffering foretelling the Passion of Christ. Perhaps both are true. In these sacred days let your heart be filled with reverence for the suffering servant.

Today’s readings: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25 (259).

THU, APR 18, 2019: HOLY THURSDAY; EVENING MASS OF THE LORD’S SUPPER—The Triduum enchilada

Tonight’s Mass of the Lord’s Supper begins with the Sign of the Cross. Take note of it because you won’t see another one for three days until the blessing and dismissal from the Easter Vigil. The reason for this is because the Triduum, the Three Days of Easter, is of one piece. It begins tonight and is carried through Good Friday and on to the Easter Vigil. So Catholics enjoy staying “in the zone” of celebration for the whole enchilada. Every thought, word, and action is wrapped in the awareness of the death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Triduum is moving and deeply enriching, so join in fully!


“Jf I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash another’s feet.”

FRI, APR 19, 2019: GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD’S PASSION DAY OF ABSTINENCE—It is finished—and it has just begun

We can look high and low but we will not find a Catholic Mass celebrated anywhere on this day. There is a Good Friday service, to be sure, but there is no Mass. However, we will gather in churches throughout the world to hear scripture tell of the trial, death, and burial of Jesus. We will pray the prescribed 10 prayers of intercession. We will walk in procession to venerate the cross. And, on this second of the three sacred days this week that are known as the Triduum, we will receive the Eucharist, consecrated at the Mass of the Last Supper the night before. On this day of prayer and remembrance, do one thing to imitate the love and compassion of Jesus.

Today’s readings:
“After this, Joseph of Arimathea . . . asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus.”

SAT, APR 20, 2019: HOLY SATURDAY; EASTER VIGIL—A vigil for the ages

The Easter Vigil Mass we celebrate today has not always been popular, having been an institution in the early centuries of the church, falling from practice in the Middle Ages, and then re-emerging around Vatican II. Today this “mother of all vigils” (as Saint Augustine called it) moves people through its intense symbolism of fire, light, dark, incense, and song. The Easter Vigil reminds us that faith isn’t just an idea; it is a full-body experience and way of life. Whether or not you attend the Easter Vigil, you can allow your faith to be a full-sensory experience, perceiving God in touch, song, aroma, and beauty.

Today’s readings:

“Roll away the stone . . . . You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.”

SUN, APR 21, 2019: SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (EASTER SUNDAY) Roll away the stone

Each year at this time we gather with friends in faith to pay a mystical visit to a cemetery in Jerusalem. We go up to an abandoned tomb and peer in. What do we see? Nothing. There’s no one buried here. In fact, the church gathers every year at this spot to affirm there’s nobody here. Isn’t this odd behavior to visit an empty grave? Yet it’s not the empty tomb that matters. It’s what happened just before this tomb became irrelevant that counts. We come here to pledge our allegiance to that. He is risen!

Today’s readings: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6-8; Victimae Paschali Laudes; John 20:1-9 “So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb.”


En la Biblia hebrea, leemos acerca de reyes, sacerdotes y profetas ungidos por el derramamiento de aceite sobre ellos. En la tradición cristiana, aceite se utilizan en los sacramentos del Bautismo, la Confirmación, las Ordenes de Holly, la Unión de los Enfermos. También usamos aceite para bendecir altares y otros objetos. ¿Pero por qué? Su propósito es reconocer la presencia del Santo en la persona o cosa ungida. Ser ungido es separarse como especial, limpio, sanado, fortalecido. Reflexione sobre cómo ha sido el mercado como perteneciente a Dios y llamado a compartir en la misión santa de Cristo.

Lecturas de hoy: Isaías 42: 1-7; Juan 12: 1-11 (257). “María tomó un litro de aceite perfumado costoso hecho de nardos aromáticos genuinos y ungó los pies de Jesús”.

Una de las lecciones de la Semana Santa es que Dios saca la gracia y la bondad de cualquier situación, incluso una que nos parece un completo fracaso. Dios usa todo lo que es: la fuerza y la tranquilidad de cada persona, cada experiencia, encuentro, accidente, guerra o acto de bondad, belleza natural o desastre, para hacer visible el amor de Dios y la presencia sostenida en el mundo. El salmista lo expresó de esta manera: “Porque la oscuridad es como luz” para Dios. Este mensaje de Semana Santa es uno para todo el año. Adquiera el hábito de buscar las maneras en que Dios redime nuestros “fracasos”. Vea cómo abunda la gracia y la bondad de cualquier situación, incluso una que nos asusta.


La Semana Santa destaca las “Canciones de siervos” que se encuentran en el libro de Isaías. Estos son poemas líricos escritos sobre un siervo a quien Dios llama al liderazgo, pero la gente abusa. El siervo se sacrifica por el bien de la gente y es vindi- cado por Dios. La interpretación judía tradicional es que el sirviente es una metáfora para los israelitas. Los cristianos ven al siervo como una prefiguración de Jesús y el sufrimiento del siervo que predice la Pasión de Cristo. Quizás ambos sean ciertos. En estos días sagrados, deja que tu corazón se llene de reverencia por el siervo sufriente.

Lecturas de hoy: Isaías 50: 4-9a; Mateo 26: 14-25 (259). “No me he rebelado, no me he vuelto atrás. Di mi espalda a quienes me golpearon ... Mi rostro no me cubrí ”.

La Misa de la Cena del Señor de esta noche comienza con la Señal de la Cruz. Toma nota de ello porque no verás otro por tres días hasta la bendición y el desmantelamiento de la Vigilia del Viernes Santo. La razón de esto es porque el Triduo, los Tres Días de Pascua, es de una sola pieza. Comienza a la noche y se lleva a cabo a través del Viernes Santo y hasta la Vigilia Pascual. Así que los católicos disfrutan quedándose “en la zona” de celebra- bración para toda la enhilada. Cada pensamiento, palabra y acción está envuelto en la conciencia de la muerte y la resurrec- ción de Jesucristo. El Triduo se está moviendo y es muy peculiar, ajeno, extraño, ¡sí que se divorcia! ¿Pero por qué? Su propósito es reconocer la presencia del Santo en la persona o cosa ungida. Ser ungido es separarse como especial, limpio, sanado, fortalecido. Reflexione sobre cómo ha sido el mercado como perteneciente a Dios y llamado a compartir en la misión santa de Cristo.


Podemos mirar alto y bajo, pero no encontraremos una misa católica celebrada en ningún lugar en este día. Hay un servicio de Viernes Santo sin duda, pero no hay misa. Sin embargo, nos reuniremos en Iglesias de todo el mundo para escuchar las Es- crituras que hablan sobre el juicio, la muerte y el entierro de Jesucristo. Rezaremos las 10 oraciones de intercesión prescritas. Caminaremos en procesión a poner útiles para “bendecir” la cruz. Y, en este segundo de los tres días sagrados de esta semana que se cono- cen como el Triduo, recibiremos la Eucaristía, consagrada en la misa de la última cena la noche anterior. En este día de oración y recuerdo, haga una cosa para imitar el amor y la compasión de Jesús.

Lecturas de hoy: Isaías 52: 13—53: 12; Hebreos 4: 14-16; 5: 7-9; Juan 18: 1—19: 42 (40). “Y después de esto, José de Arimatea ... le preguntó a Pilato si podía remover el cuerpo de Jesús”.

La Misa de la Vigilia Pascual que celebramos hoy no siempre ha sido popular, ya que fue una institución en los primeros siglos de la iglesia, cayó de la práctica en la Edad Media y luego reapar- reció alrededor del Vaticano II. Hoy en día, esta "madre de las misas" es de todas las misas que hablan sobre el juicio, la muerte y el entierro de Jesús. Rezaremos las 10 oraciones de intercesión prescritas. Caminaremos en procesión a poner útiles para “bendecir” la cruz. Y, en este segundo de los tres días sagrados de esta semana que se cono- cen como el Triduo, recibiremos la Eucaristía, consagrada en la misa de la última cena la noche anterior. En este día de oración y recuerdo, haga una cosa para imitar el amor y la compasión de Jesús.


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