

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
April, 2020

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Jesus enters Jerusalem, the capital of David's kingdom welcomed by an exuberant and enthusiastic crowd. Along the way he is hailed as Son of David; the prophet, from Nazareth; and the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Then, as the Gospel progresses and somewhat all of a sudden, the mood changes. The King has been degraded to the level of a common criminal. The victory confetti is replaced by whips, spitting, and choking dust. Cries of celebration have turned to calls for death; shouts of joy have given way to the sound of the lash; the parade has become an execution march.

Let us not be like the crowd: Fickle, inconsistent, swaying with the latest wind of popularity and fame, afraid to stand up for justice and truth. But as we journey this Holy Week, let us keep our eyes firmly fixed on Jesus. Let us take note of his patience, his total and unyielding dedication to doing the will of the Father fully and completely. Let us take up our cross and follow him, so that having shared in his cross, we might share in his resurrection.

Holy Thursday

The Lord gives instructions to Moses and Aaron as to how to prepare their households for his Passover. The night where he will go through Egypt, striking down every firstborn of the land, both man and beast, and executing judgment on all the gods of Egypt. Paul writes to the Corinthians of Jesus' giving of his body and blood as the new covenant, and of his command: Do this in remembrance of me. In the Gospel, Jesus washes his Apostle's feet and says, I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do.

But what do these ancient ritual actions and symbols mean to us here and now, in our daily lives in the 21st century?

Let us pray for continued growth in faith, hope, and love that we might be servant leaders in a world in need of salvation and hope.

Good Friday

Each Good Friday, the recitation of the passion is taken from the Gospel of John. It is a retelling of last hours of Jesus. His apostles fled and abandon him; an innocent man is betrayed for money by his friend; his own countrymen cursed, spat and ridiculed him; Jesus is unjustly, brutally, tortuously executed in an excruciating, humiliating, and public manner.

Let us look around us, at each other. If this were today someone sitting beside us – our brother, our son, our sister, our daughter, our parent, or any loved one who was not only innocent of any and all charges, but was perfect, most loving, sinless person ever – would we not be absolutely outraged? Would we not be heartbroken? Would we not be dedicating every moment of our life to making sure that happened to no one else, or at the very least – creating meaning from its occurrence?

The sky was darkened. The earth shook. The curtain of the Temple was torn. Time stopped. As Christians everywhere this day venerate the wood of the cross at home, we are mindful of the depth of God's love for us, even to the death of his Son on a cross. A death that gives birth to our salvation.

Easter Sunday

The women have gone to the tomb and witnessed extraordinary and frightening events – an earthquake; an angel appearing like lightning; the guards, shaken with fear who became like dead men; and the body of Jesus missing. The angel tells them, Do not be afraid! ... for Jesus has been raised just as he said. The angel then directs them to go quickly to tell Jesus' disciples. The women run off, both fearful and overjoyed.

We have all, perhaps, experienced similar feelings – we want to believe good news that we hear, but it's too good to be true! In a world full of problems, crises, suffering, and sorrow, we can be so used to hearing bad news that good news can be hard to believe. We can be like the women – hopeful, yet afraid to believe the good news.

But, whatever doubt Mary Magdalene and the other Mary had after encountering the angel, it is erased when they encounter Christ himself. He is not a ghost or a memory -- indeed, they touch his feet and hear his voice. They worship him, and are reassured by his words, Do not be afraid.

And how about us? The Resurrection is 2,000 years removed from our own experiences, yet we've had the advantage of the witness of the Apostles, Scripture, our teachers, parents, and other people whose influence in our lives helped us to believe in Jesus and his resurrection.

Now as people who have encountered Jesus, it's our own turn to be witnesses to the resurrection – witnesses of hope in a world in need of hope. Let us claim our legacy as Christians – the deep joy of the Resurrection and the call to pass on the word. Jesus is risen – **ALLELUIA!**

MASS INTENTIONS THROUGH APRIL

Fr. Carlos will remember these scheduled prayer intentions, as well as all parishioners when he celebrates his private Mass every day. If you have any special requests please send them in ASAP to stanthonybayoublack@htdiocese.org so that they can be added to Father's list.

Thu, 4/2 – Dale Lirette
Sat, 4/4 - Connie Ellender (DA)
Sat, 4/11 – Nelson Trahan (DA), Jerney Trahan (DA)
Sun, 4/12 – Paul & Anne Fournier, Donald Burnett
Tue, 4/14 - Dale Lirette
Sat, 4/18 - Paul Fournier, Wayne Riche', June Fischer, Ed Miller (B)
Wed, 4/22 – Dale Lirette
Sat, 4/25 – Annie Miller (B), Darwin LaFont
Sun, 4/26 – Donald Burnett
Thu, 4/30 – Dale Lirette

WEEKLY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Wed, 4/1 Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; John 8:31-42
Thu, 4/2 Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59
Fri, 4/3 Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42
Sat, 4/4 Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56
Sun, 4/5 **Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**– Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 26:14—27:66
Mon, 4/6 Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11
Tue, 4/7 Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38
Wed, 4/8 Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25
Thu, 4/9 **Holy Thursday** – Exodus 12:18, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15
Fri, 4/10 **Good Friday** – Isaiah 52:13—53:12; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1—19:42

Sat, 4/11 **Holy Saturday – The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night** – Genesis 1:1—2:2; Genesis 22:1-18; Exodus 14:15—15:1; Isaiah 51:5-14; Isaiah 55:1-11; Baruch 3:9-15, 21--4:4; Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Romans 6:3-11; Matthew 28:1-10

Sun, 4/12 **Easter Sunday – The Resurrection of the Lord** – Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

Mon, 4/13 Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33; Matthew 28:8-15

Tue, 4/14 Acts of the Apostles 2:36-41; John 20:11-18

Wed, 4/15 Acts of the Apostles 3:1-10; Luke 24:13-35

PARISHIONERS: Please email the office to update your mailing address, phone numbers, and email address. We are doing as much as we can to keep you informed! If you can get this information to us it will be a big help! It will help reduce cost if we can email you rather than have to mail letters out! Thank you!

Email:stanthonybayoublack@htdiocese.org

Website: www.stanthonybayoublack.org

Facebook: [St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church - Bayou Black](#)

Resources

- The Vatican News website: vaticannews.va/en.html
- The Vatican News Facebook Page: facebook.com/vaticannews
- The Vatican News Youtube Channel: youtube.com/c/vaticannews

Sunday Mass

Join Bishop Fabre for Sunday Mass on our [Diocesan Facebook Page](#) and our [Diocesan Youtube Channel](#) at 9:00AM every Sunday.

Diocesan Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/htdiocese/

You Tube Channel: www.youtube.com/c/htdioceseLA

Diocesan Website: www.htdiocese.org/coronavirus

HTV 10: on television or www.htv10.tv/Livestream

EWTN

These Masses will also air on HTV 10 in Houma on Sundays at 9:00AM.

These Masses will also air on KWBJ22 in Morgan City on Sundays at 8:00AM.

Weekday Mass

There are several priests throughout our diocese who are currently livestreaming daily Masses on their Facebook Pages. Visit our diocesan website for more information: htdiocese.org/coronavirus-masses

STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY.
WASH YOUR HANDS AND PRACTICE
SOCIAL DISTANCING.

SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA...
PRAY FOR US

THE ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Written by St. Alphonsus de Liguori

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

A PRAYER DURING THIS TIME OF NEED

**Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas,
We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.**

**Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones,
the protection of your holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness.**

**For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust.**

**In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind.
Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.**

**We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,
health of the sick and cause of our joy.**

**Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms,
help us always to know the love of you Son, Jesus. Amen**

Written by Archbishop Jose' H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

PSALM 23

The Lord, Shepherd and Host

A psalm of David

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I lack.

In green pastures you let me graze;
to safe waters you lead me;
you restore my strength.

You guide me along the right path
for the sake of your name,

Even when I walk through a dark valley,
I fear no harm for you are at my side;
your rod and staff give me courage.

You set a table before me as my enemies watch;
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Only goodness and love will pursue me all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come.