

PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 28, 2021

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for April 4th Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43

Take part in Veneration, Way of the Cross, repent of sins.
Prepare for the joy of being raised up with Christ, to be his witness.

Colossians 3:1-4

How are you setting your heart on heaven?
Come to Holy Thursday Eucharist to receive “new leaven.”

John 20:1-9

Imagine yourself as Magdalene at the tomb; what do you feel?
Imagine yourself as Peter and John; do you believe he is risen?

HOLY WEEK MASSES March 30 – April 2

Tues: **NO MASS TODAY – FR. IS ATTENDING THE CHRISM MASS IN FARGO**

Wed: 8:40 am **School Mass** +Mac & Jerry Machacek & +Philip & Agnes Waslaski

Holy Thursday 7:00 pm +Msgr. Val Gross

Reader: Kitty Bachman

Lay Ministers: Dennis & Carla Horpestad & Holly Lyons

Musicians: Bob & Choir

Good Friday 3:00 pm

Reader: Darlene Brooks, Dennis Horpestad & Holly Lyons

Lay Ministers: Bill Brooks, Dennis & Carla Horpestad

Musicians: Bob & Choir

Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil 8:30 pm +Lea Waltz

Reader: Dennis Horpestad & 3 Volunteers Needed

Lay Ministers: Dennis & Carla Horpestad & 1 Volunteer Needed

Musicians: Bob & Choir

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES April 4

8:30 am St. Alphonsus In Honor of Linda & Daryl Kempel

Reader: Darlene Brooks

Lay Ministers: Bill Brooks

Musicians: Bob & Choir

St. Michael's - Wales NO MASS AT WALES TODAY

10:30 am St. Alphonsus +Mauris & Pearl Chaput

Reader: Zach Schaefer

Lay Ministers: Dennis Schill

Musicians: Bob & Choir

Fellowship Hall Hosts: Duane & Bev Otto

Sacrament of Reconciliation – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday's after Mass or by appointment

Weekly Reflection for March 21, 2020: This week's reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$2,499.00
Intentional Givers	\$470.00
Plate	\$415.00
Children's	\$35.00
TOTAL	\$3,419.00

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

The accounts of the passion of Jesus in all four Gospels tell the same story but with subtle differences. The differences in Mark's account are perhaps less noticeable in comparison with the accounts in the other Gospels than in comparison with the rest of his own Gospel. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus is a man of action. He is on the move, teaching and preaching, healing and feeding the multitudes. But once Judas has handed Jesus over, once he has betrayed him, the man of action disappears and we are faced with someone who is on the receiving end of others' words and actions, most of which are hostile and violent.

In Mark, Jesus only speaks three times after his betrayal. The first two occasions are to state the truth of his identity in the face of questions from the high priests and then Pontius Pilate. Finally there are the words on the cross: "My God, my God, why have you deserted me?" Was Jesus quoting a psalm or was he expressing the utter extremity of his experience of abandonment? We need to remember that Mark was writing for an audience that was experiencing its own torture and persecution. Was he trying to reassure them that Jesus himself had passed this way before them, letting go of everything that might have seemed to alleviate his distress? What do we learn for our benefit today?

Taken from The Living Word

Palm Sunday

"Pilate again said to them, 'Then what shall I do with the man whom you call the King of the Jews?' And they cried out again, 'Crucify him.'" – MARK 15:12-13

Jesus told us "whatever you do for the least of my brothers, you do for me." Every day we are presented opportunities to help someone. Every day we have the opportunity to see the face of Jesus in others and be the face of Jesus to others. Every day we pass by someone in need. Pray for the strength and courage to be the answer to someone's prayer.

CD of the Week: Eucharistic Vision: A Challenge of Faith – Dr. John Sehorn - In a recent Pew survey, two-thirds of Catholics reported that they did not know or believe in the Church's teaching on the Eucharist. Diving into the writings of early doctors and fathers of the Church, and drawing upon his own experience as a scholar of history, practicing Catholic, and former Protestant, Dr. John Sehorn addresses the "mind-boggling" and difficult truth of Jesus' presence in the Blessed Sacrament. It is a truth that confronts us, challenges us, and is one of the greatest gifts that we will ever receive.

Lighthouse CDs, Books, and DVDs make great Easter gifts!

Lenten Book and CD Sale: We are running a promotion on our Books and CD's that we have for sale in the kiosks in the gathering space and in the north (circle) entrance. Our normal price of the books is \$5. Books this Lent are for sale 3 for \$10. CD's usually sell for \$4 each or 3 for \$10. That are now on sale for 5 for \$10. We have some great titles in both books and CD's.

ROCKS - It's that time again. Please drop off rocks either behind the rectory or on the property west of the church with the empty green house. I'll find a place for them. If you want me to come out to your farm and clear off some rock piles (not boulders!, but 10-75 lbs), just give me directions and I'll be there.

SEARCH - Do you need a "retreat" from the world around you? Experience God in a personal and real way. SEARCH for Christian Maturity has a retreat coming up, April 16-18 at Maryvale Convent in Valley City, ND. Youth and young adults, 16 and older are invited to attend. Details and application at <https://fargodiocese.net/search-info> or call Dori at 952-210-2219. Applications due this Monday, March 29th.

"Search is a great place to meet some amazing people! It was able to help me find really great friends and also deepen my relationship with the Lord. There are a lot of things in my life that wouldn't have happened if it wasn't for such a fantastic, faith filled weekend!" -Miah Monson (SEARCH participant)

A Big Thanks to everyone who made purchases at the **Catholic Daughter close out sale**, you have helped us to reduce our inventory. We will not have items in the entry of the church any longer, but the remainder of what we have left is in one gift case in the **Fellowship Hall and still is half price**. If you are interested in making a purchase call **Bev Otto 256-2646 or Margaret Chaput 256-2901**.

Fellowship Hall Cleaning for April - 3 - Sheila Beauchamp, Dawn Christianson & Patty Howatt; 10 - Whitney Bachman & Jessica Pengilly; 17 - Sarah Pritchard & Rachel Schaefer; 24 - Kathy Borgen & Patty Fetsch

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Our Sympathy to the family of Danny Roy and Brayden Schwartz who were called home last week. May they rest in the love of the Father.

Altar Society meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 13 at 6:00pm in the fellowship hall.

WEEK OF WEEKS On Palm Sunday, the Church's Sacred Liturgy solemnly opens Holy Week. As Christians, we enter the most sacred time of the year. Together with the Church throughout the whole world, we remember the last week of Jesus' earthly life. The Lenten season of self-denial gives way to focusing on the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is sorrowful and it victorious.

The Church began celebrating this Great Week in the 4th century. Our earliest accounts come from Egeria, a Christian woman who visited the Holy Land from 381-385. She wrote about Christian customs and observances in Egypt, Palestine, and Asia Minor. She described how pilgrims to Jerusalem reenacted the events of Holy Week. On Palm Sunday afternoon, the crowds waved palm fronds as they made a procession from the Mount of Olives into the city.

Pilgrims took the customs home with them. Holy week observances spread to Spain by the fifth century, to France and England by the early seventh century. Actually, they didn't spread to Rome until the twelfth century.

The purpose of Holy Week is to reenact and participate in the passion of Jesus Christ.

In the Diocese of Fargo, we celebrate the Chrism Mass on Tuesday. Priests from all over the Diocese gather with the Bishop at the Cathedral. They renew their sacred promises and take home the freshly blessed Holy Oils to be used throughout the year.

The epicenter of the whole Liturgical Year, the Easter Triduum, begins Thursday evening when we reenact the Lord's Last Supper, commemorating the institution of the Eucharist, the Priesthood, and that spirit of Charity (washing of the feet) at the heart of what it means to be Christian.

On Good Friday, the day of Jesus' crucifixion and death, we venerate of the Cross. We go forward and kiss the Cross in order to honor Christ's sacrifice for our sake. There is no Mass this day. Holy Communion is distributed from the night before.

Holy Saturday is a vigil. We keep watch for Our Savior. From the Cross, Jesus went down into the netherworld. He entered death itself. On this night, persons who have spent months of preparation are received through Baptism and Confirmation into the Catholic Church for the first time.

These High Holy Days are an invite from our Father in Heaven to immerse ourselves in the fundamental mystery of what it is to be Christian. It is the Church's gift to us to help us rediscover through the Paschal Mystery that Christ Jesus is the meaning and purpose of our lives.

NOVENA TO DIVINE MERCY Our Good Friday liturgy begins at 3:00pm. Before the start of that service we will begin the Divine Mercy Novena. Pamphlets will be available. We will also pray the Chaplet Saturday, 3 pm. Stay tuned. In next week's bulletin we will have further instructions for when we'll pray the Chaplet throughout Easter Week in preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday, the Octave of Easter.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION every year goes to help Christians in the Holy Land. Pope Francis asks each parish to help in this support. Through the Good Friday collection, we stand in solidarity with the Church as a witness of peace in the place Jesus called home. This collection helps Catholic parishes, schools and shrines in the Holy Land; the funds also assist the refugees in this troubled part of the world.

GOD'S GIFT APPEAL - *Steadfast in Faith, Joyful in Hope.*

The God's Gift Appeal funds more than 40 different ministries throughout the diocese. This appeal is an opportunity for each Catholic household to help further the mission of the Church. One of the important ministries helped by God's Gift Appeal is seminary formation. Our own Seth Skjervheim would be one of those beneficiaries.

Please keep our appeal and all the people it helps in your prayers. Thank you.

FOOD PANTRY - FOR the next few weeks, until Easter, we'll have a bushel basket in the vestibule of the church by the St. Alphonsus statue for depositing food stuffs that will be periodically transported to the Cavalier County Emergency Food Pantry. Thanks in advance for your contributions.