

April 14th, 2019

Palm Sunday

hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom
of our ancestor David!

hosanna in the highest heaven!

St. Mary, Mother of God Church

From the Pastor's Desk



Our liturgy this Sunday is a little bit longer than usual as we celebrate the Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion because of the two significant events in the life of Jesus: His triumphant entry into Jerusalem and His passion and death on the cross at Mount Calvary.

The first part of the celebration begins with the Blessing of Palms and the Commemoration of Our Lord's Entry to Jerusalem where we recall how Jesus was received as He entered into the city of Jerusalem while riding on a donkey. The crowds spread their cloaks on the road, waved palm branches, and shouted *"Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord."* In the Jewish world, donkey is a symbol of peace. By riding on a donkey, Jesus was bringing forth a message of peace that comes from God to His people. The custom of laying down cloaks on the ground and waving palm branches is a gesture of welcome for a dignitary or a king, especially if he arrives in victory or triumph. The people thus recognized the kingship of Jesus that He was the promised Messiah who would save them from their afflictions.

However, not long after, the same people who had welcomed Him and acclaimed Him demanded that He be crucified. That is what is in the second part of the liturgy as we follow the narrative of the Passion of the Lord in the gospel account according to St. Luke

(Luke 22:14-23:56)

What is portrayed in this passion narrative of Our Lord is the sudden change in the mood of the celebration – from a glorious and joyful acclamation – to rejection and betrayal. Jesus started by having a Passover meal with His disciples before He suffered. Then He shared with them everything He would go through. The pain of being betrayed by Judas, whom he considered as a friend; the denial of Peter; the sudden shift of people from recognition to rejection and condemnation; the scribes and council of elders instigation; Pilate's cowardice in rendering the right judgment; His walking the way of the cross, leading up to His crucifixion.

It was certainly not easy for Jesus as He prayed when He was at the garden of Getsemane. *"Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me; but still not my will but yours be done."* Prior to this, He also said to His disciples, "pray that you may not undergo the test." This prayer shows the humanity of Jesus and care to His disciples. But in the end, He remained true to His promise to His Father – to give His life as a ransom for many.

Many of us can identify with people who believe in Jesus, but sometimes we get swayed by the allurements of this world. Many of us would worship the Lord but then would succumb to the temptations around us. We profess our faith in Him, but later reject Him when things are no longer favorable to us.

As we enter the Holy Week, let us have the image of Jesus in us who suffered and died, not of His own fault, but because of us. Let us see His immense love for us and let us thank Him for doing this for us. May we be converted and remain strong in professing our faith, not only in good times but also in bad times.



FORMED PICK



Three Days That Changed the World

By Fr. Hector R.G. Perez

Enter into the Triduum

Go alongside Jesus in the final hours of his public ministry as he brings to fulfillment the very purpose of his Incarnation; the salvation of all mankind. Insights into those last three days offer a moving look into the loving heart of Christ.

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Lenten Penance Service at Concordia Nursing Home



**COME
ONE AND ALL!
WALK THE WAY
OF THE CROSS**

GOOD FRIDAY – April 19th, 2019
10:00 A.M. – Meet at St. Mary's of Freeport
End at Trinity Lutheran Church

PLEASE JOIN US – youth, adults, veterans, families, golden agers – for this dramatic journey retracing the events that led up to Jesus' crucifixion on Mount Calvary – as we lead the community in prayer together throughout the streets of Freeport.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Sponsored by the Freeport Ministerium of Churches

If the weather is inclement, Stations will be held at St. Mary, Mother of God Church



Easter Flower's
Easter Flower Offering Envelopes - Remember your loved ones this Easter by making a donation for flowers and decorations for the sanctuary during the Easter season. Envelopes were included in your March monthly packet. **Deadline to submit your envelopes is 12:00 Noon on Monday, April 15th.**

St. Mary, Mother of God

608 High Street - Freeport



Good Friday
April 19th, 2019



Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place called Calvary.
A non-denominational evening service of Tenebrae will begin at 8:30 P.M. The evening's service will dramatically reflect in meditation and song on the readings from the passion of Jesus Christ, leading into the darkness of the Crucifixion.

Portions of the Tenebrae Service will have live portrayals and enactments to reflect the readings.

Service is open to the entire community!



"A Community Time of Reflection"

ATTENTION ALL ALTAR SERVERS

Practice

Palm Sunday, practice will be between the 8:30 and 11:00 A.M. mass for the Holy Thursday 7:00 P.M. mass On Good Friday, there will be practice at 12:00 Noon for the 1:30 P.M. Service and Tenebrae at 8:30 P.M. On Holy Saturday, there will be practice at 10:00 A.M. for the Easter Vigil at 9:00 P.M.



The Divine Mercy Novena begins on Good Friday. It is a nine day prayer (Novena), in preparation for the Divine Mercy Feast Day, celebrated on the Sunday after Easter (April 28th). This Novena and chaplet may be prayed in church or at home. Pamphlets will be available at each entrance of the church. What better way to celebrate the Easter Season than spending fifteen minutes each day asking Our Lord for mercy for ourselves and the entire world.



Holy Land Collection - On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual collection for the Holy Land. We ask you to please be generous. Your financial contribution will support the services and facilities of the Church in the Holy Land.



Those who ordered popcorn from the Teen Ministry may pick it up after today's mass!

Holy Week Schedule

Below is our schedule for HOLY WEEK:

Holy Monday - Regional Penance Service here at 7:00 P.M.

Holy Wednesday – Mass will be at 7:00 P.M.

Holy Thursday – CHRISM MASS – Blessed Sacrament Cathedral (Greensburg) at 10:00 A.M.

Mass of the Lord's Supper with the Washing of the Feet at 7:00 P.M.

Adoration until 11:30 P.M.—Night Prayer at 11:30 P.M.

Good Friday – Altar Server Practice for Good Friday at 12:00 Noon

Liturgy of the Word/Veneration of the Cross/Communion Service at 1:30 P.M.

Tenebrae at 8:30 P.M.

Holy Saturday – Altar Server Practice for the Easter Vigil at 10:00 A.M.

Blessing of the Easter Food Baskets at 12:00 Noon

Easter Egg Hunt at St. Mary Cemetery (weather permitting) at 1:00 P.M.

Easter Vigil - 9:00 P.M.

Easter Sunday - Mass at 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.



The Teen Ministry will host the annual Easter Egg Hunt for children Pre-K through 3rd grade. The Easter Egg Hunt will be located at the cemetery, weather permitting.

St. Mary's Teen Ministry Annual Easter Egg Hunt



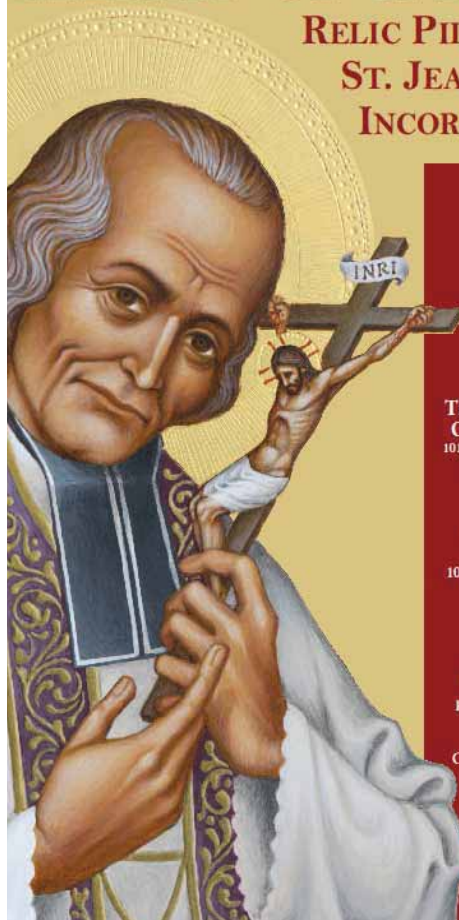
SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH, 1PM

Vacation
BIBLE
Camp

Before you know it, summer will be here and "hopefully" so will Vacation Bible Camp. We have scheduled VBC for July 15th thru July 19th—Monday thru Friday from 5:30pm to 8:00 P.M. Helen James has been active in Bible Camp every year since it began and will continue to do so, but is unable to run it alone. There has always been a co-chairperson to do the introductions in the beginning as well as telling the daily theme story. Laura Huth did it last year and is unable to help this year. In order to have VBC this year, there has to be a chairperson. It is only for one week and Helen will be available to guide you thru the whole process. We need someone to step forward and help or we will have to cancel Vacation Bible Camp. If you are able to help out, please call Helen at 724-272-1171. Thank you!

HEART OF A PRIEST

RELIC PILGRIMAGE OF
ST. JEAN VIANNEY'S
INCORRUPT HEART



THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG
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1011 Mt. Pleasant Road, Greensburg, PA 15601

Wednesday, April 17

Opening Mass — 9:00 AM
Bishop Edward C. Malesic, JCL.

Confessions —
10:00 AM — 12 Noon & 1:00 — 7:00 PM

Rosary — 11:00 AM

Mid-Day Prayer — 12 Noon

Way of the Cross — 2:00 PM

Divine Mercy Chaplet — 3:00 PM

Holy Hour for Vocations — 5:30 PM

Solemn Vespers — 7:30 PM

Closing Prayer & Blessing — 8:30 PM
Bishop Edward C. Malesic, JCL.



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Attention Young Men 18 Years of Age and older—If you would like information on how to become a member of the Knights of Columbus, cards with the name of the contact and phone number are available at all of the church entrances. If you would like additional information about the organization, please contact Gary J. Miller at 724-472-7735 or Dick Bertino at 724-602-5986.

✝ Mens Group

All men of the Parish are encouraged to become a member of the St. Mary, Mother of God Men's Group. If you have any questions, please email Tim Fogarty at: tfogarty618@gmail.com or call him at 724-294-0089. Forms are located at the church entrances. Completed forms may be placed in the collection basket; mailed in; dropped off at the Administration Office.

**Pancake & Sausage
Breakfast**

Sunday, April 14th,
9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
Council home located at 28 Garfield Street, Natrona. Cost is \$6.00/adults; \$3.00/children under 6. Take your family and friends!

Spring Card Party



Monday, April 29th

6:30 - 10:00 P.M.

Fellowship Hall

608 High Street—Freeport



\$10.00/person



Salad Bar



50/50 Raffle



Door/Table Prizes



Information/Tickets - Contact

Carol Carson

724-316-1204

Salad Bar



MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 18th, 19th, 20TH & 21ST, 2019

<i>Altar Servers</i>	<i>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</i>	<i>Lector</i>	<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Organist</i>	<i>Cantor</i>
Holy Thursday - 7:00 P.M.					
All Servers	TBA	TBA	All Greeters	Dave Wesolosky	Choir
Good Friday - 1:30 P.M.					
All Servers	TBA	TBA	All Greeters	Dave Wesolosky	Choir
Easter Vigil - 9:00 P.M.					
All Servers	TBA	TBA	All Greeters	Dave Wesolosky	Choir
Easter Sunday—8:30 A.M.					
All Servers	TBA	TBA	All Greeters	Sue Myford	Alex Smith Stephanie Bragiel
Easter Sunday—11:00 A.M.					
All Servers	TBA	TBA	All Greeters	Dave Wesolosky	Choir

Mass Intentions


MASSES FOR THE PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	April 13th St. Mary Parishioners	
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	April 14th ✦ Rinaldo Policicchio (The Policicchio's) ✦ Charles Huth (Ellen Huth & Family)	
MONDAY: 8:00 A.M.	April 15th ✦ Margaret Seiner (Doug & Grace Seitam)	
TUESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	April 16th ✦ Dorothy Mollica (David & Janis Harbison)	
WEDNESDAY: 7:00 P.M.	April 17th IHO Fr. John Euker (Jeff & Gina Jones)	
THURSDAY: NO MORNING MASS 7:00 P.M.	April 18th—Holy Thursday Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper (Adoration until 11:30 P.M.)	
FRIDAY: NO MORNING MASS 1:30 P.M. 8:30 P.M.	April 19th—Good Friday The Lord's Passion Tenebrae	


MASSES FOR EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

SATURDAY: 9:00 P.M.	April 20th—Easter Vigil St. Mary Parishioners	
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	April 21st St. Mary Parishioners St. Mary Parishioners	





The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in loving memory of **WILLIAM JANSEN** By *Wife, Children, Grandchildren*



In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of **JOHN BONO** By *Lola Bono*




Collections

Due to the early deadline for the submission of the April 14th bulletin, the weekly contribution report for April 7th was not available. It will be published in next Sunday's bulletin. Thank you!



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Saturday, April 20th, 2019
Debbie Baustert and Susan Zingaro

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