

MARCH 28, 2021 | PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

312 Tazewell Avenue, Tazewell, VA 24651

(276) 988-4626 | email: theword1875@verizon.net | facebook: search Holy Family SWVA

ST. THERESA'S
312 Tazewell Ave.
Tazewell, VA 24651

ST. ELIZABETH'S
160 Merrick Lane
Pocahontas, VA 24635

ST. MARY'S
1122 Farmer Street
Richlands, VA 24641

ST. JOSEPH'S
1007 Independence Rd.
Grundy, VA 24614

Reliving the Power of the Passion

AS A CHILD, one of the scariest places I dreaded to go with my mom when I became ill was the hospital. The phobia was not because of the smell of different kinds of medications nor the morgue which most children fear, but the injections which the nurses administered with long needles that go right into the buttocks to deposit the curative liquids. During those times, my mom would encourage me to go with her to the hospital and assure me that there might be no injection (but there would always be) and if there happened to be any, it wouldn't hurt (but they always hurt).

In my little mind, I thought she was heartless and wicked for allowing me to go through such pains. But I was wrong; she was showing her love and care for me because the pain of the injections would bring the gain of good health. Maybe if she spared the pain of the needles, I could have died from some complications; may God bless my mom.

Today, we celebrate the triumphant entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem. The purpose of the entrance was for our Lord to suffer the mockery of the devil, the brutality of men and even the abandonment of His heavenly Father. St. Paul would tell us that God did not spare His son but offered Him up for us all (Romans 8:32). Our Lord Jesus Christ confirmed this on the cross when He exclaimed, "My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?" (Matt. 27:46).

The triumphant entry into Jerusalem is an ironical narrative with a depth of meanings. Why did our Lord Jesus make that entry a carnival-like parade? Why did He need a donkey and a colt (urgently) at the same time? Why all the "noise" about the Son of David and why the *Hosanna*?

Our Lord's entry into Jerusalem today was not the first time, but it was at a special time and of a different kind: triumphant. Like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego joyfully marched into the heart of fire, our Lord joyfully entered the city at the hour close to His suffering and death. He entered triumphantly to disclose the joyful and triumphant end of His journey; he was celebrating the end from the beginning as God knows the end from the beginning (Isaiah 46:10).

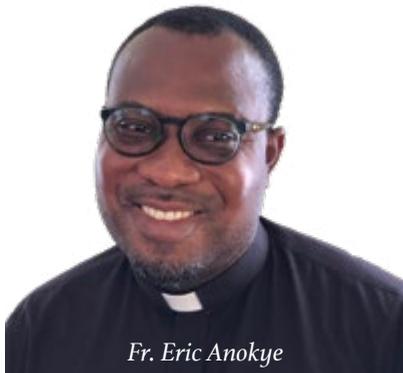
Jesus Christ, our Lord, was looking at the value and purpose of the journey which would be the triumph over sin and death (1 Cor. 15:53-55;

Col.2:15). In life, we often face various kinds of challenging situations and most times we cry and break our heads over what is prevailing in our lives, and we fail to look beyond the present to see what lies ahead of us. The situations we face in our lives should not define us. The passion and death could not define our Lord Jesus Christ because there would be a rising from the dead.

The donkey and the colt represent our sinful souls tied to the tree of sin which reminds us of the tree at the middle of the garden in the book of Genesis where the first sin of disobedience was committed (Gen.3:3). The donkey and colt represent all of us—Adam and Eve, male and female, old and young. We have all sinned, and our Lord is going to suffer and die for us, and it is fitting that we should go with Him triumphantly into the Jerusalem to celebrate our freedom in advance.

Hosanna is an Aramaic word which could translate as praise or adoration. It is, however, not addressed to just anyone but to someone who could deliver or save. That is why they had to link it to "Son of David" which means messiah and messiah means savior. That was why the blind Bartimaeus could cry and say, "Son of David have mercy on me" (Mark 10:48). In other words, he said, "Savior, have mercy on me."

Today, the door of Holy Week is open for us to march with the Lord

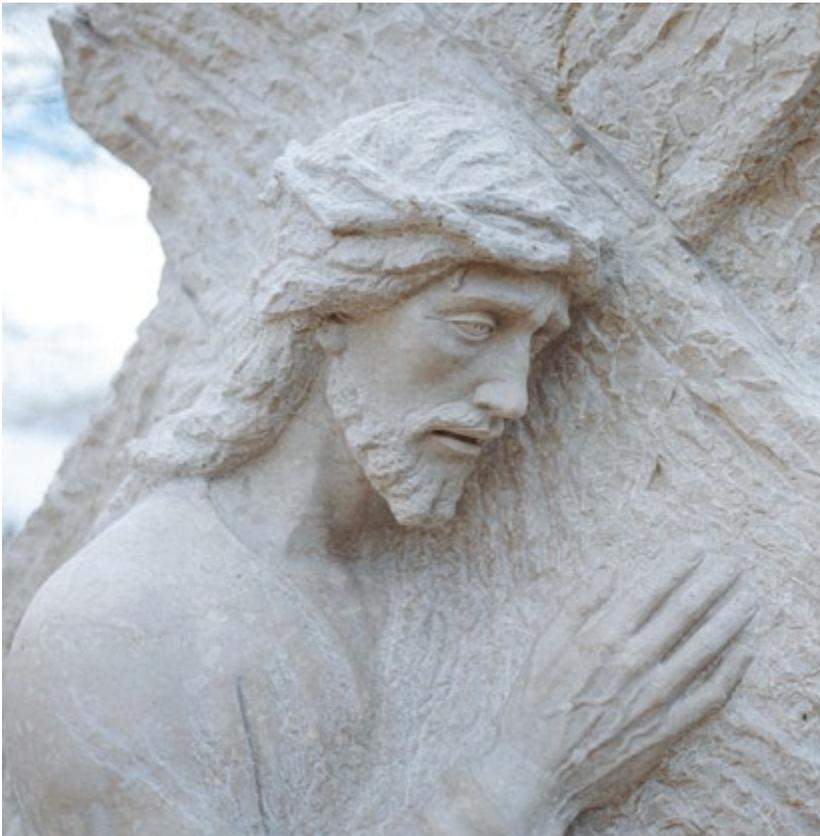


Fr. Eric Anokye

to His suffering and death as we look forward to the resurrection. I don't know what your disposition has been since the beginning of Lent. Would you say, "Yes, it has been a great experience for me," or would you have regrets?

These few days could make a significant change in your life. The week will become as holy as you make it be. Have a great Palm Sunday and a rewarding Holy Week.

*“The situations we
face in our lives should
not define us.”*



PASTOR

Fr. Eric Anokye
eanokye@richmonddiocese.org
(276) 385-7312

OFFICE MANAGER/ BOOKKEEPER

Lydia St. Peter

OFFICE HOURS

Mon–Fri 9:30AM – 2:30PM

Please call the parish office to make arrangements for the **Sacraments of Baptism, Anointing of the Sick or Holy Matrimony** as well as funerals. **Reconciliation** is available from 30 minutes before a scheduled Mass.

MASS TIMES

SATURDAY

4PM – St. Joseph's

6PM – St. Mary's

SUNDAY

9AM – St. Elizabeth's

11:30AM – St. Theresa's

MON | WED | FRI

10AM – St. Theresa's

Cover image:

James Tissot, *The Procession in the Streets of Jerusalem*, 1886–94

From the Fullness of the Heart the Mouth Speaks

CHARLETTE MILLS, *Catholic Stand*



What are the thoughts and words that fill your heart? What are the words that circle around in your brain at night when you cannot sleep? What are the thoughts that come to light as soon as you wake up?

THE POWER OF WORDS

From the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks.... On the day of judgment people will render an account for every careless word they speak. By your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned (Matthew 12:34, 36-37).

Sticks and stones can break my bones, but words will never hurt me! We may have been taught to say that when we were little, but even then we didn't really believe it. We knew that words not only could hurt but did — very much!

But words can also soothe and comfort. Words can cheer us up and help us to keep going when we are ready to give up. Words are very powerful, in speech and in print. We know these things, but too often we do not remember until it is too late.

Our modern culture is full of words. Information overload is one term for it. Noise is another. Chatter. Background sound. Whether printed, scrolled, or broadcast words are always around us and very few of them seem

to be controlled. Everybody seems to have an opinion and is encouraged to express it, loudly and often, and damn the consequences.

RELIGION DOESN'T SELL

From the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks. A good person brings forth good out of a store of goodness, but an evil person brings out evil out of a store of evil (Matthew 12:34-35).

You and I, dear reader, are a very valuable commodity. Rather, our 'data' is valuable. It is sold, stolen, traded, and forged. In one-year personal data made a net profit of \$100 billion for the top 5 tech companies. Consumers as the real product being sold is nothing new, the way we are bought and sold has changed.

What is the message being broadcast 24-hours a day? Is it uplifting? Does it give us hope and guidance on how to live the way we were meant by God? Or are we bombarded with words of anger, fear, insecurity, and doubt? Are we encouraged to speak of peace or to gossip about scandals — personal or political? Is anyone telling us to give away all we own to the poor and follow Jesus? Of course not. That is a very small niche market and not worth much. Religion doesn't sell.

There are subjects about which I try to 'reserve judgment.' This is because I lack knowledge and experience of the persons and the situation. That being so, I may not legitimately express an opinion. I only know hearsay — from emails or what I may have read in the papers or heard from a neighbour or on the news or another infotainment programme. More often than not the subject is simply none of my business. But gossip and judgment is encouraged. You don't need to know anything. If you contradict yourself from one day to the next it doesn't matter as long as you keep talking. The last thing, the worst thing is silence. This is because it is in moments of silence we are able to hear the quiet voice of God.

There is a world of difference between stating a personal opinion and proclaiming God's Truth.

WITNESS TO JESUS – BY THEIR FRUITS, YOU SHALL KNOW THEM

With (our mouth) we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. This need not be so, my brothers. Does a spring gush forth from the same opening both pure and brackish water?... the wisdom from above is first of all pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits, without inconstancy or insincerity (James 3:9-11, 17).

To evangelise by our lives includes the things we say, what we talk about and how we talk or write about them. We must learn to put ourselves and our opinions away and instead remember our purpose is not to show others how great we are, but how great God is and to show them how to follow the Way. We are meant to display to others how a good Christian lives and to reveal by our words and our actions the love of God and the person of Jesus Christ.

FURTHER ADVICE ON CONVERSATION

If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, his religion is in vain. James 1:26

St Francis de Sales writes much about speech, judgment, motives, and effects in *Introduction to the Devout Life*. Especially in the Third Part, Chapters 26 through 30.

To speak little is recommended by the ancient sages. It does not mean that we speak a few words only, but that we are not to say many useless words. In speaking we are not concerned about quantity but quality. It seems to me that we should avoid two extremes. To be too reserved and rigid, refusing to contribute to familiar talk in conversations, seems to show either lack of confidence or some kind

of contempt. To chatter and cajole always, without giving leisure or opportunity for others to speak as they would like to, is a sign of shallowness and light-mindedness. (cf IDL Chapter 30)

IN THE BEGINNING, WAS THE WORD

Know this ... everyone should be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath, for the wrath of a man does not accomplish the righteousness of God. (James 1:19-20)

We must always remember to use our words wisely. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit will give you the words to say if you fill your heart with God's words. A very pleasant and easy way to fill your mind and heart with the Word of God is to say the Morning and Evening Prayers of the Church. It only takes about 10 minutes if you must hurry. After a short while, perhaps a few days or a few weeks, you will find you no longer want to rush through the psalms. A little after that you will find that the words in your mind are the words of God rather than the words of the media. Through this, He will guide your actions as well as your speech. From this, you will find you are following His Way and speaking the Truth.

Do not use harmful words in talking. Use only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you. And do not make God's Holy Spirit sad; for the Spirit is God's mark of ownership on you, a guarantee that the Day will come when God will set you free. Get rid of all bitterness, passion, and anger. No more shouting or insults. No more hateful feelings of any sort. Instead, be kind and tender-hearted to one another, and forgive one another, as God has forgiven you in Christ. Eph 4:29-32

From the fullness of the heart, the mouth speaks.

mass intentions

Date	Intention
3/27 SATURDAY	
4PM	St. Joseph students
6PM	St. Mary's parishioners
3/28 SUNDAY	
9AM	Charles R. Lavender, Jr. †
11:30AM	Patrick McDonagh †

council members

PARISH COUNCIL:

Tonya Hylton, Frannie Minton, Ralph Shawver, Cindy Deskins, Barbara Jones, Donna Lambert

FINANCE COUNCIL:

Kathy & Bob Buchanan, Randy Bolling, Doug Vance, Anne Danko, Jim Talbert, Jackie Shawver, Janet McDonagh

please pray for

Louise Serreno*	Lillian Lewis
Margie Stutso *	Rick Hall
Margaret Shawver	Lucas Boyd
Billy Akers	Doug Tabor
Scotty McBride	Ralph Heldreth
Gerry Hankins	Elizabeth Managan
Clarence Moore	Chris Jessie
Lexi Cox	Leo Brown
Sarah Wall	May Anne Rynne
Paris Whisher	Carolina Ferrare
Tammy Bennett	Junior Aiken
Margaret Wasilewski	Mary Spencer
Nic Ulate	Shirley Hylton
Elizabeth Gregory	Anne St. Peter
Frannie Minton	Rayburn Minton
Sue Bailey	Jeanne Hash
Christian Lambert	Philip & Pat Imel
Shane Neal	Lara Marshall
Tiffany Hladek	Virginia Shumate
Tom & Sandra Bost	Jim Shumate
Archbishop John Kwofie	Doug Vance
Carolyn Wade	Andrew Satmary
Stacy Hall	Frank Mauceri
Pete Belcher	Lori Hale
Willie Hylton	Dee Gentile
Bryan Gunter	Glenn Harrison
Michael Beavers	

Donations Received as of March 21 (Week 38)		
CHURCH	ATTENDANCE	RECEIVED
St. Joseph's	9	\$210
St. Elizabeth's	20	\$795
St. Mary's	10	\$980
St. Theresa's	40	\$1,507
Total Offertory	79	\$3,492
Outside Donations		\$2,046
Year to Date Received		\$89,986
Goal		\$84,038
Ahead/Behind Goal		+\$5,948

stewardship of treasure

OUTSIDE DONATIONS—THANK YOU!

St. Michael's, Glen Allen, VA: \$1,847
 Private Donor: \$150
 Mineral, VA donor: \$50

BUILDING FUND

St. Joseph's: \$2,055 (includes \$2k anonymous donation!)
 St. Elizabeth's: \$600
 St. Theresa's: \$375

HOLY FAMILY NEWS

Mass continues to be livestreamed Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10AM from St. Theresa's and the church will be open for anyone who wishes to attend in person. Masks are mandatory! The 11:30AM Sunday Mass at St. Theresa's will also continue to be livestreamed for those who are not yet able to join us in person.

Every Wednesday evening at 7PM, Fr. Eric leads us in a study of Sacred Scripture. We are currently studying the Gospel of Matthew. Why not start a new relationship with the Word! Come in person or join us on Facebook. Questions and comments always welcome!

Join us every Friday until Easter at St. Theresa's at 10AM for Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy chaplet, and Stations of the Cross. Daily Mass will begin at 11AM following Benediction.

Have you checked out Fr. Eric's "**Cast into the Deep**" column on our Facebook page? Fr. Eric carefully crafts a reflection every day on the readings. Use it daily and grow your faith!

facebook.com/holyfamilyswva

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

We are called to glorify God. And we can't do better than by imitating Jesus, offering generous, fruitful sacrifices in union with Christ. This Lenten season is the perfect time to do so. We can take part in many opportunities for almsgiving. We can also contribute to our Annual Diocesan Appeal, allowing a grain of our wealth to bear much fruit in our parish community. As we go forward this week, let's ask God to show us how we can glorify His name by giving generously in imitation of Christ.

Glorify God through your generosity. Support the Annual Diocesan Appeal.

HOLY WEEK MASS SCHEDULE:

Holy Thursday:
4/1

St. Mary's: 5PM
St. Theresa's: 7PM

Good Friday:
4/2

St. Elizabeth's: 3PM
St. Theresa's: 6PM

Holy Saturday:
4/3

St. Joseph's: 4PM
St. Theresa's: 8PM

Easter Sunday:
4/4

St. Elizabeth's: 9AM
St. Theresa's: 11:30AM

birthdays & anniversaries:

MARCH

BIRTHDAYS—28: Chauncey Santos

Dudley Memorial Mortuary

Serving the community for over 60 years

729 Virginia Avenue
Bluefield, VA 24605
(276) 326-1141 | fax: (276) 326-2736
dudleymemorial@outlook.com

Appalachian Family Care LLC



18765 Riverside Dr.
Vansant, VA 24656
Tel. (276) 935-2880
Fax (276) 935-2889

Located in Food City
Owner: Frannie Minton

DOMINION DRIVEWAY & PARKING LOT PAVING, INC.

- Paving
- Concrete
- Grading
- Landscaping
- Demolition
- Gravel
- Topsoil
- Patio Paver
- Retaining Walls



2927 Adria Road
North Tazewell, VA 24630
Phone: 276-979-8504
Email: pave4u@roadrunner.com

Amanda Hankins-Shrader – 276-701-5840

Scott Shrader – 276-970-3004

www.DominionDriveway.com

Craven-Shires Funeral Home, Inc.



3431 COAL HERITAGE ROAD
BLUEFIELD, WV 24701
PH: (304) 589-3860
FAX: (304) 441-5299
INFO@CRAVEN-SHIRE.COM

JIMMIE L. SHIRES – FUNERAL DIRECTOR, L.I.C.

Benjamin Farley Agency, Inc.



Nationwide

3144 E Cumberland Rd.
Bluefield, WV 24701

Mike Romeo, Agent

(304) 325-9357
Bluefield

(304) 425-3678
Princeton



232 BEN BOLT AVE
TAZEWELL, VA 24651
(276) 988-4190



3224 CUMBERLAND ROAD
BLUEFIELD, WV 24701



PRO SHOP - SNACK BAR - BILLIARDS

CARL MARIOTTI, JR.
LORETTA HAMMOND

304-325-7037