

April 9, 2017

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



The Glory of the Cross

Today, we remember the shocking event that changed the world. As we read the passion of Christ, we cannot but realize that the cross is a central mystery in our faith. Suffering is part of every person's life, just as it was part of Jesus' life. However, Jesus' suffering led to the resurrection. Through his suffering Jesus redeemed the human race from sin. If we join in his suffering we will also join in his victory over death.

Today's Bulletin is printed
in memory of Emmie & George Michalec
and is sponsored by their family.

HOLY WEEK LITURGIES

Holy Thursday of the Passion of the Lord

8:00 p.m. For Vocations to the Priesthood

Holy Friday of the Passion of the Lord

3:00 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion

The Easter Vigil

7:30 p.m. Families of the Parish

Sunday of the Resurrection

6:30 a.m. Welfare of Parishioners

10:00 a.m. Welfare of the Youth

* Easter baskets will be blessed at the 10:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Mass. The Easter Egg Hunt follows the Mass.

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY LITURGY

Next weekend is *Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43

Responsorial Psalm: 118

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

Gospel: John 20:1-9

Attention Lectors and Altar Servers

The Holy Week schedules are in the Sacristy.
Pick up your schedule before you go home today.

Remember the sick in your prayers this week,
especially Sidney Bochat.

The Sanctuary Light will be lit this week
in memory of Emmie & George Michalec.

THE TRIDUUM/EASTER BULLETIN BOARD

This Week's Special Collections

Today: Rice Bowl.

Holy Thursday Collections:

- For Education of Seminarians (envelope attached)
- The Youth's Lenten Sacrifices, and Canned Goods.
Place your bag of canned goods at the main entrance of church.

The Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday: Collection for the Poor and Needy. Your contributions help our area brothers and sisters in need.

The Chrism Mass, April 11: On this day the Bishop concelebrates Mass with all the priests of the diocese. The Holy Oils: *The Oil of the Catechumens, The Sacred Chris, The Oil of the Infirm* will be blessed. The Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral in Victoria at 10:00 a.m. All parishioners are invited to attend.

Holy Week/Easter Programming on EWTN: During Holy Week and Easter EWTN brings you special programming and live Easter Masses from Rome and the Basilica of the National Shrine in Washington, DC. (DISH Channel 261; Direct TV Channel 370).

Easter Egg Hunt: Easter baskets will be blessed at the 10:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Mass. The Easter Egg hunt follows the Mass.

Easter Flower Fund: Envelopes have been provided for this fund. Extra envelopes at the main entrance of church. Donors list to be published next week.

Holy Week Schedule for Moulton & Praha

Holy Thursday: Moulton: Gather for Meal, 5:30 p.m.;
Meal, 6 p.m. Parishioners are encouraged to participate.
Mass of the Lord's Supper, 8:00 p.m.

Praha: Mass of the Lord's Supper, 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday: Moulton: Private Stations, 10:00 a.m.;
Gather for Private Prayer, 2:30 p.m.,
Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 3:00 p.m.

Praha: Private Stations, 10:00 a.m.; Community Stations
and Gather for Private Prayer, 5:00 p.m.;
Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 5:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday: Moulton: Gather at bonfire... 7:00 p.m.

Praha: Gather at bonfire... 4:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday: Moulton: 6:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Praha: 8:00 a.m. (*Easter Egg Hunt after Mass.*)

The Sacred Paschal Triduum – See Insert

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY – Gold Star Club Meets, 3:30-5:30 p.m., YMC
TUESDAY – Youth Choir Practice, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Church
WEDNESDAY – No Champions Club Meeting
THURSDAY – No KC Bingo
FRIDAY – Parish Office Closed

REFLECTION

The Loving Nature of God

As Matthew's version of the passion and death of Jesus is proclaimed (Gospel) every evil tendency of humankind will be revealed. We will be told of Judas' betrayal and of Peter's denial. We will listen to how the disciples are so oblivious to Jesus that they fall asleep when he needs their support. We will hear the lies told about Jesus, as well as the people's mockery of him. We will sense the fierceness of the crowd, the weakness of Pilate and the hypocrisy of the chief priests and elders. Then, in the most horrifying but sacred moment when Jesus gives up his spirit on the cross, the evils of humankind, grave through they are, will be eclipsed by a love that is at once intense and pure. It is this great love of God that has seen Jesus through each of his days and nights. This loving nature of God was reflected in Jesus' gentle way with sinners, in his willingness to welcome children, in his outreach to foreigners and outcasts. God's loving nature was evident each time Jesus healed the sick and forgave sinners. This love was revealed most eloquently at the last supper Jesus shared with his friends, when he gave himself as food. After his death and resurrection, the disciples knew him to be present in the breaking of the bread.

As we celebrate these most holy days, let us remember, as we break open the bread of life, that God's nature continues to be revealed to us. May we also live in such a way that God's nature is revealed through us.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Apr. 10 – Erin Blaschke, Margaret Kubicek
Apr. 11 – William Darilek, Karla Kresta
Apr. 12 – Debbie Novosad
Apr. 13 – Charles Beard, Carson Beyer, Anton Billimek,
Manuel Cao
Apr. 14 – Jamie Dornak
Apr. 15 – April Simper

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Apr. 11 – Nancy & Cecil Wood, Jr.
Apr. 12 – Marian & Deacon Milburn Kram
– Tracy & Frank Nieto
Apr. 15 – Karla & Eugene Kresta

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Today – C.C.D. Students Lead Palm Sunday Procession
Apr. 10 – K-2nd Grade After School Program
Apr. 11 - Youth Choir Practice For Easter Sunday Mass
Apr. 12 – No After School Program
– 9-11 C.C.D./Confessions
Next Sunday – No C.C.D.

**NOTICE: The Praha Church Will Be Closed
For Tours For Holy Week Services.
Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday**

Our Joyful Walk Toward Holy Easter Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



The Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Today we begin Holy Week, the days during which we journey with Jesus on his way to the cross and anticipate his wondrous and glorious resurrection on Easter. On this Palm Sunday, we focus on Matthew's account of the Passion of Christ.

The first thing we notice is how Matthew structures the content of his Passion Narrative. Matthew unfolds the passion narrative in six parts.

- Beginning with a brief prelude about Judas as "selling out" Jesus, the story begins with the Passover supper wherein Jesus institutes the Eucharist (26:17-29).
- The second scene puts Jesus and his disciples at the Mount of Olives, where Peter's denial is foretold and Jesus undergoes a stressful agony in view of his approaching death (26:30-56).
- The third scene is a complicated, so-called trials before the Jewish Sanhedrin (26:57-68).
- The fourth scene moves Jesus to another trial situation before Pilate; Jesus will ultimately be condemned, and Judas commits suicide (27:1-26).
- The fifth scene is the crucifixion itself, where Jesus is mocked and hung on the cross to die (27:27-44).
- In the final scene, Jesus dies and is buried in a tomb provided by Joseph of Arimathea (27:45-66).

This narrative highlights three important themes.

- First, Jesus is the Son of God, and he is clearly the master of his own fate. This is shown in all six scenes listed above.
- Second, for Matthew, the Church (now consisting of Jews and gentiles) has inherited the promises of Israel.
- Third, Jesus is the model of righteous behavior throughout every part of the Passion Narrative.

As we retell the story of the passion of our Lord, this is our story as well because the Holy Spirit now dwells with us. As we enter into this week, the holiest week of the entire year, let us pray for the grace to have hearts open to all that the Lord teaches us this week. Let us pray for the grace to resist temptation and to live our lives in a holy way. And let us be ready to greet him when he comes again.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

The ACTS Core Evangelization team has provided an insert about the Divine Mercy Novena.