

*March 20, 2016
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Vol. 48, No. 12*



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •



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WEBSITE: sjb-brusly.com
CHRISTIAN FORMATION: 225-749-3387

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil..... 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:00 a.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m., with Adoration until 11:30 a.m.
First Saturday of the month only 8:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday..... 3:30–4:15 p.m.
Tuesday thru Friday..... 7:40 a.m. or by appointment

PARISH STAFF

Very Rev. Matthew P. Lorrain Pastor
Sammy Collura Permanent Deacon
Carolyn Dupuy Bookkeeper
Pat Durbin..... Parish Secretary
June Hebert Director of Religious Education
Karen Lemoine Christian Formation
Celeste Veillon Music Director
Larry Durbin..... Maintenance Supervisor
Richard Rabalais..... Maintenance

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Friday 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Office closed for lunch 12:30–1:30 p.m.

BAPTISM

Celebrated monthly after the 11:00 am Mass. Also celebrated during Mass on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord and Easter Sunday. Parents should call the office to enroll in our baptismal preparation program, preferably early in pregnancy. Parents are encouraged to register in the parish and actively practice their faith.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Inquiries – Call the Parish Office

MARRIAGE

Contact the pastor at least 6 months prior to proposed wedding date. Preparation program is required. Couples should be actively practicing their faith.

CARE OF THE SICK

Emergency calls answered immediately, if possible. Communion calls to homebound and hospitals weekly by request. Please notify the office if someone is homebound.

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Family should contact the pastor to begin funeral arrangements.

PRAYER LINE

Call Judy Thousand, 749-9257 or the Parish office

As he rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road; the whole multitude of his disciples began to praise God aloud with joy for all the mighty deeds they had seen. - Lk 19:36, 37b

Dear Parishioners,

The official title for today's feast in our new Roman Missal is *Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*. I imagine we will continue to call it Palm Sunday for brevity's sake, but the longer title reminds us that the central focus of Holy Week is always Christ's passion. We are all anxious to conclude the sobriety of Lent but we cannot afford to bypass this final stage of our annual Lenten journey. We unite ourselves with Christ's suffering on the cross in order to inherit the glorious crown he won for us.

In his homily for Palm Sunday in 2002, St. John Paul II said: "The reading of his Passion sets us before Christ, living in his Church. The Easter Mystery that we will relive during the days of Holy Week is always present. Today we are contemporaries of the Lord and, like the multitude in Jerusalem, like the disciples and the women, we are called to decide if we are to be with him, or flee, or just be spectators at his death. Every year in Holy Week the curtain rises once again on the great scene in which the definitive drama is decided, not only for one generation, but for all humanity and for each one."

Our Mass on Wednesday of Holy Week returns to its regular time of 8:00 a.m. We will not celebrate an evening Mass or the Stations of the Cross or confessions this Wednesday. Bishop Muench will celebrate the Chrism Mass at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday at St. Joseph Cathedral. This is the Mass where the Bishop blesses and consecrates the holy oils to be used in all parishes this coming year. Jules and Patricia Lefeaux will represent our parish to receive the holy oils at the Mass, and everyone is welcome to attend.

The Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening will be at 7:00 p.m. We have selected twelve parishioners representing various walks of life to participate in the washing of the feet at Mass. Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament will continue for one hour following the Mass.

On Good Friday, the Way of the Cross will be led by Deacon Sammy at 12:00 noon. I will be in the confessional during the Way of the Cross in case anyone missed the opportunity for confession. The Celebration of the Lord's Passion will begin at 3:00 p.m., and we

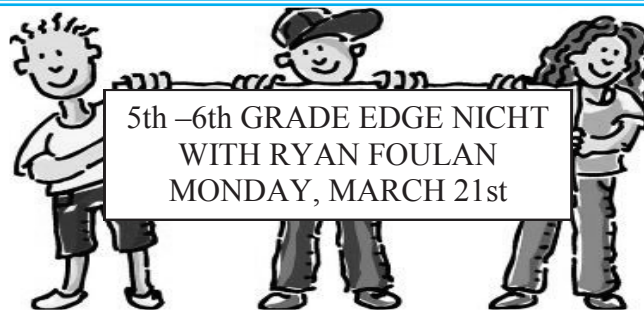
will again use the new cross we had made for the Good Friday veneration. Remember that Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence.

On Holy Saturday, the Easter Vigil will begin after nightfall at 8:00 p.m. as required by the Church. The Vigil begins in the front of the church with the blessing of the Easter fire and the lighting of our new paschal candle. This is the service where we welcome our new Catholics into the Church. Our Masses on Easter Sunday will be at the regular times of 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.

In her book "Small Surrenders," Emilie Griffin writes: "Two thousand years later, the ancient story moves us. No matter how often we hear it, it stirs up another meaning. Sometimes this Passover time may coincide with some life crisis of our own. Sometimes Holy Week comes at a flat and restless time... It is a story we can barely grasp, yet it is meant for us. The story draws us in." Be assured of my prayers for you this week.

In Christ,
Father Matt

CHRISTIAN FORMATION UPDATE



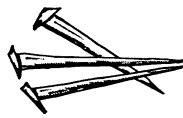
NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES
MONDAY, MARCH 28TH OR TUESDAY, MARCH
29TH DUE TO EASTER HOLIDAYS.

LAST CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES WILL
BE ON MONDAY, APRIL 4TH
AND TUESDAY, APRIL 5TH.

THANKS TO ALL OF OUR DEDICATED
CATECHISTS WHO MADE THIS A SUCCESSFUL
YEAR FOR OUR YOUTH HERE AT
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



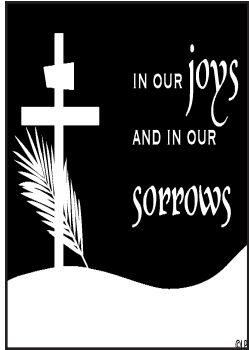
- ◆ **Holy Thursday Services**—March 24—7:00 pm
- ◆ **Good Friday**—March 25
 - Way of the Cross—12:00 noon
 - Veneration of the Cross—3:00 pm
- ◆ **Easter Vigil**—Saturday, March 26—8:00 pm
- ◆ **Easter Sunday**—7:30 am, 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Pray for Vocations



A VOCATION VIEW

Blessed are they who come in the Name of the Lord! Am I being called to proclaim Jesus as a priest, deacon, religious brother or sister? If you feel God is giving you the blessing of a call to a church vocation, call or email Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778 mdupre@diobr.org.



PRAYERS & SYMPATHY

are extended to Kenneth Byrd, Sr. & family upon the death of his mother, Mary Byrd, to Pat Bossier & family upon the death of her brother Sidney Falcon and Jayne Jason & family upon the death of her brother, Wayne Walling.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning in memory of Carlys Sibille.

Be Merciful!

Offer to run an errand (groceries, dry cleaning pick up, dog-walking) for a busy parent or a homebound person.



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

*He was scourged for us!
He was crowned with thorns for us!
He carried His heavy cross for us!*

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Plans are being made for classes to prepare any adults who for some reason are not yet confirmed. The actual Confirmation will be on Pentecost Sunday, May 15, 2016.

Anyone wishing to be Confirmed must attend the classes which will be held here on Thursdays, April 21 & 28 and May 5 & 12, 2016. Please call the Parish Office to register.

Can we not spend one hour with Him?

Eucharistic Adoration offers us many hours to thank God for the suffering he endured for our sake.

All night Eucharistic Adoration is Friday, April 1st at 8pm thru Saturday, April 2nd at 8am.

Sign-up sheets are in the foyer of Church.

For more info, contact Julie@749-8260 or Mary@324-5289.

All Church doors are locked at 10pm!! Adorers, please knock at the side door to enter!

CONGRATULATIONS!

BAPTISMS

Congratulations to the three Wessling children who were baptized here last weekend: Cosby Violet, Keaton August and Carlin Fischer! Their parents are John, Jr. & Sara Small Wessling.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Holy Land Collection

Is due on Good Friday, March 25.

Retirement Fund for Diocesan Priests

is due Easter Sunday, March 27th.

Rice Bowls due Easter Sunday, March 27.

Please place your special envelope in the regular collections on those days.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

March 13, 2016

231 Identified- - - - - \$8,058.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 776.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$8,834.00

BUILDING FUND COLLECTION

January 2016—\$12,862.60

February 2016—\$10,753.85

Loan Balance—\$415,112.00

Readings for the Week of March 20, 2016

Sunday: Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14--23:56 or 23:1-49

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1-3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17/

Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34/ Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-18/ 1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13--53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25/ Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1--19:42

Saturday: Vigil: Gn 1:1--2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/

Ex 14:15--15:1/Is 54:5-14/

Is 55:1-11/Bar 3:9-15, 32--4:4/

Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 118:1-2,

16-17, 22-23/Rom 6:3-11/

Lk 24:1-12

Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/ Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9

or Lk 24:1-12 or Lk 24:13-35

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2014-2015

Donna Badon
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Bourg
Chris Buckle, Chairman
Deacon Sammy Collura
Stacy Gauthreaux
Jules Lefeaux
Mark Loreno
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Jason Murphey
Andrea Smicker
Toni Tolar, Vice-Chairman
John Windham



Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

"Pilate addressed them a third time, 'What evil has this man done? I found him guilty of no capital crime.'" The Palm Sunday Gospel readings present a sad picture of grown-ups who succumb to peer pressure. Three times, Pilate proclaimed that Jesus was not guilty. But yet, he gave in to the mounting pressure from the crowd, whose "voices prevailed... and he handed Jesus over to them." Also, during the opening Gospel at the procession of palms, we see the adoring crowds hailing Jesus as "the king who comes in the name of the Lord," but only too soon the chorus changes as the voice of the crowd cries out, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" What happened to Jesus' loyal supporters? How did the mob mentality overtake them all? Then too, we have Peter, who in comfortable company with Jesus and his friends promised eternal faithfulness. But when others began asking uncomfortable questions, he caved: "Woman, I do not know him."

These three scenarios give us a chance to reflect on our own faithfulness as we journey into Holy Week. Like Pilate, do we know the truth but abandon it when it becomes unpopular? Public opinion these days declares much Church teaching to have fallen out of favor--will we renege like Pilate or stand fast to the faith? The fickle crowds demonstrate another kind of weakness, where instead of thinking for themselves, people just followed those around them. Are we guilty of this kind of passive intellectual laziness? How about Peter's problem: do we change our story based on current company, or do we live as consistent Christian witnesses in the world? This week, may we have the courage to accompany Jesus all the way to the cross, no matter what anyone else may do.