

**THE PARISH SACRED TRIDUUM SCHEDULE** is repeated in this week's column of Mass intentions and services. Every household should have received the schedule in the mail as well. Holy Week provides us an extraordinary opportunity to receive grace. I encourage you to devote this week to the spiritual nourishment of your soul.

Your full participation in these services will help you better appreciate the truths of our redemption: on **Holy Thursday**, the Mass of the Lord's Supper recalls Christ's institution of the Sacraments of Holy Orders and Eucharist, through which He assures you of His real presence even here on earth, all the days of your life. **Good Friday** is the day of all days to meditate on how much Christ loves you personally—so much, that He willingly endured His agony and death to offer you eternal happiness! The Saturday evening **Easter Vigil** Mass is the ultimate annual celebration of the Lord's Resurrection from the dead.

Let this be your happiest Easter ever. It will be if you accept our Lord's invitation, extended through your Parish.

**HOLY THURSDAY ADORATION OF JESUS** reserved in the Repository will follow the 7:30 evening Mass of the Lord's Supper for one hour. As Jesus invited His closest friends to watch and pray with Him for one hour on that first Holy Thursday night, He invites **you** this Holy Thursday.

**ON GOOD FRIDAY** the Church's ancient tradition specifies that Mass is not to be celebrated on this most solemn day of the Church Year. Instead, the Lord's Passion is commemorated with the Liturgy of the Word, the Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion.

**THE EASTER VIGIL** (Saturday evening) is the grandest Liturgical celebration of the year! No matter how many times you have participated in this Liturgy, you owe it to yourself to experience it again this year.

*The Service of Light* begins in complete darkness until the *new fire* is lit and blessed. The Liturgy then continues in candlelight until the magnificent sung *Easter Proclamation*. A condensed *scriptural journey through our Salvation History* is followed by the *renewal of baptismal promises and blessing of holy water*. Mass then continues with the *Liturgy of the Eucharist*.

**BRING YOUR EASTER FOOD BASKET** for a blessing Holy Saturday afternoon at 2:30 in the parish social hall. Even though the Easter Bunny will not have come yet, children are invited to bring any Easter candy the might already have for a blessing.

**LENTEN QUARTER FOLDERS** may be brought to Church or the rectory any day this week. (Late deliveries will be accepted, too.) Boxes will be at the church entrances for your convenience.

**THE EASTER MEMORIAL FLORAL CROSS** will again hold a prominent place in our sanctuary this year. You are invited to use the special envelope found in this week's mailing to memorialize your loved ones.

**THE DIVINE MERCY NOVENA** will begin on Good Friday and continue until Easter Saturday. Novena prayers will be at 3 p.m. Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Novena prayers will be at 3 p.m. Good Friday and Holy Saturday and with morning Mass the remaining seven days.

**THE GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION** will be directed toward assisting our beleaguered Catholic brothers and sisters in the Holy Land and in Eastern and Central Europe and rebuilding and sustaining the Church there.

**CAN YOU HELP MAKE PIEROGI** for our upcoming June Festival? On Saturday morning, April 5th, starting about 8 o'clock or so there will be a "preparing the cabbage" session. Then, on the following Tuesday, the 8th, also around 8 a.m., many "pinchers" and others will be needed to "put it all together." Even if you've never made a pierogi in your life, please consider coming down to the church hall and be part of the crew. It's easy, it's fun, and it's time well spent.

**OUR NEXT BINGO** will be on Thursday, April 5th. In observance of Holy Thursday, there will be **no bingo this week**. All bingo players are invited to join us Holy Thursday evening for Mass of the Lord's Supper.

**THE SERVICE OF SHADOWS**, a reflective Holy Week prayer service, will be celebrated this Wednesday evening at 7:30 in our Cathedral with Bishop da Cunha presiding. Coming out of the monastic tradition called *Tenebrae*, this service of readings and psalms is enhanced by the beauty of music and the solemnity of the gradually increasing darkness. You are invited.

**Sat. - Mar. 24 - Palm Sunday**

**4:00 PM** +Jeannette Holland  
Req. Bob & Mary Ann Laprise

**Sun. - Mar. 25 - Palm Sunday**

**10:00 AM** +Florence Goyette  
Req. Joseph & Wanda Williams

**Mon.- Mar. 26 - Monday of Holy Week**

**7:30 AM** +Father Blase Wegierski,  
O.F.M. Conv.

**Tues. - Mar. 27 - Tuesday of Holy Week**

**7:30 AM** +Emily Slowik  
Req. Fernando & Pat Monteiro  
& Family

**Wed. - Mar. 28 - Wednesday of Holy Week**

**7:30 AM** +Charles Salach  
Req. Son & Daughter

**Thurs. - Mar. 29 - Holy Thursday**

**7:30 AM** In Thanksgiving for the  
Sacrament of Priesthood  
Req. Father Conrad

**Fri. - Mar. 30 - Good Friday**

**3:00 PM** **Divine Mercy Novena, Day 1**  
followed by  
**Good Friday Liturgy**

**Sat. - Mar. 31 - Holy Saturday**

**2:30 PM** **Blessing of Easter Food**  
followed by  
**Divine Mercy Novena, Day 2**

**Sat. - Mar. 31 - Easter Vigil**

**7:30 PM** OLPH Parishioners,  
Living & Deceased

**Sun. - April 1 - Easter Sunday**

**10 AM** OLPH Parishioners,  
Living & Deceased  
(Divine Mercy Novena, Day 3)

**A MESSAGE FROM FATHER CONRAD**

Brothers and Sisters of Our Parish Family,

Jesus' life and ministry came to a brutal end during His final days in Jerusalem. To highlight how important the sacred moments of those last days are, Holy Mother Church helps us focus on Christ's Passion and Resurrection by commemorating them in the awesome Holy Week Services of the next seven days.

Holy Week begins today, Palm Sunday. On Tuesday, Bishop da Cunha and the priests of the Diocese will concelebrate the Mass of Oils at the Cathedral. Otherwise, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday are days of quiet reflection.

We soon arrive at three of the holiest days of the year: the Sacred Triduum, that is, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper will recall Christ's institution of both the Mass and the Sacraments of Holy Eucharis and Priesthood. Good Friday is the only day of the year when Mass is not celebrated. The *Liturgy of the Passion of our Lord* is celebrated in its place. Holy Saturday is another day of prayerful preparation for the triumphant celebration of the Resurrection at the evening Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday. Easter continues with a special Octave, and then until the Ascension of Christ into Heaven and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Those who wholeheartedly live the entire paschal cycle of Lent, Triduum and Easter's Fifty Days discover that it can change them forever. This is especially brought to light during the Triduum, the intense immersion in the fundamental mystery of what it is to be a Christian. During these days we enter into Christ's sufferings, so that we might rise with Him at His glorious Resurrection.

Holy Week is a time to clear our schedules of unnecessary activities and focus our hearts on Jesus and what He did for us. Let us bear the cross, so that we may be worthy of wearing the crown He wore.

Peace and Blessings,  
Father Conrad