

PALM SUNDAY

(Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 22; Philippians 2:6-11); Mark 14:1-15:47

KEY VERSE: "Truly this man was the Son of God!" (15:39).

READING: Jesus was the long-awaited "anointed one" (the Messiah in Hebrew; Christos in Greek). At Bethany (where he raised Lazarus from the dead, Jn 11), a woman came to anoint him in preparation for his burial (Mk 14:3-9). Mark relates the story of the woman's kindness between two betrayals, the chief priests and scribes who plotted to arrest him (Mk 14:1-2), and Judas who planned to hand Jesus over to them (vv 10-11). Jesus gathered his disciples to celebrate the Passover feast, which commemorated the Hebrew people's exodus from slavery to freedom (Ex 12). He inaugurated the new covenant with his people by giving them his body and blood in the bread and wine of the Passover meal (vv 22-26). Jesus warned Peter and the other disciples that they would all deny him (vv 27-31). In the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus accepted the bitter cup of suffering (vs 35-36), and was betrayed by Judas who embraced him as a friend (v 45). Jesus was arrested, accused of blasphemy by the religious leaders, and condemned to death by the Roman governor for the crime of sedition (14:53 15:4). The crowds demanded the release of Barabbas ("son of the father") in place of Jesus, the true Son of the Father (15:6-15). The soldiers mocked him as "King of the Jews" (vv 16-20), and he was led to Golgotha (Hebrew for "skull;" Latin: Calvaria; English: Calvary) where he was crucified between two "revolutionaries" (v 27, zealots). On the cross, Jesus sealed the covenant with his own blood. A Gentile soldier made the declaration of faith that Jesus was the "Son of God" (v 39, see Mk 1:1). Joseph of Arimathea, a distinguished member of the Jewish High Council, the Sanhedrin, was secretly a disciple of Jesus (Mt 27:57). He offered his own tomb for Jesus' burial. Mary Magdalene and the other women who faithfully followed him watched where he was laid.

REFLECTING: Imagine who you are in this drama: The woman who anointed Jesus? The disciples who betrayed him? Pilate who condemned him? The soldiers who mocked him? The crowds who passively watched? The Centurion who confessed him? Joseph who honored him? The women who followed him?

PRAYING: Lord Jesus, help me to be a person of faith and not of fear.

Holy Family Parish
National Catholic Church
1921 Eden Park Boulevard
McKeesport, Pa. 15132

412.678.0566 Office; Auditorium 412.664.7009
www.hfpncc.org



Palm Sunday
April 5, 2009

Change of address or phone number, for parish registration, hospital visitations and sacramental needs, baptism and wedding arrangements, please contact the Parish Office by calling 412.276.5562 or 412.678.0566. **Office Hours:** Tuesdays & Fridays 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Evenings by appointment. **Bulletin announcements** should be received by Father by Wednesday for Sunday publication either by phone or E-mail at BSleczkowski@aol.com

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ASPERGES (2)		Page 9
BLESSING AND DISTRIBUTION OF PALMS		
OPENING HYMN	“The Holy City”	Choir
INTRODUCTORY RITE		Page 63
INTROIT		Psalm 23:9-10
P: Open wide the door and gate. Lift high the ancient portals. The King of Glory enters, Who is the King of Glory? He is God, the mighty Lord.		
R: Hosanna in the highest. Blessed are You Who have come to us so rich in love and mercy. Hosanna in the highest.		
P: Lord for us Your wounds were suffered.		
R: O Christ Jesus, have mercy on us.		
THE KYRIE		Page 67
OPENING PRAYER		
LITURGY OF THE WORD		
First Reading		Isaiah 50:4-7
Responsorial Psalm		Psalm 22
L: My God, my God, why have You abandoned me?		
R: My God, my God, why have You abandoned me?		
Second Reading		Philippians 2:6-11
Gospel Acclamations.		
C: Glory and praise to You, O Lord Jesus Christ.		
R: Glory and praise to You, O Lord Jesus Christ.		
C: Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.		
R: Glory and praise to You, O Lord Jesus Christ.		
Gospel		Mark 14:1-15:47
NICENE CREED		Page 71
HOMILY		
GENERAL INTERCESSION		
R: Lord, Hear our Prayer		
PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS		
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING		
SANCTUS		Page 76
CANON	Eucharistic Prayer 1	Page 77
THE LORD’S PRAYER		Page 95
LAMB OF GOD		Page 97
COMMUNION		Page 98
POST COMMUNION PRAYER		
BLESSING		Page 100
CLOSING HYMN	“All Glory, Laud and Honor”	Bulletin

“Father, if this cup cannot pass away unless I drink it, Your will be done”
Matthew 26:42



Apostles for Holy Thursday Needed

I need 12 people to serve as apostles in the “symbolic foot washing ceremony the Maundy Day Mass on Holy Thursday. Please see Fr. Bruce to volunteer.

Lenten Coin Boxes

The special Lenten Boxes should be returned on Good Friday through Easter Sunday. SOCL students should return their Lenten Boxes to their Teachers. Please write your name and envelope number on the box for stewardship recording. A special basket will be placed in the sanctuary area. Thank you to all who participated in this Lenten Almsgiving and the gifts received will be applied to the new organ keyboard.

Vigil before the Blessed Sacrament on Good Friday

All parish organizations and faithful are asked to sign-up for the Vigil before the Sacrament held from noon to 8:00 p.m. on Good Friday. Sign Up Sheet is in the narthex. Parish organizations are requested to fill their normal time slots:

SAMBS: 12 to 3 – PTO/Lectors/SOCL: 4 to 6 – YMSR: 6 to 8 pm

The *Paschal Triduum* often called the *Easter Triduum* or simply the *Triduum*, begins during Holy Week, and consists of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday. This includes the Great Easter Vigil, the high point of the Triduum. The word Triduum comes from the Latin word meaning "three days." It begins the evening of Maundy Thursday and ends at Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday. Thus the Triduum consists of three full days which begin and end in the evening. The Triduum technically is not part of Lent (at least liturgically), but Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday are still reckoned as part of the traditional forty day Lenten fast. The Triduum celebrates the heart of our faith, salvation, and redemption: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Thus, the Triduum commemorates the Institution of the Eucharist (the "sacrament of sacraments"), the passion, crucifixion, death of the Lord, his descent to the dead, and finally his glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday morning.

“Once Upon a Tree”

The United Choir of the Southern Deanery will be performing the cantata “Once Upon a Tree” on Sunday, April 19th at 4:00 P.M. in Washington, Pa. Rehearsals: Washington; April 5th @3:00 P.M. Washington; April 17th @ 7:00 P.M. (Dress Rehearsal) Washington. For more information call 724.2585.

Palm Sunday and Easter Processions

The children of the SOCL and First Communion Classes are asked to process during the Palm Sunday and Easter processions. Please assemble in the parish hall 15 minutes before the scheduled Mass. Women of the SAMBS are asked to participate during all processions including Holy Thursday with lighted adoration candles.

Cemetery News

Spring is here and we will begin cutting the grass in our cemeteries. The cemetery workers request that all Christmas Wreaths be removed. Thank You for your cooperation.



CPR & AED Training-Thursday, April 23, 2009 @ 6:00

P.M. \$5.00 processing fee for Certification for Parish Members. All others, \$15.00. Dr. Dariusz Wolman will be the instructor. This is open to all people in the parish and community.

First Holy Communion, Sunday May 3rd during 9:00 A.M.

There will be only one Mass celebrated that Sunday.

SAMBS SubCentral Meeting, May 3rd. Holy Trinity Parish, McKees Rocks, Pa. 3:00 P.M.

Tri-Church Flea Market, May 30th 8:00 A.M.-12:00 Noon.

St. John the Baptist and the Hungarian Reform Church will be participating together. More Information will be forthcoming.

Golf Outing, June 7th, Butlers Golf Course \$80; 8:00 A.M.

Tee Off. There will be a special golfers Mass Saturday at 5:00 P.M. to meet Sunday obligations.

Diocesan Youth Retreat, July 5-9th, Wesley Woods

Methodist Camp. Ages 8 and above are eligible to attend. Friends are also invited.

Spojnia District 5 & 12 Family & Children Picnic, July 25th

Idlewild Park, Ligonier, Pa.

Closing Hymn-“All Glory, Laud and Honor”

All glory laud and honor, To Thee Redeemer King,
To whom the lips of children, made sweet Hosannas ring,
Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David’s royal Son,
Who in the Lord’s name comest, The King and Blessed One.

The company of angels, are praising Thee on high
And mortal men and all things, created make reply
The people of the Hebrews, with palms before Thee went,
Our praise and prayer and anthems, before Thee we present.

To Thee before Thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise
To Thee now high exalted, our melody we raise,
Thou didst accept their praises, accept the praise we bring,
Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.



Look closely at this painting of Jesus' head and you will see the Palm procession.

THEME: Can I offer any hope through my faith?

The prophets do not rebel against their call. Though others decline to speak on behalf of God, they let nothing deter them from their mission, even when it seems as though God has abandoned them. Even though ears are closed to their message, the prophets continually proclaim God's greetings to the congregation. This is the attitude of Jesus. He did not regard power and authority as something to be held with a tight fist. Rather, He opened His hand and emptied Himself, pouring out His humanity to become a servant to His brothers and sisters.

Because Jesus was faithful, God exalted Him, raising Him above heaven and earth, giving Him the name above all names. Our hearts and knees bow at His name. Our tongues proclaim to the glory of God: "Jesus Christ is Lord!"

As we begin this Holy Week, may we not lose focus. We should make every effort to be present during the liturgies accenting the passion and death of our Lord. You are invited to share the sacred liturgies of the week, adore Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament through Vigil, look upon the symbolic tomb with thankfulness and kiss the wounds that were suffered to atone us of our sins. We sing "Hosannas" this Sunday but when we neglect our spiritual duties, we join the crowds that screamed "Crucify" Friday. May we not find ourselves in that crowd. Attend the liturgies this week.

Sunday Ministry Schedules

<u>This Week</u>	9:00 A.M.
Lectors	A. Foster, C. Griffiths, D. Tomco, D. Bongiorno
Greeter	J. Gibala & C. Trumpe
Ushers	YMSR
Acolytes	All Servers
<u>Next Week</u>	<u>7:00 A.M.</u>
Lectors	D. Nemeč, A. Popovic, D. Parknavy, M. Parknavy
Greeters	J. Gibala & C. Trumpe
Ushers	YMSR
Acolytes	All Servers
	<u>10:00 A.M.</u>
Lector	B. Zaucha

This Week

Sunday, April 5, 2009

Holy Mass
+Vilma Pernick (1st Ann.) Int Mr. & Mrs. Ken Stubock; +Sherry Krusienski (3rd Ann.) Int Mrs. Martha Krusienski
Palm Sunday Breakfast/Children Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 A.M.
No 11:30 A.M. Mass

Palm Sunday

9:00 A.M.

Holy Tuesday, April 7, 2009

Clergy Conference
Mass of Chrism

Houtzdale, Pa.

1:00 P.M.

7:00 P.M.

Holy Wednesday, April 8, 2009

Annunciation Bell Choir Rehearsal
Chopin Choir Rehearsal

6:30 P.M.

7:30 P.M.

Maundy Thursday, April 9, 2009

Mass of the Institution of the Eucharist/Procession to the Altar of Repose

7:00 P.M.

Good Friday, April 10, 2009

Mass of the PreSantified
Stations of the Cross/ Opening of the Tomb
Bitter Lamentations (3 parts) by Tomb

12:00 Noon

3:00 P.M.

7:00 P.M.

Holy Saturday, April 11, 2009

Easter Vigil Service
Blessing of Easter Baskets

12:00 Noon

Resurrection Sunday, April 12, 2009

Mass of Resurrection with Procession
2nd Mass of Resurrection
+Edward Ghetian (40th Ann. of Wedding) Int Wife, children & grandchildren.

Easter

7:00 A.M.

10:00 A.M.

If you need extra palm branches, you can take some after Mass. Remember that these sacramentals are blessed and should be handled properly during Mass and at home.

