

Palm Sunday

◆ March 29, 2015 (B) ◆

Traditions help us order the world and mark the passing of time. As my children grew up, we marked our entry into the Christmas season by decorating the Christmas tree, reading the Dylan Thomas classic *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, and singing the choral parts of Handel's *Messiah*.

Most people are familiar with Handel's masterpiece, but not many know it was composed as an Easter—not Christmas—oratorio. If we listen to the whole thing, we hear the familiar prophecies of Isaiah and Paul's triumphant cry, "O Death, where is thy sting?" The glorious "Hallelujah Chorus" announces the triumphant reign of the risen Christ.

Every year on Palm Sunday and Good Friday, for much longer than our traditions have held sway, the Church has told the story of the passion and death of Jesus. This story marks our entrance into the faith of the Church and orders our sacred time.

It's the story of a death that leads to life—both the resurrected life of Jesus, which we celebrate next week, and the eternal life that's ours if we follow him.

In Mark's telling of the story, we encounter the woman who anointed Jesus and the young man who ran away when Jesus was arrested.

Each gospel writer gives us a slightly different version of the story, and each writer adds to our perspective and our understanding that this man and this death weren't like any other. This Jesus was God, who emptied himself so we might live.

Surely that's worth singing about.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
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Today's Readings

Mk 11:1–10 or

Jn 12:12–16

Is 50:4–7

Phil 2:6–11

Mk 14:1–15:47 or

15:1–39

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that leads to life both the
resurrected life of Jesus
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PALM SUNDAY - MARCH 29, 2015

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT 5:15 PM JOSIE & GUS FREDRIKSEN
 SUN 7:30 AM ANTHONY VOLPICCINI
 9:00 AM MARIE KOZAK
 11:00 AM LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
 MON 7:30 AM BLANCHE SARABOK
 7:00 PM **LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE**
 TUE 7:00 PM JOSEPHINE, PETER & JOHN BOGUS

WED 7:30 AM HELEN & FRANK JANISZEWSKI
 9:00 AM **ICA MASS** - SHANE MONTGOMERY
 THU 7:00 PM MONSIGNOR BIRCH & FATHER BARNES
 FRI 3:00 PM COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION
 SAT 8:00 PM **EASTER VIGIL**
 SUN 7:30 AM LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
 9:00 AM EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL ENVELOPES
 11:00 AM EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL ENVELOPES

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Josie & Gus Fredriksen

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: We are most grateful to our parish volunteers who faithfully assist us with SCRIP sales every weekend. There will be no SCRIP sales on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2015.

DAY	MASS	LECTOR	COMMENTATOR	ALTAR SERVERS
SAT	8:00pm	Joseph Bailey	Susan DiGuglielmo	Daniel Gray, Jacob Hafer, Jonathan McCollum, Brent DeMarco, John Dugan, Cole Werley
SUN	7:30am	Jim Kaucher	Toni Kaucher	Kathryn Krueger, Amanda and Lauren Marley
	9:00am	Mary Ann Cotter	Isabelita Santos	Ally, Jacob and Diego Santos
	11:00am	Steve Lukes	Betty Effinger	Allie and Sarah Forkin, Sadie Mangan

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Palm Sunday, March 29th 4pm

Children from Immaculate Conception Academy will present the Living Stations of the Cross.

Everyone is cordially invited to participate in the beautiful reenactment of the events of Calvary.

Please come pray with us, celebrate with us, and witness this beautiful Lenten Prayer lovingly offered to you by Immaculate Conception Academy students.

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Joe Cuccaro, Marco Fiato, Bryan Fiato, John Kakas, Maryanne Prentice, Tracy Seasholtz, Aaron Gulla, John Iezzi, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Andrew Martin, Alice Smyk, Barbara Pease, Yolanda Marino, Robert Mariani, Marie Snyder, Irene Wade, Patricia Winkel, Ann Kretzman, Ann Schlott, Maryanna Niemczyk, Linda D'Alessandro, Mary Pender, Jo Ann Hofer, Roger Villano, Sharon Kirkpatrick, Kathy Patrick, Doris Slater, Steve Manmarella, Stella Powaski, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Bartholomew Magliocchetti and Tom Hafer

Please congratulate the newly baptized: Declan Jude Mullin

Please pray for the recently departed: James Campana, Joe Lintz

Please welcome our new parishioners: Mr. & Mrs. Charles Zadroga

A Recommendation to Enhance Your Lenten Journey of Conversion and Renewal

Fast and abstain from meat on Good Friday.

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Sun 03/29 4pm Living Stations of the Cross

Mon 03/30 7pm Lenten Penance Service

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Our annual Lenten Penance Service will be held on Monday of Holy Week, March 30th at 7pm. At that time, several priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Plan to attend and encounter our Merciful Savior Jesus Christ.

Our Parish Office will be closed on Good Friday, April 3rd and on Easter Monday, April 6th.

We wish you a very holy and happy Easter!

Easter Candy orders will be ready for pick up before and after all Masses on March 28th/29th. We will also be selling any extra candy that we may have at that time.

The Annual Lenten Food Drive for the benefit of the Food Pantry at St. Joseph's Parish, The Kennedy House and Catholic Charities of Reading has begun. Non-perishable food items and cash can be placed in the large basket and cash canister in the narthex of the Church. The food drive runs through Palm Sunday. Contact Jim at 610-385-3666.

EASTER EGG HUNT: Join us for our egg hunt for our parish children under 12 on April 4th at 11am. We are collecting bags of individually wrapped candy to fill the eggs. Donation box will be in the narthex.

Our parish family of the Immaculate Conception rejoices in the announcement that the Most Reverend John O. Barres, Bishop of Allentown has called our parishioner, Doctor James A. Bardi to the Order of Deacon. The Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate will take place on Saturday, April 25, 2015 in the Church of Saint Thomas More, Allentown. For the past six years, Doctor Bardi has participated in an extensive program of formation so as to be able to serve the Church as a deacon. Deacons share in Christ's mission and grace in a special way. The Sacrament of Holy Orders marks them with an imprint which cannot be removed and which configures them to Christ, who made himself the 'deacon' or servant of all. Among other tasks, it is the task of deacons to assist the bishop and priests in the celebration of the divine mysteries, above all the Eucharist, in the celebration of Holy Communion, in assisting at and blessing marriages, in the proclamation of the Gospel and preaching, in presiding over funerals, and in dedicating themselves to the various ministries of charity. Immediately after his Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate, Doctor Bardi and the other men ordained to the permanent diaconate that day will be entrusted by Bishop Barres with an assignment to serve in a parish of the Diocese of Allentown. I invite you to pray for Jim and his wife Linda and their family as he prepares for his Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate.

Building a Culture of Vocations

Parents, do you encourage your children to develop their talents and gifts? Do you encourage your children to think of Church ministry as a possible life choice?

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 29th, 7:30am, 9am and 11am
Blessing of Palms at all Masses
Solemn Blessing of Palms and Procession at 11am
Living Stations of the Cross at 4pm

Penance Service

Monday, March 30th, 7pm
Several Priests will be available for confessions

Holy Thursday

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7pm
Family Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
After evening Mass until 10pm
(Come, "Watch One Hour" with Jesus)

Good Friday

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion, 3pm
Confessions following until 5:30pm
Day of Fast and Abstinence

Holy Saturday

Blessing of Food at Noon
Confessions from 12:30pm to 2pm
The Easter Vigil Mass at 8pm
Reception of RCIA Candidates

Easter Sunday

Masses at 7:30am, 9am and 11am
Blessing of the Children's Easter Baskets at 9am, 11am

2015 Masquerade Adult Social Fundraiser

April 25th, 6pm

\$35 per person includes

*Hors d'oeuvres served by Boscov's Ala Carte Catering including Signature Cold Table featuring Fresh Fruit, Crudités, an Assortment of Domestic and Imported quality cut Cheeses, Crackers and Dips. Also, Bacon Wrapped Scallops, Mini Beef Wellingtons, Mini Cheese Steak Sliders, Chicken Cordon Bleu Puffs, Portabella Mushroom Purses and Mini Quesadillas.

*Wine tasting provided by KOG Hill Winery

*soda, beer and dessert

*Activities include Live and Silent Auctions, Raffle Auctions, Wine Pull, 50-50 and more!

RSVP by April 14. Cocktail Attire...Masks Optional.

Proceeds benefit Immaculate Conception Academy's Technology and Art Departments.

Tickets can be purchased online by

visiting www.icaknights.org under the Home and School Organization Tab or send check made payable to 'ICA HSO' to the Academy 903 Chestnut St, Douglassville 19518.

The diocesan office of Pro-Life and Social Concerns of the Secretariat for Catholic Life and Evangelization is sponsoring the seminar "**End of Life Issues: What Does the Church Teach?**" in cooperation with the Catholic Medical Association on April 11th at McGlenn Conference Center, Reading, 9am-noon. A panel of speakers will present the difference between ordinary vs. extraordinary care, artificial nutrition, hydration and palliative care. Other topics such as organ donation, dialysis treatment and artificial respiration along with Living Wills and Advanced Directives will be covered. A panel discussion will follow with an opportunity for general questions. For information or to register, contact mlbianca@allentowndiocese.org, 610-289-8900 ext. 228.



March 29, 2015

dear Padre

Monday

MARCH 30

Holy Week

Is 42:1-7

Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday

MARCH 31

Holy Week

Is 49:1-6

Jn 13:21-33,

36-38

Wednesday

APRIL 1

Holy Week

Is 50:4-9a

Mt 26:14-25

Thursday

APRIL 2

Holy Thursday

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14

1 Cor 11:23-26

Jn 13:1-15

Friday

APRIL 3

Good Friday

Is 52:13-53:12

Heb 4:14-16;

5:7-9

Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday

APRIL 4

Holy Saturday

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

Rom 6:3-11

Mk 16:1-7

Sunday

APRIL 5

Easter

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Col 3:1-4 or

1 Cor 5:6b-8

Jn 20:1-9 or

Mk 16:1-7

Who was at the Last Supper?



Jesus said to his disciples—not only to his apostles—“Do this in memory of me.” Were there more people at the Last Supper than the Twelve?

Scripture and Tradition teach us that prior to his arrest and subsequent crucifixion, Jesus wanted to celebrate the Passover meal in the company of his twelve closest disciples, the apostles.

Because there is no documented detailed guest list telling us once and for

all who was in attendance, it's difficult to speculate on who else might have been present at the Last Supper.

We do know that the Last Supper is where Jesus instituted the celebration and sacrament of what we know today as the Eucharist. His command to “do this in memory of me” was made to his apostles and their successors so they would repeat this action in proclamation of the Lord's death for the world's redemption until he comes again (see 1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

It's a command the Church obeys whenever the faithful gather for the breaking of the Bread and what we now celebrate as the Eucharist or the Mass.

Therefore, the details of who was present at the Last Supper aren't as important as the fact that we continue to obey the Lord's command to do this in his memory to this very day.

FR. SCOTT KATZENBERGER, CSSR

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Catholic Update helps you keep up with news and issues that are important to Catholics. To introduce you to this wonderful newsletter, we'd like to send you several free issues on topics such as sharing the faith with your family, forgiving yourself and others, and reasons to go to Mass. To claim your free, no-obligation package, visit Liguori.org/Catholic-Update and click on “Free Catholic Update Offer” before April 30, 2015. God bless you!