

Church EVENTS

There is a lot of important information in this week's email so please read.

This Sunday is Palm Sunday, and the following week is Holy Week. This is the basis of our Faith; That Jesus Died as Rose again for our Salvation.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**Palm Sunday: Distribution of Palms
3pm Station of the Cross on the outside**

Holy Monday: April 11th Reconciliation Mary Our Mother of Savior Church (Lady of Lourdes) 4pm-7pm

Holy Wednesday April 13pm: Healing Mass 6pm

Holy Thursday: April 14th Prims Mass 6pm

Good Friday April 15th

3pm Passion and Veneration of the Cross

6pm: Seven Last words of Christ

Please note that Good Friday is a day of Fasting:

Canon 919 of the *Code of Canon Law* states during Lent we are called to abstain from meat on Fridays as a reminder that our Lord offered His body a flesh sacrifice for our sins. We also abstain from meat and fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Here the fast entails having only one full meal a day which is sufficient to maintain one's strength. Two other meatless meals are allowed, but are to be light and penitential. Everyone 14 years of age and older is bound to the law of abstinence, and everyone 18 years of age but not yet 60 is bound to the law of fasting. Of course, one must be mindful of his own physical condition. These physical sacrifices help each of us to be spiritually mindful that Our Lord suffered and died for our sins.

Holy Saturday-April 16th

Blessing of food in the Church @ 10AM and Noon

Blessing of food @ home by request

8pm Eastern Vigil

Easter Sunday: April 17th

7:30 am no music

8:30AM High Mass with process-Polish/English

No 10am Polish Mass

11am Mass



Eucharist Devotion: An hour of Eucharist Devotion will be re-instituted starting Thursday, March 31st and continue every Thursday after the 12:10 Mass to 1:30pm. Prayers, Litany, Chaplet of Divine Mercy allowing also some private devotion time.

As we begin Holy Week, I think it is important to remind us that as Catholics there are 7 Precepts of Our Church. The meaning of the Precepts is a description of the absolute minimum actions required of us as Catholics. It reminds us that Christian life requires a commitment to prayer and active participation in the Liturgy and Sacraments. That as Catholics we represent a moral living when combined with the Commandments. And that each Precept is a requirement. Below are the 7 Precepts of the Catholic Church.

7 Precepts of the Church

- 1** Go to Mass and refrain from unnecessary work on Sundays and Holy Days
- 2** Observe the laws of fasting and abstinence
- 3** Confess our sins to a priest at least once a year
- 4** Receive Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter season
- 5** Contribute to the support of the Church
- 6** Obey the laws of the Church in regard to marriage
- 7** participate in the Church's mission of Evangelization

Other Holy Week Activities in other Parishes in Utica

Anthony/St Agnes Utica begin on February 25th and end on April 15th their Fish Fries. Hours are from 4pm-7pm. You may either walk in or call in your order -call 315 732-1177 after 3pm on Fridays. Dinners will be TAKE OUT ONLY. Menu: Fish Dinners, (Haddock, either fried or baked) \$14; Shrimp dinners \$15. All dinners include potatoes (fried or baked) Coleslaw, dinner roll and condiments

Support for Ukraine-



The Faith Formation programs of the Utica Greater Area will be sponsoring a 5K Walk for Ukraine on May 14th at Notre Dame Senior High from 10am to 1pm. The course will be around the Notre Dame track. Approx. 18 times around

This is open to all Faith Formation Families here in the Parish. There will be a \$5 entry fee for each family member walking. Sponsors for the participating walking are welcome. .

All proceeds from the walk will be forwarded to the Syracuse Diocese and marked for the Ukraine people who have been displaced in Poland.

Water and snacks will be sponsored by Walmart.

Adult Catechism: Adult Catechism continues on the first Sunday of every month @ 10AM. Classes will be held in the Cow Palace for all interested in learning to love & grow in faith. A different topic will be discussed each month related to the teaching of the Catechism.

Please see attachments provided regarding additional information.



Please remember to bring in the Rice Bowls this Sunday or the Sunday April 17th

First Communion: Practice 20th and 27th, the children will be practicing for the Sacrament of First Eucharist from 5:30pm to 7pm. The time has been extended as the children will be learning a song to sing at Mass. Please make sure the children are on time so we may start promptly. Last practice is on April 30th with a pizza afterwards.

Parents: I have attached the music from Ms. Sedgwick for the children to listen and practice to at home. You will have to download the music to have your child listen to the song (FYI they did very well this Wednesday with the song)

First Communion Banners: Due April not later than April 16th.

The Blessing Cup meal is scheduled for April 23rd from 12-2pm. A form must be returned no later than April 17th

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS 10th Grade: It is important that all students attend classes in order to make Confirmation on May 19th. Confirmation name and sponsor information is due by April 17th. This is the same for the letter to the bishop.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday @ 3:15pm prior to Mass and the 1st
Thursday of the month after the 12:10 Mass**

Mass Schedule

Saturday 4pm

Sunday 7:30 AM, 8:30AM, 10AM Polish Mass and 11am



Let's remember that as Catholics, it is important to attend Sunday Mass. At Mass we are able to stand mystically at the foot of the cross and witness for ourselves the same self-sacrifice of Jesus, in an unbloody manner. Mass is a celebration of this sacrifice. It is the active participation of all that come together in the place of worship.

Faith Formation Classes alone do not teach your children about their faith. It is important they see their faith in the Mass. Faith Formation is before the 11AM Mass, all families are welcome to this Mass. If unable to attend this Mass, please try to attend other Church Masses.

Sunday Reading's

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

First Reading: Is 50:4-7

Responsorial Psalm: PS 22: 8-9, 17-18- 19-20, 23-24

Second Reading: Phil 2:6-11

Gospel: Lk 22: 14-23:56



This week again there are 2 different reflections for this week's Gospel from St. Luke. Read both to your family and reflect on which one speaks most to them about Palm Sunday.

Written by: Patricia Geary, GNSH

Palm Sunday marks the transition from the season of Lent into the celebration of Holy Week. We recall our Lord's triumphal entry into the royal city as we spiritually join with the joy-filled crowd. Waving palm branches (symbols of goodness and victory), we make our way to Jerusalem for the annual beginning of the week of Passover. The traveling throng is all abuzz with stories of the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee, this Jesus who had recently driven out demons, cured two blind people, and actually raised a man from the dead. Amid the people's growing chants of "*Hosanna to the Son of David,*" many talk among themselves – "*Is he the 'one,' the long awaited Messiah-King?*" Yet, here he is riding on a common beast of burden, a donkey's colt, to contrast himself from the naked, brutal power exhibited by the Roman authorities present in Judea.

We mentally place ourselves at the scene on that first Palm Sunday as we wave our branches and sing for joy. However, much more is demanded of us. In today's powerful reading from

Philippians (2: 6-11), Paul encourages his disciples and each of us to consider the attitudes and actions of Jesus and contrast them with our own views and behaviors. *"He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave...he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death"* (2: 6-8). He challenges us to model ourselves after Jesus by being persons of humility and loving service. We may never do these things completely, but we can improve and bring our lives and attitudes more into alignment with Christ's.

As we begin this year's observance of Holy Week, let us ask the Lord to help us realize the Palm Sunday procession is just the beginning of our journey to Jerusalem (and all that ensues there). During this week, remember to pray for one another and for a world desperate for peace!

Reflect: How does the love and unending mercy of Jesus affect the way you live?

Reflection 2

Written by Sister JulieAnn Sheahan,

Luke presents a consistent image of Jesus. The qualities that Jesus has exhibited throughout his life are the same qualities with which Jesus moves toward his death. In the second verse of the text, Jesus tells those who have gathered for this last meal together that he has eagerly desired to eat this meal with them. But this is no ideal model of a final banquet. In the course of the meal, those gathered argued about who was the greatest, and Judas' betrayal and Peter's denial were predicted. From the beginning, Luke portrays Jesus as one who accepts the human imperfections and weaknesses of even his closest followers. On the Mount of Olives, Luke portrays Jesus as one who briefly wrestles with what lies before him, but then quickly accepts the will of his Father. Jesus' closest disciples are unable to endure in faith, and they betray him. Their behavior indicates that they have not internalized Jesus' preaching, and, as predicted, Peter denies his relationship with Jesus.

The one who will judge heaven and earth is led before the high priest, the Sanhedrin, Pilate, and Herod. Jesus seems to accept their authority. They bring charges against him that include being a revolutionary, forbidding the paying of taxes to Caesar, claiming to be king, and claiming to be the Christ and the Son of God. In the process of being questioned about these charges, he is also ridiculed, mocked, beaten, and flogged three different times. The crowds that greeted him and praised God as he entered Jerusalem now turn on him with anger and condemnation. Throughout, Jesus conducts himself with a sense of dignity and control. As he is being led to his crucifixion, Jesus ministers to women of Jerusalem, and his last spoken words are for forgiveness and hope to a criminal.

When Jesus finally hands over his spirit to his Father, the centurion who has witnessed what happened declares, "This man was innocent beyond a doubt." (Luke 23:47) Throughout his narrative, Luke reminds his audience of Jesus' innocence. Three times Pilate states that he does not find Jesus guilty of the charges. "Pilate then addressed the chief priests and the crowds, 'I find this man not guilty.' ... Pilate then summoned the chief priests, the rulers, and the people and said to them, 'you brought this man to me and accused him of inciting the people to revolt. I have conducted my investigation in your presence and have not found this man guilty of the charges you have brought against him, nor did Herod, for he sent him back to us. So no capital crime has been committed by him'. ... Pilate addressed them a third time, 'what evil has this man done? I found him guilty of no capital crime...'" (Luke 23:4, 13-15, 22) One of those crucified with Jesus says to his companion, "we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal." (Luke 23:41) Jesus' prayer to His Father, that those who are crucifying Him be forgiven, is also a testament of Jesus' innocence. (Luke 23:34) These reminders throughout the passion lead the reader to feel the truth of the centurion's statement as Jesus gives up

his life and darkness comes over the land. "This man was innocent beyond doubt." (Luke 23:47b)

Some may find the notion disturbing that Luke presents Jesus in the passion as accepting the will of his Father. In the culture of the day, an essential role of a father was to discipline his son, so that he would be able to deal with the difficulties of life as protector and provider of the family, in a harsh environment and society. The discipline a father inflicted on his sons was both physical and social. The gospels reflect the value of the culture in which they were written. In that culture, Jesus endures the harshest discipline imaginable and remains faithful to his Father, to his disciples, and to his mission. He is a faithful son of God.

Reflection Questions:

1. Did you have people in your life who knew how impose a sense of discipline well? Did it change at different periods of your life?
2. Do you recall periods of significant struggle? How have those periods impacted you now?
3. Are there places in this gospel where you found yourself more emotionally involved? What were some of the emotions you were feeling as this text unfolded? Was there one section that was particularly difficult?
4. What happens within you when you hear Jesus say, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer?"
5. What happens within you when you hear Peter repeatedly deny Jesus: "Woman, I do not know him." "My friend, I do not know what you are talking about"?
6. Finally, what happens within you as you hear Jesus say, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit?"
7. Can you take some time to talk with God openly and honestly about your experience of praying with this gospel?

This week we begin Holy Week. This week's prayer is to open our hearts and prepare us for the largest sacrifice the Lord did for us. His life for our eternal salvation.

Hosanna!

*Blessed is the
one who
comes in the
name of the
LORD.*



FRONT

A Palm Sunday Prayer
...

On this day of great rejoicing, Christ Jesus, when we welcome You as our King and Savior, we also walk in the shadow of Your cross. Hosanna! we cry. Blessed are You who comes in God's name to save us. Hosanna!

Strengthen our faith on this Palm Sunday so that when the time comes to carry the cross we might still call out to You with heartfelt praise.

Give us the grace and the courage to follow You this Holy Week from death to resurrection, from darkness to the fullness of light.

We need You, O Christ, our Savior.
Hosanna!

*A*men.

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BACK



DIOCESE NEWS

The Diocese invites you to join the Chrism Mass on Tuesday April 12th @ 11AM in the Cathedral. You may watch on [Yutube.com/Syrdio](https://www.youtube.com/Syrdio). See attached flier

Office of Family/Respect Life Ministry:

Holy Week at Home

As we continue to journey through this Lenten season why not celebrate Holy Week with your family with the following activities:

Holy Thursday

- Watch *The Prince of Egypt* - It covers the 10 plagues and the Passover!
- Plan a Last Supper Dinner - serve lamb if you are able, or make a cake for dessert in the shape of a lamb.
- Read Psalms 113-116 (or parts of them) while you wash one another's feet.

Good Friday

- Wear black on Good Friday or for all of the Triduum to mourn Jesus' death.
- Cut down on media - strive to turn off TVs , radio, and music and instead, attend liturgies and pray together.
- Start the day off with the tradition of Hot Cross Buns - the.spruceeats/hotcrossbuns.com
- Keep the vigil of Noon-3pm (the hours Jesus hung on the cross) with solemn silence and prayer.

Holy Saturday

- Take down Lenten decorations and start decorating and preparing food for Easter.
- Color Easter eggs and create Easter symbols in the home.

For more ideas on how to bring this Lenten/Easter season into your home go to www.catholicallyear.com.

Formation for Ministry/Deacon Formation Information Sessions. Is God calling you to learn more about your faith and serve the church? Come and see how Formation for Ministry and Deacon Formation can help you answer that call.; June 5, St. Anthony/St. Agnes, Utica; Sessions are 1:00-3:30.

Register at bit.ly/2022InfoSessions or formationforministrysyr.org or call 315-470-1491.

The **Office of Catechesis and the Office of Youth Ministry** are joining together to pray the Luminous Mysteries every Thursday during Lent and offering intentions for the children and youth of our diocese. Join our prayer initiative with your team at a time that is convenient for you! Our prayer intentions can be found at <https://bit.ly/children-and-youth-rosary> and in today's attachment.

Two Attachments - FB Post image & Rosary Intentions

Steubenville Youth Conference: Fearless!

July 15th - 17th, 2022

Registration is NOW OPEN on the [Diocesan website](#) event page. Register now, through April 15th, to secure your spot.

Join the Syracuse Diocesan Youth Office as we travel to the Steubenville main campus. Bring your youth group for a life-changing weekend along with 2200 other young people seeking to draw closer to Christ and renew their faith. The weekend is packed with engaging sessions, concerts, prayer, and opportunities to encounter Christ!

The registration and payment deadline is April 15, 2022. Contact OYYAM@syrдио.org for more information.

Have a Blessed and Safe Week.

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