

DISCIPLES CALLED TO WITNESS

St John the Evangelist Parish / St. Mary Parish

Bellaire - Neffs - Shadyside - Powhatan Point

www.bnspcatholic.org

Mission Statement : Inspired by the Holy Spirit and our Lord Jesus Christ, we strive to grow in faith, love and service to God and our neighbors.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

APRIL 13TH, 2025

St John Church (SJ) - 415 37th St, Bellaire, OH 43906

St. Mary Church (SM) - 240 E 40th St, Shadyside, OH 43947

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4:00 PM - SM Saturday 5:30 PM - SJ

Sunday 11:00 AM - SM Sunday 9:30 AM - SJ

WEEKDAY MASS

5:15 p.m. (Mon.) SJ 8:00 a.m. (Wed. & Fri.) - SJ 8:00 a.m. (Tues. & Thurs.) - SM 8:00 a.m.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. - SM

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - SJ

Monday: 4:30 p.m. - 5:00p.m. - SJ

Tuesday & Thursday: 7:30 -7:45a.m. - SM

Wednesday & Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 7:45a.m. - SJ

CENTRAL OFFICE

3745 Tallman Ave., Bellaire, OH 43906

Phone - (740) 676-0051 - Fax - (740) 671-9776

Email: office@bnspcatholic.org

Office Hours: M,W,F -

8:00am- 12:00pm / 1:00pm-4:00pm

Fr. Daniel Heusel, Pastor (SJ), Pastor (SM)

Cell: (740) 298-4158

Email: dheusel@diosteub.org

Mrs. Tonya Grimm, Secretary

(740) 676-0051

Email: stjohns3745@comcast.net

St. Mary Central Grade School, Martins Ferry

(740) 633-5424

Mrs. Theresa Young, Principal



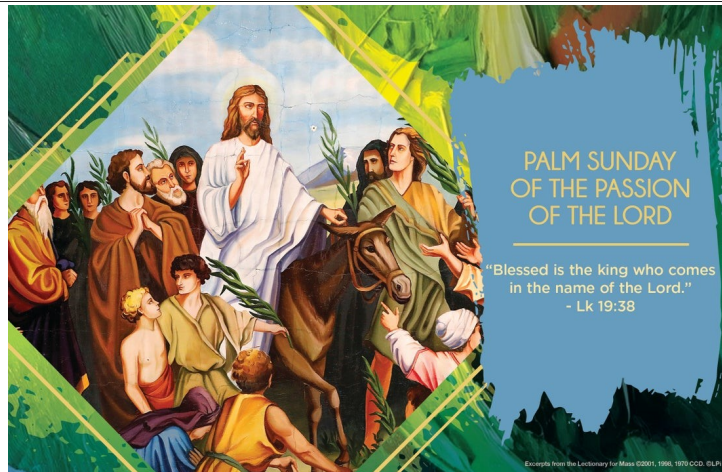
We use Flocknote to connect with you!

1. Text MISSION2LOVE to 84576 or 2.Go to StJohnandStMaryparishes.flocknote.com and sign up there! Receive updates, including the weekly bulletin, via email and text message!



www.fb.me/stjohn.bellaire.neffs

www.fb.me/stmary.shadyside.powhatan



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

O God, by whose wondrous grace we are enriched with every blessing, grant us so to pass from former ways to newness of life, that we may be made ready for the glory of the heavenly Kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

The Collect of the Passion of our Lord



MOTHER'S DAY NOVENA OF MASSES

Every year we offer a novena of masses during the month of May for our mothers, living and deceased. *Cards are available in church, if you would like to send one or give one.* If you would like to include your mother in the novena write her name (and the names of others you would like to remember) on the "Mother's Day Spiritual Bouquet" envelope with your offering for the masses and put the envelope in the collection basket. *If you don't need a card* you can include the names of the women you would like to remember on the smaller "Mother's Day Novena of Masses" envelope, with your offering, and put in collection basket.



EASTER MESSAGE SERIES

We love the brand new – new clothes, new gear, the new car smell. Two-thousand years ago Jesus rose from the dead and that means there is the power for each of us to be made brand new. To be made new we must believe in that power and open up ourselves to receive it. In this series we will look at how to tap into the power of the resurrection so that we can have a new life in Christ! This will a five-week message series that begins on Easter Sunday and run through the weekend of May 17/18.

Fr. Dan's Intentions for the Week

Saturday, April 12th, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

4:00p.m. (SM) + Larry Phillips (Wife ~ Paula & Sons)

5:30p.m. (SJ) + Joe Ronevich Sr. (Ernie & Mary Ann)

Sunday, April 13th, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

9:30a.m. (SJ) + Eddie Oboy (Family)

11:00a.m. (SM) + For the People of St. John's & St. Mary's

Monday, April 14th, Monday of Holy Week

9:30a.m. (SJ) + Roger Peters (Mike & Janie Klinec)*

Tuesday, April 15th, Tuesday of Holy Week

8:00a.m. (SM) + Joyce Mellott (Dixie & Jeanne Purtiman)

Wednesday, April 16th, Wednesday of Holy Week

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Paul Paolucci (Mom, Dad & Sister)

Thursday, April 17th Holy Thursday

7:00p.m. (SM) + Barb Warnock (Janie Ruskowski)

Friday: April 18th, Good Friday

7:00p.m. (SM) Commemoration of the Lords' Passion

Saturday, April 19th, Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

8:30p.m. (SM) + Patricia Padyjasek (Sons ~ Peter & John)

Sunday, April 20th, Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

9:30a.m. (SJ) + For the People of St. John's & St. Mary's

11:00a.m. (SM) + Norma Rataiczak (Tom & Sally Hotlosz)

*Note Mass time change on Monday



Lord, bless and protect those serving our country, especially: Lt. Col. Brian Zeno,

Airmen 1st Class Curtis McElfresh, Sgt. Christopher Wetzell,

Lance Corporal Zachary Knowlton, Staff Sgt. Wm. Kayne Melko,

HTF Kory Melko, Sgt. Joshua Hall, Staff

Sgt. Aaron Loeffler, Tech Sgt. Craig DeBeni, Major Trey

Vasey, Capt. Tom Dyer, Staff Sgt. Josh Pempek, Mitchell

Rataiczak, Master Sgt. Chris Dipold, Sgt. Ryan James, Sgt.

Dylan Frizzi, Sgt. Jake Foster and Pvt William Clegg,

Petty Officer Alex Rader, Pvt. Colton T. Selmon, 1st Lt.

DJ Olexa, Staff Sgt. Kelsey (Ryncarz) Turner, Senior

Airman Cameron Opic, PFC D'eondre Burney, Petty

Officer Jared Keiser, Petty Officer Brody P. Halenar, Major

Alex Beveridge, Lance Cpl. Keenan Cook

LITURGICAL MINISTERS: APRIL 19/20

St. John's—Easter Sunday (20th)

April 20th EM: T. Young Lector: L.A. Bennett
B. Wallner

St. Mary's Easter Vigil (19th) and Easter Sunday (20th)

April 19th EM: C. Bladen Lector: P. Beveridge
C. Flowers M. Brown/T. Bonfini

April 20th EM: M. Brown Lector: M. Brown

MEMORIAL DONATIONS TO ST. JOHN'S CHURCH



In Memory of Dom Davolio by Mark & Marchioli, Gerry & Rosy Mendelsohn, Sam & Barb D'Accioine & Susie

Offertory Collection

For the Weekend of April 5/6

St. John's: Adult (102env) \$4,716, Loose \$341, Easter (4env) \$31, Easter Flowers (15env) \$235, Holy Thursday (3env) \$4, Good Friday (3env) \$12, St. Vincent de Paul (8env) \$69, Grade School (4env) \$85, Building Fund (4env) \$90, Candles \$108

St. Mary's: Adult (56env) \$1590, Loose \$230.75, Easter (1env) \$20, Easter Flowers 5env) \$65, Holy Thursday (1env) \$20, Ash Wednesday (1env) \$5, Good Friday (1env) \$20, Grade School (3env) \$55, Building Fund (3env) \$65, Food Pantry (3env) \$42, Palm Sunday (1env) \$20, Candles \$115



Prayer List

Please Note: *This prayer list is an important part of our love for our brothers and sisters in need. Names will be included on this list for four weeks at*

a time. After four weeks a person's name will be removed

but can be added again the next week simply by calling the

office. Please pray for the following: Vicky Oboy, Lindy &

Don Freed, Jeremy Chirpas, Tyce Hughes, Jax McCort,

Dominic Alexander, Lou Ann Kinder, Mgrs. Gene Mullett,

Fr. Tom Petronek, Dorothy Kresak, Jeff Fahey, Quentin

Scott Coyne, Baby Everett Sommers, Ed and Rose

Grammar, Jackie (Donahue) Woods, Joe Boston Jr., Peggy

Kotson, Tom Galinski, Susan Vasey, Bob, & Tom, Mary

Kay Hanasky, Halen, Jim Garczyk, Natalie McFeley, John

Hanasky, Beverly Kolenich Beau Boston, Sharon Leonard,

Rosalind Fitch, Jerry & Phyllis, Adam Ruskowski, Jeff

Doneson, Joe Budrevich, Rudy Bresiger, Cathy Ciulles,

Warren Wright, Rich Price, Marlyn Marling, Jay Morgan,

Kathy Kavmirski, Sandy (Donahue) Bass, Kyrie Vincent,

Kim Scott, Gwen Brown, Bobby Roth, Peg Stipetich, Sarah

Stipetich, Rhonda Tipton, Rebecca Brown, Mary

DeGenova, Anthony De Genova Magan Nichole Sechrest,

Megan Kristin Sechrest, Lori Runyan, Monroe DeLuca,

Albert DeBlasis, Mary Jo Garner, Camden Thomas, Julie

Sharpe, Jill Brinker, Baby Kennedy Rae, Shelli Macurak,

Ainsley Oliniski, Mary Taris, Beth Baker Phillips, Linda

Ullom, Tom Kucera, Brian B., Joanne Dantrassy, Rita

Kovalo, Bruce Anastasia, Denise Myers, Todd Link,

Charlotte Kovalyk, Susan Gray, Shelley Garczyk, Danielle

Watt, Tom Galinski, Sylvia Breedlove, Bonnie Bustamante,

Cheryl Boston, Paula St. John, Bubba Peters

COMMUNION TO THE SICK/HOMEBOUND



If you know a relative or friend who is currently homebound or in a nursing home, who would like to receive communion taken to them, please contact Joe De Genova at 740-579-6154



PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE & 50/50

The Caring Crafters Annual Palm Sunday bake sale and 50/50 raffle is here! Come downstairs after the 9:30 Mass and 11:00 Masses for some delicious treats! The 50/50 winner drawn after the 11:00am mass. Please return all 50/50 tickets ASAP. Thanks for your support!

**SPRING ASSEMBLY**

Thank you so much for everyone who attended and gave input on the direction of our parishes! The crowd was small but some great ideas were generated. It gives me great hope and joy as a pastor to see parishioners wanting to take ownership of the mission Jesus has entrusted to us. Mark your calendars—our Spring Assembly next year will be Sunday, March 22, 2026!

**GOSPEL MEDITATION**

“As he rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road.” (Luke 19:36)

Consider how useless it is to spread your clothes on the ground for a donkey to walk on. The clothes get smeared with hooves, and who knows the grimy places where they've been? The animal may leave some unsavory presents on them. They may get stolen by a thief looking to make a buck. The thorns, thistles, rocks and muck of the road will leave stains. The clothes may never be useful again, and you'll probably walk home shivering without your normal covering. Yet this is precisely the gesture the people employ to welcome Jesus and his donkey. Why does this detail matter?

Wastefulness is an essential part of celebration. Consider the unnecessary extravagance of Christmas decorations, confetti and ticker tape parades, baseball players spraying each other with bottles of champagne after a victory, birthday gifts for kids and so on. This wastefulness signals celebration and therefore participation in higher identities (as believers, winners, and parents, to mention the above examples). That's what the wasted cloaks are all about. Those who donate their cloaks participate in Christ's kingship in Jerusalem — and we savor it two thousand years later.

The lesson? Learn how to “waste” money, time, clothes, and food on Christ. We do this at Mass, but in so many other ways, too, like serving the poor, going on retreats, and doing prayerful study. When we practice this holy wastefulness, Jesus will ride into our lives and we'll be more deeply members of his kingdom.

— Father John Muir

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**Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

9:30-10:45a.m. Family Faith Formation (SMRE)

6:00pm Palm Sunday Choir Fest (South Bellaire Methodist)

6:30p.m. Women's Small Group (SH)

Monday: 9:30a.m. Daily Mass (SJ)

1:00p.m. Mixed Small Group (SM)

2:00pm Chrism Mass (Basilica of the

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Marietta)

Tuesday: 9:00am-5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration (SM)

7:00p.m. Ecumenical Tenebrae Service

(New Beginning Church (former St. Michael's, Bellaire)

Wednesday: 6:30—7:30p.m. Confession (SJ)**Thursday: Holy Thursday**

3:00pm Server Practice (SM)

7:00p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper (SM)

Friday: Good Friday

9:30a.m. Cross Walk (Bellaire City Park)

12:00p.m. Shadyside Ecumenical Good Friday

Service (Shadyside Community Center)

3:00p.m. Stations of the Cross/Divine Mercy Novena (SM)

7:00p.m. Commemoration of Our Lord's Passion (SM)

Saturday: Holy Saturday

9:00a.m. Office of Readings (SM)

10:00a.m. OCIA Practice (SM)

3:00p.m. Divine Mercy Novena (SJ)

No 4:00pm or 5:30pm Masses today. The first mass of Easter is the Easter Vigil at 8:30p.m.

8:30pm The Easter Vigil Mass in the Holy Night (SM)

Sunday: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection

9:30a.m. (SJ)

11:00a.m. (SM)

Easter Egg Hunt after each mass

3:00 Divine Mercy Novena (SJ)

**REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE**

1st Reading Question: Isaiah bears witness as one who did not lose his faith despite persecution and ridicule. *Can you discuss a time when your faith was put to the test?*

2nd Reading Question: Paul teaches the Philippians that Jesus was humble and obedient to God even to the point of death by crucifixion. *Why do you think humility and obedience are important virtues in following Jesus?*

Gospel: In his passion narrative, Luke is the only evangelist to highlight that both Pilate and Herod (Antipas) find Jesus innocent of the charges against him. *Is there a friend or co-worker you could help this week who is being treated unfairly?* ©LPi

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Fr. Sam Soprano, Amanda “Mandy” Fahey, Richard “Sugar” Imbroscio, Bruce Dunlap, Wayne Meek, Patricia “Pat” Hitchcock, and Zora Kernik**. We offer our prayers also for their loved ones. *If you have a family member or friend that dies but was not buried from our parishes please call the parish office, we would like to include them here in this space.*



This Week on Formed

Week of April 13, 2025



Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage

Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage cinematically walks through the locations of the Holy Week story, representing the most important days of human history. Immersed in the Holy Land, the pilgrim is brought tangibly nearer to the story, the landscape, and the reality of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.



The Last Days: The Passion and Death of Jesus the Christ w/ Jonathan Roumie

This filmed presentation of the theatrical production movingly recreates the final moments of Jesus' earthly ministry as a teacher through His crucifixion and death. The play has been seen by thousands worldwide, not only as a live performance but also in live streams and televised broadcasts.



How to make a Palm Sunday Cross

Have you ever wondered how to make a cross with palms? Join Lyn Dam from the Archdiocese of Denver on how to make a palm leaf cross for Palm Sunday!

Our parish has a Formed subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

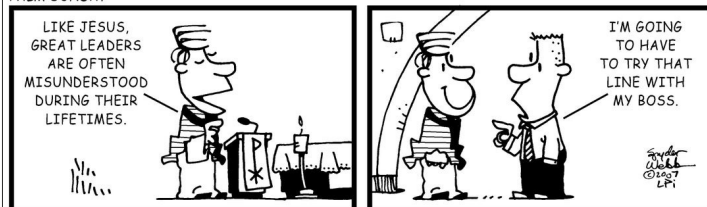
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PALM SUNDAY



MASSTIMES.ORG

Travelling? Never miss a weekend mass by finding mass times near your destination. Just go to masstimes.org and enter the city, state or zip code of the place you'll be visiting. And bring Fr. Dan back a bulletin!

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS AND THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Easter Sunday / April 20, 2025

First Reading: He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. (Acts 10:38)

Psalm: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad. (Ps 118)

Second Reading: If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. (Col 3:1)

Gospel: So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." (Jn 20:2)

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CCC 638-655, 989, 1001-1002: the Resurrection of Christ and our resurrection

CCC 647, 1167-1170, 1243, 1287: Easter, the Lord's Day
CCC 1212: the Sacraments of Initiation

Readings for the week of April 13, 2025

Sunday: Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14—23:56 or 23:1-49

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

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

Thursday: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 (see 1 Cor 10:16)/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 (Lk 23:46)/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday: Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15—15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/ Is 55:1-11/ Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 (12a)/Rom 6:3-11/Lk 24:1-12

Easter 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

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Stones Will Cry Out

I have a complicated relationship with evangelization.

I don't think that we (I'm talking about 21st-century American Catholics here) have had much formation around what exactly it means to proclaim the Gospel. We don't know how to do it. We don't really *want* to do it. It sounds kind of scary and awkward. It sounds like knocking on strangers' doors and yelling through the keyhole, "Have you accepted Christ as your Lord and Savior?" It sounds like arguing with friends and family. It sounds like a real pain.

I'm Catholic. I'm proud of being Catholic. I do my Catholic things in my Catholic house throughout my Catholic life. But is that enough?

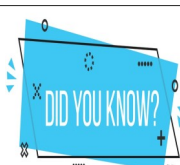
All Christians are called to "wordless witness" in how they live their lives, writes Paul VI in the apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Nuntiandi* — but this alone, he says, is "insufficient." We must talk about Jesus. We must name him. We must speak of his life, his promises. We must *proclaim* him.

We must be loud enough that a Pharisee would cringe at us.

And yet — and Paul VI acknowledges this — it's not actually evangelization if we do it so badly that nobody listens. If we "impose" truth on someone's conscience instead of "proposing" it. If we make the mistake of thinking there is one singular way to share Christ with the great variety of personalities that exist in this world.

Dear reader, I am running out of column space, and still I have no answers for you, or for myself. I don't know how to do it well. But I know we have to try. We have to pray. We have to reflect. We have to be patient. We have to be humble. We have to remember it's about him and not about us.

Most of all, when we find ourselves confused and retreating into silence, we must remember Christ's words: "If they keep silent, the stones will cry out." ©LPi



CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: True or False: St. Peter's Basilica stands taller than the Statue of Liberty.

Answer: True ©LPi

PALM SUNDAY



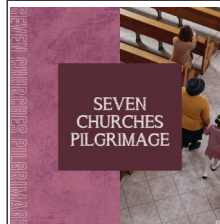
WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED Palm Sunday

Question: *Where do Palm Sunday palms come from and where should they go?*

Answer: The Palm Sunday celebration has ancient origins. Beginning the liturgy "outside" the church, we symbolically reenact Christ's entry into Jerusalem. The crowds in ancient Israel waved palm branches – a symbol of royalty – to welcome Jesus. These days, obtaining palms takes a lot of planning and coordination, as hundreds of thousands of churches worldwide need them on the same day! Many in the United States order palms from Florida, California, Texas, or Central America. Many companies stress the sustainability of their production and the just wages paid to their workers.

The palms used on Palm Sunday are blessed at Mass. This means they shouldn't end up in the trash! Many people weave palms into crosses or families display them in their homes. If you do not plan on displaying your palms throughout the year, they should be burned, buried, or left at the church. In the final case, the palms are burned to provide the ashes for next year's Ash Wednesday service.

©LPi



Devotions, Explained!

Seven Churches Pilgrimage, Explained

The Seven Churches Pilgrimage is the practice of visiting seven different churches on Holy Thursday, in imitation of the journey of Christ on the eve of his crucifixion.

The devotion is thought to have originated in sixteenth-century Rome, where pilgrims — likely led by St. Philip Neri — would visit the seven major basilicas there: St. Peter's in the Vatican, St. John Lateran, St. Paul Outside the Walls, St. Mary Major, St. Sebastian Outside the Walls, St. Lawrence Outside the Walls and Santa Croce in Gerusalemme.

Pilgrims undertaking this journey anywhere in the world can visit any seven churches while adoring Christ in the Blessed Sacrament upon the Altar of Repose, fulfilling his request of his disciples to stay with him as he awaited his Passion. There are specific Scripture passages that pilgrims can meditate upon at each altar. ©LPi

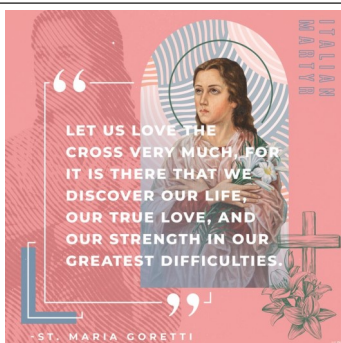




Hosanna to the Messiah!

While Jesus would not be crowned an earthly king, Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem has many parallels to the Messianic expectations of the Hebrew people. Before entering, Jesus requisitions a donkey from its owner. In the ancient world, kings had this right. Yet the animal that Jesus requests is rare -- a colt upon

which no one else has sat yet. Yet, it's a donkey. This is no great war-charger, no magnificent animal. Jesus acts with all the authority of an earthly king, yet his kingdom is one of simplicity and peace. As the disciples throw cloaks over the donkey, the crowd spreads theirs on the road. This ancient gesture dates back to the line of kings descended from David. Not only are these physical kingly gestures, but the crowd of followers cries out in jubilation and praise. The Messiah has come to Jerusalem!



Reverence for the Cross

Jesus warns us in the Gospel of Matthew, "If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." It is an invitation to a way of life, and a plan that leads to holiness. But make no mistake, it is a warning as well. The cross is a sign of victory, but only in

light of the Resurrection. Alone, it is a symbol of ultimate sacrifice: the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for a fallen world, and the sacrifice we are called to make to truly follow him.

The power of this symbol has been diminished in popular culture. It is often used in fashion and simple wall art and on bumper stickers and T-shirts, sometimes with Christian clichés and sometimes not. But the cross is something so much more. It is a reminder of the pain, suffering, and death of one who loved us so much that he would give his very life for us. It is our God on that cross. It is God who cries out in despair, feeling the ultimate depth of human emotion. And there lies the key for us in trying to live this life of carrying our crosses.

For those who suffer the death of a loved one, the Father lost his Son. For those who suffer the ravages of disease, his body was broken, beaten, and pierced. For those who feel they have no way out - whether due to prisons that are physical or prisons that are of the mind - he hung on a cross and cried out, "Why?" For those who feel alone and abandoned, he hung on a tree where no one could comfort him, not even his own mother. He has walked in all our shoes, and now we are called to walk in his. In the cross, we find solidarity with the human condition. In an empty tomb, we find our hope.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

A God Who Knows How It Feels

Christ could have spoken anything from the cross, so why did he choose to recite Psalm 22? And why is it so important that we recite that same Psalm at today's Mass?

"My God, my God, why have You abandoned me?"

We've never known the Jesus of the Gospels to doubt the will of God. We've never known him to be a defeatist or to give into feelings of despair. He's the hero who walks on water, the Savior who is welcomed to Jerusalem with a pathway of palms. And he knows how this story ends; he knows full well that his Father has absolutely *not* abandoned him.

So why does he say this? Jesus doesn't make offhanded comments, especially in his last hour. Today, when we repeat the words that he calls out in his darkest moment, we must remember that he wants us, very particularly, to consider them.

With his crucifixion, Jesus reminds us of his humanity. He is a man of flesh that can be torn and blood that can be shed. Somehow, in tandem with his divinity, he still possesses a heart that knows fear and pain and longing. And with this seemingly hopeless cry, he reminds us of that.

Let us never doubt that Jesus can relate to us in our brokenness. This is the week, friends. This is the week that reminds us that our God is a God who knows every pang, every trembling, and every uncertainty of human life. Our God knows what abandonment feels like. He knows what rejection feels like. He knows what it is to keep going when the strength and the will has disappeared.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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ST. JOHN'S AND ST. MARY'S DISCOVERY TOOL

POWERED BY MINISTRY ARCHITECTS
VOLUNTEER ACCELERATOR

We offer to all our parishioners a short but powerful survey— what are calling our Discovery Tool! In just a few minutes, you'll have your results and a better sense of how your interests and gifts align with the service opportunities and ministries of our church. When we understand more about our God-given talents and what brings us joy and a sense of purpose, we are better equipped to walk in love -- serving God, our parish, and our community as Jesus calls us to do. Scan the QR code to find the link to the survey, or on our website - bnspcatholic.org



BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE

Jesus' Death is Our Example

"Jesus, who upon entering into the world said: "I have come, O God, to do your will" (cf. Heb 10:9), made himself obedient to the Father in everything and, "having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end" (Jn 13:1), giving himself completely for them.

He who had come "not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mk 10:45), attains on the Cross the heights of love: "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (Jn 15:13). And he died for us while we were yet sinners (cf. Rom 5:8).

In this way Jesus proclaims that life finds its center, its meaning and its fulfillment when it is given up. At this point our meditation becomes praise and thanksgiving, and at the same time urges us to imitate Christ and follow in his footsteps (cf. 1 Pt 2:21). We too are called to give our lives for our brothers and sisters, and thus to realize in the fullness of truth the meaning and destiny of our existence." *St. John Paul II, The Gospel of Life, n. 51.*



SPIRITUAL ADOPTION PROGRAM

Our Parishes are once again participating in the Spiritual Adoption Program. The program is to raise awareness about the sanctity of life and the potential for abortion, encouraging participants to pray for the well-being of unborn children.

We are asking everyone to please participate!

PRAYER – FOR EVERYDAY AND EVERYBODY



Prayer for Holy Week

Dear Lord,
I open my heart to You,
offering every day and night to You
in sacred surrender.

I pray for the grace to accompany
You in a special way this Holy Week,
joining and offering the trials I

encounter on our shared journey to the cross and to a
victorious hope. Amen. ©LPi



Seven Essential Elements of Parish Life

Evangelization – The ways in which a parish continues to spread the Good News of Jesus, especially (though not exclusively) through personal and communal sharing of faith. (66)

Worship – The communal witness to the sovereignty of God, the abiding presence of Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit at work in the Church, particularly in the Sunday Eucharist and other sacramental and liturgical rites. (70)

Word – Those things that pertain to the ongoing process of spiritual maturation and growth of individuals and as a community of faith. "The deepening of faith results from echoing God's word, which takes place in a variety of ways and in multiple contexts within the life of the Church." The word "catechesis" denotes the process of handing on the faith. (73)

Community – The element of parish life which "draws parishioners together in mutual support, activity, celebration and growth. It is the unity that results when members become involved with one another in all aspects of the pastoral mission." A parish is a place where everyone belongs. Inclusivity and mutuality are hallmarks of community. (76)

Service – The mission to which Christ calls the Church clearly includes works of charity and justice. "We cannot be truly 'Catholic' unless we hear and heed the Church's call to serve those in need and work for justice and peace." *Communities of Salt and Light: Reflections on the Social Ministry of the Parish*, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1993. (79)

Stewardship – We are called to make the most responsible use of our gifts and resources. "Stewardship, for believers, involves the sharing of individual time, talents, and treasure, as well as the commitment of communal resources (temporal, financial, human, etc.) in service to the community of faith." (83)

Leadership – "Effective parish pastoral councils require a shared leadership among clergy and laity which calls forth the gifts of visioning, planning, empowering, and evaluating. These gifts are placed at the service of the community for the fulfillment of the pastoral mission." (87)

Eucharist at the Center – "The communal celebration of Sunday Eucharist (which includes the Saturday evening Vigil) is both the source and summit of the seven essential elements of parish life." (90)

From *Revisioning the Parish Pastoral Council*, by Mary Ann Gubish and Susan Jenny, S.C. with Arlene McGannon, Paulist Press, 2001.

Jubilee

YEAR OF HOPE



Characteristics of the Jubilee Year

Pilgrimage

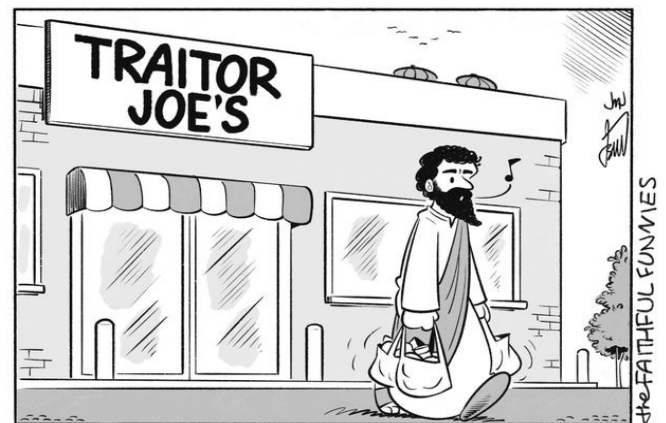
The jubilee calls for us to set out on a journey and to cross boundaries. When we travel, we do not only change place physically, but we also change ourselves. Hence, it is important to prepare ourselves well, to plan the route, and learn about the destination. In this sense, the Jubilee pilgrimage begins before the start of the journey itself: the starting point is the decision to set out. The etymology of the word "pilgrimage" is quite telling and has undergone little change in meaning over the years. The word comes from the Latin "per ager," meaning "across the fields," or perhaps from "per eger" meaning "border crossing": both possible origins point to the distinctive aspect of undertaking a journey.

In the Bible, Abraham is described as a person on a journey: "Go forth from your land, your relatives, and from your father's house" (Genesis 12:1). With these words Abraham begins his adventure, which ends in the Promised Land, where he is remembered as a "wandering Aramean" (Deuteronomy 26:5). Jesus' ministry can also be seen as a journey, from Galilee to the Holy City of Jerusalem ... "As the time drew near when Jesus would be taken up to heaven, he made up his mind and set out on his way to Jerusalem." (Luke 9:51). Christ himself calls His disciples to walk this road, and even today Christians are those who follow him and set out after Him.

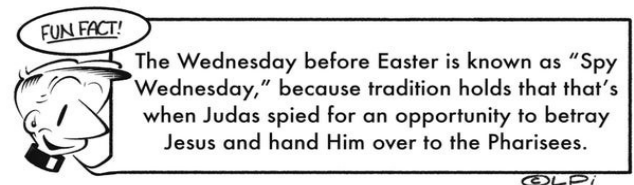
The journey takes place gradually: there are various routes to choose from and places to discover; it is made up of particular sets of circumstances, moments of catechesis, sacred rites and liturgies. Along the way our traveling companions enrich us with new ways of understanding things and fresh perspectives. Contemplation of creation is also part of the journey and helps us to realize that care for creation "is an essential expression of our faith in God and our obedience to his will" (Pope Francis, Letter for the Jubilee 2025). Pilgrimage is an experience of conversion, of transforming one's very being to conform it to the holiness of God. During the pilgrimage, one also shares in the experience of those who, for various reasons, are forced to leave their homelands to seek a better life for themselves and their family.

Next week's characteristic—"Holy Door"

"Where did Judas shop for groceries?"



"At Traitor Joe's."



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

The disciples followed Jesus' careful instructions for his entry to Jerusalem, even though they did not understand his words. Today, we too, look ahead to his arrival. In obedience, let us prepare the way for the King. ©LPi

The Dynamic Catholic Prayer

Loving Father,
I invite you into my life today
and make myself available to you.
Help me to become the-best-version-of-myself
by seeking your will
and becoming a living example of your love in the world.
Open my heart to the areas of my life that need to change
in order for me to carry out the mission
and experience the joy you have imagined for my life.
Inspire me to live the Catholic faith
in ways that are dynamic and engaging.
Show me how to best get involved in the life of my parish.
Make our community hungry
for best practices and continuous learning.
Give me courage when I am afraid,
hope when I am discouraged,
and clarity in times of decision.
Teach me to enjoy uncertainty
and lead your Church
to become all you imagined it would be
for the people of our times.
Amen.

(Please pray this prayer every day for our parishes)

March Is National Nutrition Month



"Keys to a healthy you. Drink 48 or more ounces of water daily. Eat dark green vegetables, whole grains, beans and lentils, fish, winter squash, berries, and soy. Cut back on red meats, sweets, and salty snacks. For you and the ones you love." **Evelyn Krapa Parsons, RDN**

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The Boston & Donahue Families
By Cheryl Boston

In Loving Memory of
Bill Kahl *by Wife Karen*
George, Bud, Murph & Jerry Snider
By Sister & Family

In Loving Memory of the
Kuchinka, Teasdale & Stolz Families
by Marion & Jeff

In Loving Memory of
The Masciarelli & Smigill Families
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BINGO NIGHTS
ST JOHN CENTRAL ACADEMY

The 1st **Sunday & Thursday** of the month. On Sundays doors open at 1:00p.m. & Bingo starts at 2:00p.m.

Thursday doors open at 4:00 & Bingo starts at 5:00.

Concessions / Raffles/Other Prizes/Pull Tabs
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No Food brought in please!
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