

PALM SUNDAY

OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Church of St. Mary

Closter, New Jersey

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, APRIL 1 –

Mt. 21: 1-11; Is. 50: 4-7; Phil 2: 6-11; Mt. 26: 14-27: 66 or 27: 11-54

5:00 PM Richard Luzzi / req. by Paula Cummings

SUNDAY, APRIL 2 –

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Mt. 21: 1-11; Is. 50: 4-7; Phil 2: 6-11; Mt. 26: 14-27: 66 or 27: 11-54

8:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased
11:00 AM Pat Conte
req. by Pasquale & Angelina Conte, Dominick Conte & Family and Teresa Russo & Family

MONDAY, APRIL 3 – MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

Is. 42: 1-7; Jn. 12: 1-11

8:00 AM Josephine Brana / req. by Marina Lopez

TUESDAY, APRIL 4 – TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

Is. 49: 1-6; Jn. 13: 21-33, 36-38

8:00 AM Helmut Hockenmaier
req. by Mike and Cathy Thornhill

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5 – WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

Is. 50: 4-9a; Mt. 26: 14-25

8:00 AM Catherine Marino
req. by Mary and Bruno Macchiavelli & Family

THURSDAY, APRIL 6 – THURSDAY OF HOLY WEEK – HOLY THURSDAY

Ex. 12: 1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor. 11: 23-26; Jn. 13: 1-15

8:00 AM Morning Prayer
7:30 PM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased

FRIDAY, APRIL 7 – FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD – GOOD FRIDAY

Is. 52: 13-53: 12; Heb. 4: 14-16, 5: 7-9; Jn. 18: 1-19: 42

8:00 AM Morning Prayer

SATURDAY, APRIL 8 – 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; Mt. 28: 1-10

8:00 AM Morning Prayer
8:00 PM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased

SUNDAY, APRIL 9 – EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Acts 10: 34a, 37-43; Col. 3: 1-4 or 1 Cor. 5: 6b-8; Jn. 20: 1-9 or Mt. 28: 1-10

8:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased
11:00 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased



THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Blessed Virgin Mary Candle – In memory of
Anthony Lupardi, Sr.,
req. by the Correa Family and Pack 20

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Today, we enter into Holy Week with the celebration of Palm Sunday and we begin the most sacred time of the year for all Christians.

Today, we mark the entry into Jerusalem of Jesus as he prepares to celebrate the Last Supper with his disciples, to die on the cross, and to rise again on the third day. The church invites us to make this solemn journey with him by participating in the liturgies of Holy Week. Each day we are invited to go with Jesus to the Upper Room, to Calvary, to the tomb, and to the Resurrection. Please make every effort to join us this week as we celebrate the most holy days of the year.

Morning Prayer will be celebrated on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of this week at 8:00 AM. Please join us for these and all our Holy Week Masses and services.

Please note that on Saturday, Holy Saturday evening, April 8th, the Solemn Easter Vigil will be held at 8:00 PM. There will not be a 5:00 PM Mass that evening.

Sincerely in the Lord,

Fr. Joe

Pray for the Sick

Catherine Arnao, Giulia Belfert, Glen Connolly, Mary Connolly, Joseph Culhane, Thomas DeFabiis, Orlee Fromm, Amy Hartwell, Sr. Dominic Marie McDonnell, Kim McWilliams, Jacqueline Mundy, Michael Mundy, Anthony Neusch, Brianna Neusch, Michele Neusch, John Pagano, Alicia Parent, Canice Connolly Prince, Joanne Surterenonet, Baby Luke Totaro, Marianne Tracey

Prayer List

If you would like to add a name to or have a name removed from our prayer list please e-mail gditzel@stmarycloster.org or call the rectory at 201-768-7565. To add a name you must have the permission of the person or their family.

Hospital Privacy

Please remember that current privacy laws regarding patients in hospitals do not allow the hospitals/pastoral care offices to contact parishes if their parishioners are in the hospital. If you or a loved one are going into the hospital and want Father to visit you or a loved one (covid regulations permitting), please call the rectory office and let us know.

ANNOUNCED SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Weekly offerings of: Altar Bread, Altar Wine, Blessed Virgin Mary Candle and Sanctuary Candle are available throughout 2023.

This can be arranged either by calling Grace at the rectory at 201-768-7565 and leaving a message or sending an e-mail to gditzel@stmarycloster.org.

SECOND COLLECTION

Next weekend, **April 8th** and **9th** the second collection is for Repairs and Maintenance.

Why the MAINTENANCE COLLECTION?

The monthly MAINTENANCE COLLECTION funds the regular upkeep of St. Mary's physical plant: school, former convent, rectory, church and grounds. Our buildings are certainly not "new" and we have a responsibility to maintain these resources entrusted to us. Donations to this collection are "restricted" and are not subject to the 14% assessment by the Archdiocese. Thank you for being good caretakers of our spiritual home, St. Mary's.



Scrip Orders

We will be placing an order for Scrip Gift Cards Monday morning, **April 3rd**. Scrip cards which are prepaid cards that are used like cash are available for many different stores, restaurants, gas stations, hotels, etc. The Church of St. Mary receives a certain percentage of each card purchased (2% to

15% or more depending on the card) and doesn't cost you anything extra. Please have your orders to us no later than 10:00 AM Monday. Info and order forms can be found on our website or you can setup an account online at www.ShopwithScrip.com (registration # is D84E6EB522L51) pay either by PrestoPay or check made out to Church of St. Mary. If you don't see a certain card on the list feel free to call, it may be available. Contact Grace Ditzel at gditzel@stmarycloster.org or 201-768-7565 for further information

From the Faith Formation Coordinator

Good day parishioners,

I had the privilege of spending time with our Lambs group and their parents last weekend. The children created their First Communion banners that will be on display at the pews for their ceremony in May. These children are so bright and ready to receive this sacrament and I am excited for their families and them.

Please continue to pray for them as they have their last two sessions before receiving the sacrament.

God bless and have a beautiful week.

Maria Matos

Thank You . . .

On behalf of the Food and Assistance Board of Closter and the families we serve through the Closter Food Pantry, I would like to thank the Faith Formation Families of St. Mary's Church for their donation of food items and a \$30 Stop and Shop gift card on September 24th, 2022. Your ongoing support of our pantry is truly appreciated.

Your donations were used to fill our pantry with needed items, and gift cards are distributed to local families in need, ensuring that they can purchase produce, meat and dairy products to supplement the non-perishables we supply from the Closter Food Pantry. The pantry helps our neighbors maintain their quality of life and personal dignity during times of unexpected hardship, and you have made it so much easier for us to meet the needs of our clients effectively.

Thank you so much for reaching out to support those in our community who are in need. Your donation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Miriam Lambert, Chair, Food and Assistance Board of Closter

Why Register at St. Mary's?

First, because we need each other on this journey of life and faith!

Every Catholic should be registered in a parish. Beside the active support and involvement that the registration enables, parish registration is also a mandatory condition for many sacraments including Baptism and Matrimony and being a sponsor or godparent. It is therefore important to register at St. Mary's as soon as you start worshipping with us regularly.

- You may receive verification letters to sponsor individuals for sacraments, receive sacraments yourself or your child (i.e. marriage, baptism).
- You will receive end of the year tax contribution statements.
- You will be personally invited to gatherings to meet the staff and other parishioners.
- The parish will know the demographics and respond to needs. Further, the Archdiocese will know that our parish has a healthy base of registered, supportive parishioners.

[CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION FORM!](#)

Stephanie Cywinski-O'Brien Student Scholarship Applications – 2023

Student scholarships are available through the Stephanie Cywinski-O'Brien Trust. Applications are now being accepted from parish 7th and 8th grade students (primary consideration) attending a Catholic grammar school, as well as Freshmen and Sophomores (secondary consideration) attending a Catholic high school and continuing their education at a Catholic school. Applications and eligibility requirements are available at the parish office and/or on the parish website. Applications are due **April 7th** with decisions due on or about May 1st.



greatly due to vacations, inclement weather, etc. It is difficult to the budget and provide for ministry under these circumstances. And we sometimes simply forget to make-up our offering because, well, life gets busy. Please consider making your offering to St. Mary's through egiving or bank transfer. A number of parishioners are using St. Mary's Parishgiving platform. It's secure and convenient and costs the donor nothing. Just go online, sign-up and indicate your offering. You may even get "points" on your rewards credit card for doing so! You can also have your bank transfer the funds directly. Simply visit stmarycloster.org and follow the link to Parishgiving or you can scan the QR code with your cell phone. Thank you to our dedicated and generous parishioners who make ministry possible at St. Mary's.



Stabilizing the Sunday Collection

St. Mary's, like your household must count on a steady and predictable income to pay the bills. Our Sunday collections fluctuate

Christian Marriage Anniversary Liturgies

We are excited to announce we are once again preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of valid marriage for the Catholic faithful in the year 2023!

These anniversary liturgies will be held in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows below. The 50th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin. The 5th and 25th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Gregory Studerus.

Fifty years on Sunday, **April 16th** at 3:00 PM

Five years and twenty-five years on Sunday, **May 7th** at 3:00 PM

Please call Grace at the rectory at 201-768-7565 to register. The **deadline** for April 16th is **April 5th** and the deadline for May 7th is **April 27th**.

It is our desire that every couple in the Archdiocese deserving of such recognition be present at the appropriate liturgy. The presence of these couples will be a tender witness to the strength and stability of Christian marriage in today's society.

The Archdiocese will acknowledge the reservation directly to the celebrating couple and provide them with directions to the Cathedral Basilica.

Since we were unable to host these celebrations in 2020 and 2021, and many families are still playing 'catch-up' with their celebrations, any couple who would have celebrated their Silver or Gold Anniversary in those years may still join us as well. Please note whether the milestone anniversary took place in **2020, 2021** (or even if they missed in **2022**), the certificates will still say Silver or Gold, not 26, 51 etc.

How To Report Abuse

The Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse.

Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at 201-407-3256.

Sacrament Certificate Requests

For various reasons there are times when one needs to obtain a new current Baptism, First Eucharist, Confirmation, or Marriage Certificate. When doing so please allow the office **at least two weeks time**. Thank you.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY PARISH

Sun. – April 2nd – Palm Sunday :

8:30 AM and 11:00 AM – Mass
9:30 AM – 10:50 AM – 7th Grade Doves – Faith Formation Building
9:30 AM – 10:50 AM – Confirmation Program – Faith Formation Building
9:30 AM – 10:50 AM – Sacramental Program – Sprouts and Lambs – Faith Formation Building

Mon. – April 3rd :

8:30 AM – Immaculate Medal Novena – Church
Scrip Orders being placed no later than 10:00 AM
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM – Prayer Shawl Ministry – Fr. Roger Troy Hall
3:15 PM – 5:00 PM – 7th Grade Doves – Faith Formation Building
8:00 PM – Chrism Mass – Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart – Newark

Wed. – April 5th :

8:30 AM – Exposition – Church
9:15 AM – Scripture Study – via Zoom*
4:00 PM – Stations of the Cross – Church
7:00 PM – Stations of the Cross – Church

Thur. – April 6th – Holy Thursday :

8:00 AM – Morning Prayer – Church
12:00 PM – All parish offices close early
7:30 PM – Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 PM – Church

Fri. – April 7th – Good Friday :

8:00 AM – Morning Prayer – Church
All parish offices are closed
3:00 PM – Solemn Liturgy of the Passion
7:30 PM – Stations of the Cross – Church

Sat. – April 8th – Holy Saturday :

8:00 AM – Morning Prayer – Church
8:00 PM – The Great Vigil of Easter and First Mass of Easter – Church

Sun. – April 9th – Easter Sunday :

8:30 AM and 11:00 AM – Mass

* Scripture Study

Meets every Wednesday at 9:15 AM via Zoom. For more information contact Dave Reeves at 551-206-5284.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



Palm Sunday, April 2nd

Masses at 5:00 PM (Sat.),
8:30 AM *, and 11:00 AM (Sun.)

Monday of Holy Week
**Chrism Mass (Sacred Heart Cathedral
Basilica, Newark) – 8:00 PM ***

Monday of Holy Week
8:00 AM Mass

Tuesday of Holy Week
8:00 AM Mass

Wednesday of Holy Week
8:00 AM Mass

Holy Thursday, April 6th

8:00 AM Morning Prayer
7:30 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
after Mass until 10:00 PM in Church

Good Friday, April 7th

8:00 AM Morning Prayer
3:00 PM Solemn Liturgy of the Passion
7:30 PM – Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 8th

8:00 AM Morning Prayer
8:00 PM The Great Vigil of Easter and First Mass of Easter

Easter Sunday, April 9th

Masses at 8:30 AM * and 11:00 AM

*Will be livestreamed

Pontifical Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land

The Collection for the Holy Land, in the words of Paul VI is "not only for the Holy Places but above all for those pastoral, charitable, educational, and social works which the Church supports in the Holy Land for the welfare of their Christian brethren and of the local communities.

The Holy Land collection is taken up on Good Friday, **April 7th**.

Stations of the Cross

We have Stations of the Cross every Wednesday during Lent at 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM.



Paschal Candle

If anyone is interested in donating the Paschal Candle in memory of someone, please contact the rectory for more information.

Archdiocese Of Newark 2023 Lenten Regulations

Good Friday is a day of both Fast and Abstinence. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted, **and two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.** Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast. On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.

Parish Offices Easter Hours

All parish offices will close at **12:00 PM on Thursday, April 6th** and reopen at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, **April 11th**

2023 Annual Appeal

Proclaiming the Gospel
Passing on the Faith
Caring for the Poor and Vulnerable
Forming Future Priest and Supporting Retired Clergy

St. Mary's Goal is \$29,000.00
Please help us reach it!

If you didn't see the video from Archbishop Cardinal Tobin you can view it at <https://www.rcan.org/video>.

You may make your donation at Mass, on Parish Giving or at [rcan.org/sharing](https://www.rcan.org/sharing).

Thank you to those that have already made their donations.

Sacrament of Reconciliation – by Appointment

Please contact Fr. Joe at the Rectory at 201-768-7565.

Funerals, Weddings, Baptisms

Please contact the parish office at 201-768-7565.

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Friday-Saturday: 4pm-11pm
Sunday: 12pm-9pm

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