

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

The Entombment of Christ

GOOD FRIDAY

Graces for the Taking

By Father Eric

During this Holy Week, we spiritually enter into the events that comprise the high point and center of all human history. These events brought about human liberation and triumph over our ultimate adversaries, namely sin and death. It is important to carve out time during the week to ponder these sacred happenings.

One way to enter the events that we commemorate are through the Church's liturgies. The Holy Thursday Mass begins at 7:00 PM. As you come into Church that night, there is no need to genuflect as you will notice that the Tabernacle is empty. In the Holy Thursday liturgy, we recall that when Jesus knew that He was hours away from a horrible death, He responded by giving us Himself in the Holy Eucharist for the first time. He washed the feet of the Apostles as His last teaching regarding the lives of humble service to which they were called. During the liturgy, the washing of the feet is re-enacted. At the end of the service, the Eucharist is processed from the Church to an altar of repose. We will set up our altar of repose in the Funeral Chapel. The Chapel will be open from the end of the Holy Thursday Mass until midnight so that people can come to pray to Jesus and to keep Him company. These night hours correspond to Jesus' time in Gethsemane when He prayed with so much anguish that He sweat blood, when His three closest followers could not keep Him company but kept falling asleep, and when He was betrayed.

The stark Good Friday Liturgy begins at 3:00 PM. There is no Roman Catholic Mass anywhere in the world that day, so you will notice that there is no consecration of the Eucharist at that service. The liturgy that day has very beautiful readings taken from the Song of the Suffering Servant in Isaiah and from John's account of Jesus' Passion. A particularly moving part of the ceremony is the Veneration of the Cross, where everyone comes forward to pay reverence to the Cross (which was historically an instrument of tortuous execution) as the instrument of our salvation. As we reverence the Cross that afternoon, we also reverence all the crosses that we have carried and continue to carry trusting that some how, some way, God will make them sources of grace and salvation for us. This Veneration will be streamlined to take less time than last year.

Tenebrae is not an official liturgy of the Church but is a very moving ceremony that contrasts light and darkness. The ceremony which lasts roughly a half-hour will begin at 9:00 PM. The ceremony will allow us to enter into the darkness and silence that occurred with Jesus' death, while calling us to continue to trust that the Light ultimately triumphs.

The Easter Masses will be at 9:00 PM on Saturday, and 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 AM on Sunday. The Easter Vigil on Saturday night is my favorite liturgy of the year as the readings take us through salvation history showing how the entire Old Testament was a preparation for the night of the Lord's rising. At that Mass, those preparing to enter the Church are Baptized, Confirmed, and receive First Holy Communion. The events of Holy Week reveal the meaning and purpose of human life – they also reveal the infinite love and mercy of God. As believers, this week we ponder these most extraordinary events.



Liturgy Schedule

Monday of Holy Week, April 3rd (St. Mary's)

8:15 AM Ashley, Maddy, Savannah, Samantha & Logan

Tuesday of Holy Week, April 4th (MHT)

8:15 AM †Marie & Urban Weber, including Ken

Wednesday of Holy Week, April 5th (MHT)

7:00 PM †Donald Goerge, including living & deceased family members

Holy Thursday, April 6th (St. Mary's)

7:00 PM †Sister Mary Cyrilla Jegla

Good Friday, April 7th (St. Mary's)

3:00 PM Friday of the Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday, April 8th • Easter Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord

9:00 PM (St. Mary's) People of St. Mary's Parish

Sunday, April 9th • Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

7:30 AM (St. Mary's) †Melvin & Margaret Schneider, including living & deceased family members

8:30 AM (MHT) †Aimee Antes, including living & deceased family members

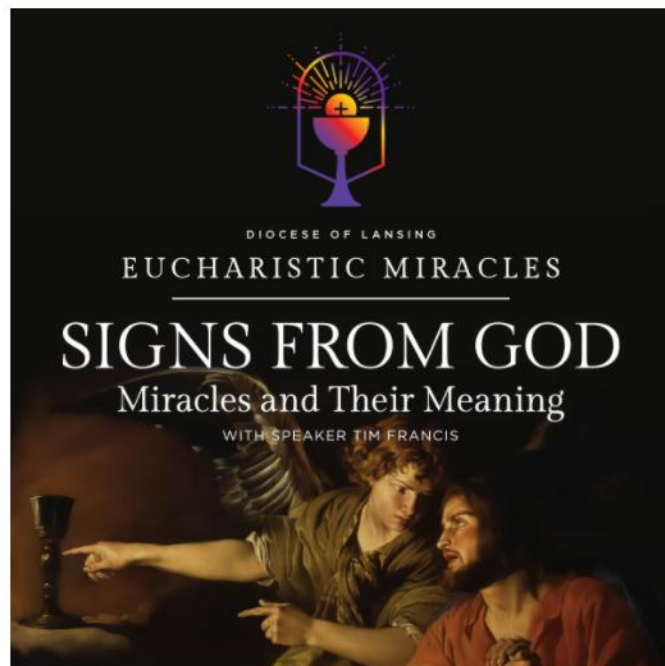
9:30 AM (St. Mary's) †Lewis & Esther Pung, including living & deceased family members

10:30 AM (MHT) †Harold & Anna Pung, including living & deceased family members

11:30 AM (St. Mary's) †Herman & Kathleen Miller

There is no 6:00 PM Mass on Easter Sunday

Upcoming Spiritual Opportunities



Renowned Catholic speaker, Tim Francis, will be visiting the Diocese of Lansing this month with his powerful presentation exploring the meaning of Eucharistic miracles throughout history.

- **Monday, April 17: Lansing Catholic High School, Lansing;**
- **Tuesday, April 18: Saint Joseph Church, Howell. Holy Mass, 6pm. Presentation, 6.45pm;**
- **Wednesday, April 19: Lumen Christi Catholic High School, Jackson;**
- **Thursday, April 20: Father Gabriel Richard Catholic High School, Ann Arbor;**
- **Friday, April 21: Powers Catholic High School, Flint.**

Entitled *Signs from God: Miracles and Their Meaning*, each presentation is free and open to all. **Unless otherwise stated, doors open at 5 PM and the experience concludes at 8:30 PM.**

Bishop Boyes states: "Tim's 90 minute presentation on Eucharistic miracles as signs from God has brought many to a greater belief in, and love for, Our Lord truly present in the Holy Eucharist. His work is as fascinating as it is inspiring. Therefore, it is my prayer that you too, along with many others, will be similarly inspired by Tim's presentation of these science defying miracles such that every soul in our diocese will one day echo the words of St. Ignatius of Antioch: 'I hunger for the bread of God, the flesh of Jesus Christ; I long to drink of his blood, the gift of unending love'."



Weekend Ministry Schedule

April 8th • Easter Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord

9:00 PM Mass

Readers	Sheri Wohlfert, Ryan Pung, Jim Thelen, Scott Noeker, Alice Bengel, Barb Spitzley, Laurie Sillman, Sue Thelen
EMC	Ryan Pung, Dave & Sheri Wohlfert
Servers	Nathan Rehmann, Benjamin Rehmann, Andrew Rehmann, Jameson Huhn, Brandon Buskalic
Ushers	Tory Schneider, Ryan Schneider, Bruce Spitzley, 1 volunteer

April 9th • Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

7:30 AM Mass

Rosary	Neal Miller
Readers	Jordan Spitzley, Brian Witgen
EMC	Jane Schmitt, Dean & Valerie Thelen
Servers	Therese Lyons, Joseph Lyons
Ushers	Rick Martin, Joe Schueller, Dan Schueller, David M. Smith

9:30 AM Mass

Rosary	Joe Bengel
Readers	Justin Voss, Kevin Fox
EMC	Tim Bengal, Troy Hagen, Karen Schafer
Servers	Gavin Keilen, Will Pung
Ushers	Brian Kowatch, Brett Thelen, Lee Schrauben, Jason Fox

11:30 AM Mass

Rosary	Jerry Nurenberg
Readers	Tim J. Thelen, Kary Schneider
EMC	Nolan Feldpausch, Jerry Nurenberg, Luke Thelen
Servers	John Kowatch, Nathan Weber
Ushers	4 Volunteers Needed

Reconciliation times for Holy Week

Monday, April 3rd (St. Mary's): 5:30 PM

Wednesday, April 5th (MHT): 5:30 PM

**NO Confessions (at St. Mary's or MHT)
on Holy Thursday, April 6th**

NO Confessions on Holy Saturday, April 8th



Weekly Contribution Totals

March 26, 2023

Total Amount Received: \$14,203.15

Weekend Collection	\$10,050.00
Number of Envelopes	66
EFT & MARS	\$1,901.15
Transactions	35
We Share	\$2,252.00
Transactions	46

Weekly Amount Needed: \$23,520.00

Special Parish & Diocesan Donations:

Easter Flowers	\$130.00
Building Maintenance Fund	\$70.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$65.00
Sr. Myra Scholarship Fund	\$50.00
Cemetery	\$20.00



DSA: Week 4 Totals

Total Gifts received	254
Amount received to date	\$80,130.45
Parish Goal	\$122,497.00
Percentage of Goal reached	65.4%

Please make your checks payable to St. Mary Parish/DSA.

We thank you for your generosity not only to DSA but your contributions of time and talent to our parish!

Holy Week at a Glance

Monday, April 3rd

5:45 AM	Eucharistic Adoration (Until 6:45 AM)
5:30 PM	Reconciliation
6:00 PM	Holy Hour with Rosary
7:15 PM	The Well

Tuesday, April 4th

7:00 PM	Lost Sheep Holy Hour
7:00 PM	Knights/Clubroom
7:30 PM	AA (Office Basement)

Wednesday, April 5th

5:45 AM	Eucharistic Adoration (Until 6:45 AM)
6:30 PM	School Stations of the Cross/ Gym

Holy Thursday, April 6th

1:30 PM	School Stations of the Cross/Gym
5:45 AM	Eucharistic Adoration (Until 6:45 AM)
After 7:00 PM Mass	Adoration/Funeral Chapel (Until 12 AM)

Good Friday, April 7th

9:00 AM	NO Eucharistic Adoration
9:00 PM	Tenebrae Service

Holy Saturday, April 8th

8:15 AM	Marian Devotions
3:00 PM	NO Reconciliation



HOLY WEEK

Monday of Holy Week

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

Tuesday of Holy Week

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

Wednesday of Holy Week

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

Holy Thursday of the Lord's Passion

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

Evening Mass: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18;
1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion

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

Saturday Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter

Gn 1:1—2:2; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 or
Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22; Gn 22:1-18; Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11;
Ex 14:15—15:1; Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18; Is 54:5-14;
Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13; Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6;
Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28;
Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15,
18-19; Rom 6:3-11; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Mt 28:1-10

Sunday The Resurrection of the Lord

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 Mt 28:1-10 or Lk 24:13-35

2023/24 CHRISTMAS PARTY RENTALS

Parish Hall & Cafeteria rentals for Christmas 2023 will take place on **Thursday, April 27th in Hall B starting at 1:00 PM.** You will need to pay the **security deposit of \$250.00** at that time with checks payable to: **St. Mary's Parish.** Special Christmas rates apply from Thanksgiving, 2023 through January 7th, 2024. We will continue to use a lottery system. The gym will no longer be available to rent.

Wedding Reception Coordinator Needed

St. Mary's is looking for someone to assist families on the weekend of their weddings. This role includes meeting couples and their families at the Parish Hall on the morning before the wedding, communicating the expectations regarding Hall usage, answering questions, providing assistance regarding Hall set-up, and helping the family to clean up after the reception has occurred. The position requires availability to the renters during the weekend of the rental. If interested in this position or if you have more questions, please contact the Parish Office.

School News

Grandparent/Special Person Day: Wednesday, April 19th.

Students and grandparents/ special persons will start with a 1:00 PM Mass. After Mass, everyone is invited back to school to visit in the classrooms. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us!



Calling all Prayer Warriors

We are currently in need of more parishioners/families to pray for those in need as a prayer pal, through the We C.A.R.E. Ministry. In this role, we simply request that you daily ask for God's blessing upon your prayer pal; for we know prayer is so very POWERFUL! If you are interested or have any questions, please email wecareministrysmp@gmail.com

Also, if you are a current prayer pal and have changed your email over the past few years, please email us with your new email address so we can keep our records up to date :) Thank you to all who utilize or volunteer in this ministry, we could not do it without you!!!!

As a parish, let us pray for our Elect and Candidates who are in their final week of preparation before receiving their Sacraments:



Lord, we pray for those in the RCIA process who journey to you. Strengthen their faith. Open their hearts to the fullness of your love. Deepen their understanding. Set their hearts on fire for the kingdom of God. We ask this through Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life for all.
Amen

If you would like to send a note of encouragement: you can drop it off at the parish office:

Catechumens:

Isabell Helman
Alexis Jones

Candidates:

Julia Irrer
Hannah Densmore
Anneliese Hummel
Madalynne Lear

Lord Hear Our Prayer

For the Sick

This week we pray for the people who are on the list for our prayer network, those listed in our bulletin and those included in The Book of Intentions located near Our Lady of Westphalia.

If you would like your name or a loved one's name added to our bulletin for prayer please call the parish office at 989.587.4201



Brooke Badgero	Mary Lou Lehman	Steve Schmitz
Gladys Bengel	Dan Martin	Hilda Schmitz
Joe Bengel	Ed Martin	Nancy Schueller
Bill Bengel	John "Jack" Martin	Nick Schrauben
Jillian Chapman	Luke Martin	Jeffrey Sillman
Helen Cook	Quincey Martin	John Sillman
Bob Droste	Bill Mattila	Rosalie Simon
Sister Joanne Fedewa	Rachel Mauren	Jeanne Sleight
Bridget Feldpausch & baby	Hunter Meyers	Brody Smith
Marie Feldpausch	Viola Meyers	Carolee Smith
Sue Fox	Don Miller	Gerry Smith
Rachelle Gladding	Justin Norton	Sandy C. Smith
Mary Theresa Gross	Jane Nurenberg	Leroy Spitzley
Lisa Grove	Rose Nurenberg	Ruth Spitzley
Pam Haan	Gemma Paintner	Christian Teachworth
Ray Hart	MaKenzie Patrick	Bernadette Thelen
Colleen Heiden	Bev Platte	Dave Thelen
Mary Hengesbach	Mark Platte	Jason Thelen
Mark Hengesbach	Laura Pline	Luke G. Thelen
Fr. Dennis Howard	Josie Pohl	Mike Thelen
Kevin Howard	Mary Pohl	Philip Thelen
Michelle Huhn	Frank Rademacher	Suzanne Thelen
Leone Hufnagel	Ofelia Ramereiz	Tom Thelen
Lee Kile	Jim Ricci	Dane Van Ells
Lisa Koenigsknecht	Sharon Rock	Michelle Walsh
Rose Kolp	Richard Ryals	Sarah Weber
John Kowatch	Jess Sanchez	Tony Wirth
Judy Kramer	Adeline Schafer	David Witgen
Kendall Kramer	Aurelius Schafer	
Barb Kurkowski	Stanley Schafer	

Prayer Network members will pray for your intentions:

If you or a loved one are in need of prayer please call the prayer network: 587-4132 • 587-6624 • 517-285-3783 or email btrierweiler@gmail.com

**Welcome to the new Prayer Network members! A big "thank you" to all our participants: past, present, and new. May God bless you all!
Elaine & Brenda

Healing Prayer Ministry

The healing prayer team will be available after the 10:00 mass on the following dates:

April 2nd, May 7, June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8, November 12, & December 10.

If you would like to make an appointment please call Vicki Noeker at 587.4211



The Sanctuary Lamp for this week is for the Elect and Candidates of St. Mary's Parish



Baptism Preparations

When you are ready to announce your pregnancy to family and friends, please also include the parish office! We have Baptism Packets for the expectant parents which explains everything you need to know about planning your child's Baptism Day. **This packet includes guidelines for choosing Godparents, class dates and all forms necessary to fulfill the Baptism requirements.** Just contact the parish office (989.587.4201) to begin the process.

As some of these forms are time sensitive, please don't delay in picking up your packet!

Baptism Classes are held every other month.

The next class is Tuesday, May 16th at 7:00 PM in the school library. Please call the parish office (989-587-4201) to register.

Featured on Formed.org Chris Stefanick's *Fearless: A 7 Week Lenten Video Series: Episode 4 Death, Where is Your Sting?* Sarah Kirchner's Story

Despite our attempts to cheat it, we all must face death eventually. Listen as Chris shares the powerful story of Sarah Kirchner and her courageous battle against pediatric bone cancer. Who can bring us victory in the face of such significant trials? Find out in this lesson.

To sign up for Formed.org:

- Go to: <https://stmarychurch.formed.org>
- Click on *Get a parish subscription*
- search for *St. Mary Westphalia*
- type in your name and email address and then submit
- You should be able to access the website at that point or they may send you a link in your email



Cemetery clean-up is scheduled for **Monday, April 10th at 6:00 PM** with a **rain date for Tuesday, April 11th**. We appreciate all the help that keeps our cemetery beautiful. We are also looking for some additional volunteers for our trimming crews. Please call Paul 517-285-3205 or Stan 989-292-2531 with any questions or would like more information on trimming crews.

Thank You

A big thank you to our friends and parish community for their prayers, cards and words of encouragement for my recent surgery and recuperation. And a special thank you to the students and staff of St. Mary School for their prayers. We are all very blessed to have them. - Stan Pohl

Shadow Stations

The sixth grade students have been working on their Shadow Stations of the Cross. The students will perform this meditation on **Wednesday evening, April 5th, at 6:30 PM, and Thursday afternoon, April 6th, at 1:30 PM**. Both of these performances will be in the GYM. Everyone is invited to attend.

St. Joseph Parish in Pewamo is seeking qualified applicants to fill our open Facility Manager position. Please visit stjosephpewamo.org for a complete job description and means to apply.

Please email: parishoffice@stjosephpewamo.org with any questions.



SENIOR CITIZENS 70+ REMINDER:

The next senior citizen luncheon at Platte's Pizzeria is **Tuesday, April 4th, at 12:00 PM \$8.00 per person, to be collected at Platte's Pizzeria**. A card tournament will be held after the luncheon for \$1.00 per person. **If you need to cancel, please call 989-640-2213**. Also, valet parking will be available, please park in front of Platte's Pizzeria and a staff person will park your car for you. We look forward to seeing you on April 4th. Thank you, WE C.A.R.E. MINISTRY

The Fowler Knights of Columbus is hosting a basketball tournament with the Pewamo, Westphalia, and Portland councils on **Saturday April 15th at the Fowler Athletic Center**. Games start at 9:00 AM with a round-robin and a single elimination tournament starting at 1:00 PM with the championship game at 2:30. Please come out and show your support for these teams. **There will be a good-will offering for any spectators with all proceeds going to No More Sidelines.**

Knights of Columbus Shoe Drive

Westphalia K of C will be collecting men, women, & children's shoes for "Footprints of Michigan" before all Masses on **Palm Sunday weekend, April 1st & 2nd**. Types of shoes accepted include work, dress, sandals, flip-flops, athletic shoes & cleats. Any questions contact Mike Fink at 989-640-0103.

St. Mary's Catholic Church

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Westphalia, MI 48894
Tel: 989.587.4201
Fax: 989.587.3838
office@stmarychurch.net
www.stmarychurch.net

Mailing Address:

PO Box 267
Westphalia, MI 48894

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 AM—4:00 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM—3:00 PM
Closed for lunch: 12:30-1:00 PM

Rev. Fr. Eric Weber, Pastor
father@stmarychurch.net

Father Peter Lawrence,
Associate Pastor (RCIA)
pjlawrence@stmarychurch.net

Father Joe Campbell
Weekend Assistant
frjoseph.campbell@lansingcatholic.org
517.267.2123

Parish Office Staff

Julie Trierweiler, Business Manager
jltrierweiler@stmarychurch.net

Beth Markel, Office Manager
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Vicki Noeker, Discipleship Coordinator
vsnoeker@stmarychurch.net

Brian Flynn, Music Director
bdflynn@stmarychurch.net

Austin Fox, Director of Religious Ed. & Youth Minister
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Barb Spitzley, Secretary, Baptism, RCIA
baspitzley@stmarychurch.net

St. Mary School Office

Tel: 989.587.3702

Helen Hengesbach, Principal
principal@stmaryschool.us

Holly Feldpausch
hjfeldpausch@stmaryschool.us

Sue Thelen
smthelen@stmaryschool.us

Amy Cook
ascook@stmaryschool.us

Bulletin article information:

Please send your bulletin article as an attachment to:

office@stmarychurch.net
by Monday morning - 9:00 AM.

Please pray for them this week



Heavenly Father, we give you thanks and praise for Your Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit to inspire holy, faithful men to minister as priests. Lord, we pray for your grace to encourage and support our seminarians as they endeavor to become priests. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen



**Josh Luttig, Most Holy Trinity
Diocese of Lansing Seminarian**

**Randy Koenigsnecht, Most Holy Trinity
Diocese of Lansing Seminarian**

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