

Our Parish COMMUNITY

Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out:
“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

MARK 11:9



SUZANNE TUCKER / SHUTTERSTOCK

March 28, 2021

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (B)
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

Empty Praise

How could anyone think that the joyous cry “Hosanna!” would be viewed as empty praise? Though the word has come down to us in the Greek Gospels, it probably has Hebrew roots as a form of the verb “to save” (see Psalm 118:25). Thus, it is more than an exuberant cry; it is a plea for salvation. How could this possibly be empty praise?

The answer to that question is found in human fickleness. So often we—not simply the people of Jerusalem, but we human beings—wholeheartedly offer someone our support, only to turn our backs on that person when the going gets tough. We know from experience how this works.

This is precisely what today’s readings describe. The passage for the procession with palms describes an enthusiastic group of people showing Jesus great respect and crying out: “Hosanna!” Later, in the Gospel we hear, “Crucify him!” Were these the same people? Does it matter? Presumably these were people who were in Jerusalem to celebrate Passover, the feast of their deliverance from Egyptian bondage. Now they are caught in another oppressive political system—Roman occupation. Are these heartless people? Or are they like us: often afraid to take an unpopular stand lest we lose face or, even worse, suffer serious consequences? And so, Jesus stands alone before those who have planned to silence him. Might he have considered the earlier “Hosanna” empty praise? Probably not. Jesus does not hold our fickleness against us.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

For Reflection

- ★ How steadfast have you been in your support of others?
- ★ Thank Jesus for his willingness to forgive your fickleness.

Dear Padre,

I recently converted to Catholicism. Can you tell me more about the significance of the palm branches on Palm Sunday?

Welcome to our faith! And we are delighted to answer your questions. We can consider the meaning of the palm branches on two levels. On the first level, we commemorate a historical event—Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

In biblical times, people saw the palm as a kingly tree because of its height and majestic appearance. During festivals, the Jews carried palm branches in processions. Roman soldiers carried palm branches in their victory parades. In public games, the winners of contests and sports received palm branches as signs of victory. Thus, when people greeted Jesus with palm branches, they

were greeting him in the spirit of joy and triumph usually reserved for victorious kings, armies, and athletes. It was the biblical equivalent of a ticker-tape parade!

That brings us to the second meaning for the palm branches. They do signify a joyful victory, but not in the worldly and military sense of the word. It is a victory that we can understand and celebrate only in the light of the other events of Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

The ultimate victory of Jesus was his Easter triumph over death and sin. But it was a victory won through suffering and dying. This is the victory we recall on Palm Sunday. Even though we must relive the sad events of Holy Thursday and Good Friday, we know the triumphant outcome of the story. Knowing that outcome enables us to make Palm Sunday the beginning of our victory celebration.

From *Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask*,
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ASHAR KUM/SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

This celebration seems to combine stories of joy and suffering, mistakes and successes, which are part of our daily lives as disciples. It somehow expresses the contradictory feelings that we too, the men and women of today, experience: the capacity for great love...but also the ability to "wash our hands" at the right moment.

PALM SUNDAY HOMILY, MARCH 25, 2018

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Calendar

Monday

MARCH 29

Monday of Holy Week

Is 42:1-7

Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday

MARCH 30

Tuesday of Holy Week

Is 49:1-6

Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday

MARCH 31

Wednesday of Holy Week

Is 50:4-9a

Mt 26:14-25

Thursday

APRIL 1

Holy Thursday

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14

1 Cor 11:23-26

Jn 13:1-15

Friday

APRIL 2

Good Friday

Is 52:13-53:12

Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9

Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday

APRIL 3

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 4

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



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, March 27

- 8:00 a.m. + Bill Terrell by Dave & Mary Kirby
5:00 p.m. - Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish

Sunday, March 28 - Palm Sunday

- 7:00 a.m. - Chong Cha Proctor by The Family
9:00 a.m. + Jessie Mirasol by Ruth & John Lowry
11:00 a.m. + Joan Neely by Jen Burton
1:00 p.m. + Vincent Martinez by The Rueffert Family
3:00 p.m. + Lucia Ayala by Bessy Rodriguez (Spanish Mass)
5:00 p.m. + Bobby Deihl by The Sasala Family

Monday, March 29

- 6:30 a.m. + Irvin Brockman by Gil & Mary
8:00 a.m. + Bob Bourque by Jackie Bourque

Tuesday, March 30

- 6:30 a.m. + Jorge Pessantes by The Gutierrez Family
8:00 a.m. + Sydney Walker by Susie Geurin

Wednesday, March 31

- 6:30 a.m. + Joseph & Rosalie Giambrone by Adele Giambrone

- 8:00 a.m. + Honesto Ong by Nellie Kaw

Thursday, April 1 - Holy Thursday

- 7:30 p.m. + Estefan L. Monsale by Hope Chi

Friday, April 2 - Good Friday

- Noon - Stations of the Cross - English
1:00 p.m. - Stations of the Cross - Spanish
3:00 p.m. - Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
6:00 p.m. - Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
8:30 p.m. - Good Friday of the Lord's Passion Spanish

Saturday, April 3 - Holy Saturday

- Noon - Blessing of the Easter Baskets
8:00 p.m. - Easter Vigil
- Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. Joseph Church

Sunday, April 4 - Easter Sunday

- 7:00 a.m. + Augustus Burton by Jennifer Burton
9:00 a.m. - Joseph & Lara & Grandchildren by Adele Giambrone
11:00 a.m. + William Laughrige by The Laughrige Family
1:00 p.m. + Linda Burgess by The Dobranski Family
3:00 p.m. + Lucia Ayala Zorto by Lurbin Lopez (Spanish Mass)



Please note that all Mass Intentions will be honored closest to the Mass schedule below:

Mass schedule during Phase III Reintegration

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm Mass and also live streamed

Sunday:

8:00 am

11:00 am

3:00 pm (Spanish) Mass and also live streamed

5:00 pm

Weekday Mass

Monday – Friday, 8:00 am (Mass also live streamed) Saturday – 9:00 am - live stream only

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday, 8:30 - 10:00 am

Confessions: Wednesday, 8:40 am (also by appointment)

Masks are required at all times.

Church open from 6:00 am – noon. (Monday – Friday)

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The Parish staff wishes to thank the following parish ministries:

We thank **our parishioners** who participate in the celebration of the Sunday and weekday Masses and for those parishioners who join us via live stream. Be assured of our prayers for you and your family!

We thank **our parishioners** for their **support of the Sunday offertory via the use of Church envelopes and Faith Direct.** Know that we are grateful for your prayers and financial support.

We wish to thank the **parishioners who have made their pledges and donations to the Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA).** Your pledges and donations assist the Bishop in his commitment to provide the means for the diocese to share the "works of mercy" to those in need. For the parishioners who are still reflecting upon their pledge/donation to the BLA, we invite you to reflect upon the ways in which the BLA embraces the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. As of this date, we have reached **92%** of our BLA goal. "**Encourage One Another by Word and Deed.**"

We thank **our parishioners** who participated in the **Lenten Confessions.** A special thank you to the **priest confessors (friars and visiting priests)** and the **Knights of Columbus** for their ministry of usher.

We thank the **Parish Office, Facilities Staff, and Friars** for their preparation of Lenten Fish meals for the **Herndon Police Department and the Fire Station.** The work of mercy was a sign of appreciation for the work of these men and women as first responders for our community and especially during COVID-19.

We thank the **pastoral staff, Friars, ushers, lectors, music ministers, Knights of Columbus and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** for assisting with overseeing the SJC Reintegration Plan for the celebration of our public Masses each weekend. "Come Holy Spirit!"



Men's Retreat — April 30-May 2

The men of St. Joseph's are invited to attend a Men's Retreat. For one weekend, leave behind the distractions of your daily routine, relax, re-charge, be open to a conversion of heart and a deepening of your faith. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus but open to ALL men of the parish.

When: Friday evening April 30 through Sunday morning May 2

Where: Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat House (30 minute drive from Herndon)

What: Full Spiritual Program but NOT a silent retreat. Private rooms, All meals.

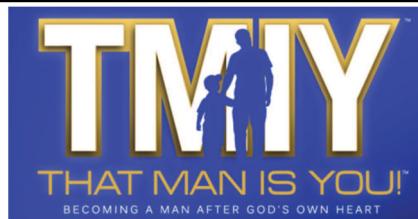
Who: Men of St Joseph's

Retreat Leader: Fr Vince Yeager, TOR (yes THAT Fr Vince)

Cost : \$275 all inclusive. Payable in advance by April 10.

Reservations Required/ Space is LIMITED to 24 attendees. Masks required for indoor gatherings. Social Distancing observed.

For reservations and questions contact John Palaszczuk at jgpalas@aol.com - 703 481-0877 or 703 868-0622.



ALL VIRTUAL!

That Man is You! gives you the opportunity to go deeper in your faith. Come join the Men of our Parish in enriching relationships with both Christ and family.

All men are invited to attend TMIY virtually.

Monday or Wednesday evenings at 7 pm

OR

Friday mornings at 6:30 am

For more information contact Jack (jmatneytmiy@gmail.com) or Steve (Mundts@aol.com).

**St. Joseph Catholic Church
PAC Virtual Zoom Meeting
February 18, 2021, 7:00 PM**

Opening Prayer – Fr. Tom

Agenda Items:

SJS Update – The school is doing well, with admissions up for next school year, and a growing wait list. Admissions are higher than pre-COVID with 10 – 11% of applicants Non-Catholic and that is usually the case each year. Catholic school's week was successful, although cut short due to weather. The school did a diaper drive and food drive for St. Lucy and a winter coat drive for Link. The Talent show was virtual and was shown during morning prayer time. The Bishop will be coming to St. Joseph on March 5th and will be celebrating the School Mass at 9:30 a.m.

Financial update –

- **Church** - 60% of people who receive envelopes are currently not using them. Offertory collections are down 15% and the total parish income is down 26% compared to last year, however, prudent cost control measures have resulted in a YTD operating income surplus.
- **School** – enrollment has remained strong and there is a high demand for new enrollment for 2021-2022 school year. Contracts for new student acceptance have been released for next year. Tuition income is covering all school expenses. Parish subsidy has not been required for YTD operations.
- **SJS' 2 accounts in the Diocesan Foundation** have performed exceptionally well this year. So overall we are doing OK financially.

BLA – We have currently attained 58% of our BLA goal to date. This is a 11% participation of our households that have pledged. 294 pledges which equal \$230,518 of our \$400,000 BLA goal. Fr. Tom thinks we will make our goal and that our participation rate goes to at least 20%.

SJC Year of St. Joseph – Tisha created a section on the website for The Year of St. Joseph containing: St. Joseph prayers, St. Joseph virtues and future items to be updated throughout the year. Each week during Lent the friars will tailor their homilies to focus on one or two of St. Joseph virtues/titles. Fr. Tom, Fr. David and other TOR friars will write articles on St. Joseph which will be available on the website. We currently have banners on the poles going into the church with a beautiful icon of St. Joseph and 2 virtues per banner. Parishioners are invited to pray the Prayer to St. Joseph by Pope Francis before all the weekend Masses.

Lenten plans – This year we will not participate in “Leave the Light On” held Wednesday evenings. This is due to the COVID-19 protocols and the cleaning needed to be completed to keep everyone safe. We will continue to have confessions on Wednesday mornings after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. Confessions by appointment are also available. We will have Stations of the Cross this Friday in English and the following Friday in Spanish. Reservations for Ash Wednesday Masses worked well. We will have also require reservations for Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday.

PAC Virtual Zoom Meeting (Continued...)

Information regarding reservations will be on the website, in the bulletin and announced during Masses. We will have Lenten confessions and offer these confessions much like the Advent Confessions. The two dates are March 13th from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. and March 20th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. School's 1st penance is Feb. 23rd and RE's 1st Penance is scheduled for Feb. 27th. There will be no washing of the feet on Holy Thursday, which will be bi-lingual again this year. We are still working on the logistics of the altar repose given to the social distancing requirements. We will not have the traditional procession from the Church to the Parish Hall.

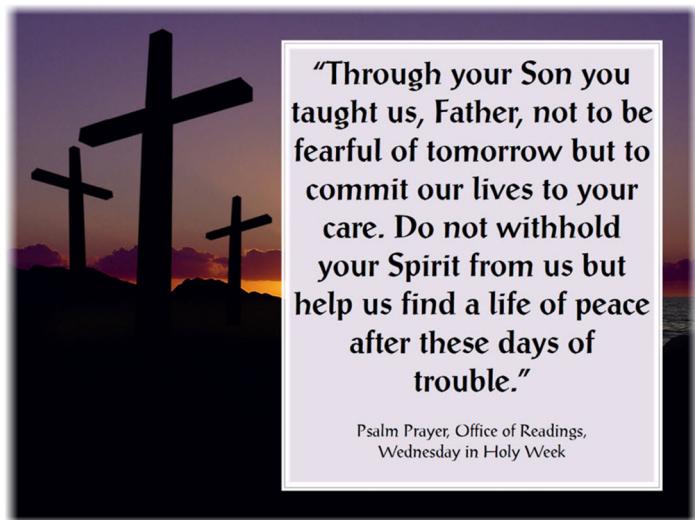
Communion for the homebound – Communion for the homebound will be resumed when pandemic is over and it can be done safely. We send the homebound bulletins each week and we will send them a Stations of the Cross book next week. In reaching out to our neighboring churches, they are not bringing communion to the homebound at this time either.

Miscellaneous items

Next meeting is March 18, 2021 at 7 PM

Closing Prayer – Fr. Tom

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



Faith Direct - Visit faithdirect.net/VA101.



Reservations for Palm Sunday - Holy Week - Easter - Required

Making a Reservation

Step One:

Review Directives – It is important that you review the list of Directives for Phase III Reintegration Plan *prior* to making your reservation. See parish website.

Step Two:

Make your Reservation – ***No one will be admitted to the church for Mass without a reservation.***

If you have Internet access, use the following email, rsvp@sjcherdon.org to make your reservation for Mass. Note, if you do not have Internet access, you may call the parish office (703-880-4355 or 703-880-4304) and a member of the staff will make a reservation for you.

You will receive an email confirming that you have a reservation at a particular Mass with the number of people attending. Please bring this email with you, either paper copy or on your smart phone to Mass for entry to the Church. The entire number of people attending with you must be present to enter into the Church as a family.

Palm Sunday

March 27/28

5:00 pm	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion - Vigil Mass
8:00 am	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
11:00 am	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
3:00 pm	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion - Spanish
5:00 pm	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Holy Thursday

April 1

7:30 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper – Bilingual
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Good Friday

April 2

12:00 pm	Stations of the Cross – English
1:00 pm	Stations of the Cross – Spanish
3:00 pm	Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
6:00 pm	Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
8:30 pm	Good Friday of the Lord's Passion – Spanish

Holy Saturday

April 3

12:00 pm	Blessing of Easter Baskets
8:00 pm	Easter Vigil

Sun./Apr. 4 Easter Sunday

7:00 am	Easter Sunday Mass
9:00 am	Easter Sunday Mass
11:00 am	Easter Sunday Mass
1:00 pm	Easter Sunday Mass
3:00 pm	Easter Sunday Mass – Spanish

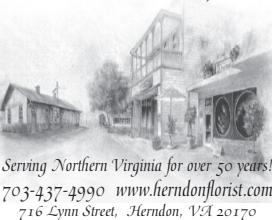
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