

708 Milford Road (Route 101A) Merrimack, New Hampshire 03054

We Live + as we Believe + as we Worship

PASSION [alt., PALM] SUNDAY April 13, 2025

Very Rev. Robert Glasgow, V.F. Chaplain (LTC) USA (Ret.) (603) 880-4689 x113, pastor@sjnnh.org

> Rev. Ethelbert Orabuche Priest Associate

Deacon Brian Lester deacon@sjnnh.org

Teri Schmitt
Office Manager
(603) 880-4689 x110, office@sjnnh.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday (Anticipatory)	5:30 PM
Sunday	8:00 AM
Sunday	10:00 AM
Sunday	
Daily (Mon, Wed-Fri)	

CONFESSION

BAPTISM

Parents must attend a Parent Baptism Class before the baptism of their child. The class is offered the first Sunday of each month following the 10:00 AM Mass.

MARRIAGE

Please contact the office at least six months prior to the wedding date. The diocese requires Marriage Prep.

VISITS TO THE HOMEBOUND AND SICK, ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the office to request home or hospital visitation.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

OCIA is the process of formation offered to those who seek to become Catholic. For information, please call the office.

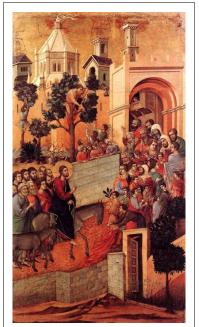
CHRIST'S PASSION

As Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whosoever believeth in him may not perish, but may have life everlasting. —John 3:14

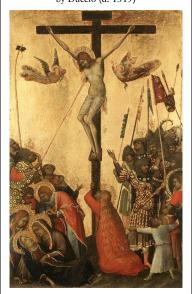
The first excerpt below is from St Thomas Aquinas' (d. 1274)
Summa Theologica [3rd Part, Q46]. The second is from a homily by St John Chrysostom (d. 407) on the Gospel of Mark in which he contrasts the ignominy of the Lord's Passion with the love by which He willingly suffered for our salvation.

ARTICLE 1: Whether it was necessary for Christ to suffer for the deliverance of the human race?

OBJECTION 1. It would seem that it was not necessary for Christ to suffer for the deliverance of the human race. For the human race could not be delivered except by God, according to Isaiah 45:21: "Am not I the Lord, and there is no God else besides Me? A just God and a Savior, there is none besides Me." But no necessity can compel God, for this would be repugnant to His omnipotence. Therefore it was not necessary for Christ to suffer.



ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM by Duccio (d. 1319)



THE CRUCIFIXION by Simone Martini (d. 1344)

OBJECTION 2.

Further, what is necessary is opposed to what is voluntary. But Christ suffered of His own will; for it is written (Isa 53:7): "He was offered because it was His own will."

Therefore it was not necessary for Him to suffer.

OBJECTION 3. Further, as is written (Ps 24:10): "All the ways of the Lord are mercy and truth." But it does not seem necessary that He should suffer on the part of the Divine mercy, which, as it bestows gifts freely, so it appears to condone debts without satisfaction: nor, again, on the part of Divine justice, according to which man had deserved everlasting condemnation. Therefore it does not seem necessary that Christ should have suffered for man's deliverance.

OBJECTION 4. Further, the angelic nature is more excellent than the human, as appears from Dionysius (Div. Nom. iv). But Christ did not suffer to repair the angelic nature which had sinned. Therefore, apparently, neither was it necessary for Him to suffer for the salvation of the human race.

ON THE CONTRARY, It is written (Jn 3:14): "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whosoever believeth in Him may not perish, but may have life everlasting."

I ANSWER THAT, As the Philosopher teaches (Metaph. v), there are several acceptations of the word "necessary." In one way it means anything which of its nature cannot be otherwise; and in this way it is evident that it was not necessary either on the part of God or on the part of man for Christ to suffer. In another sense a thing may be necessary from some cause quite apart from itself; and should this be either an efficient or a moving cause then it brings about the necessity of compulsion; as, for instance, when a man cannot get away owing to the violence of someone else holding him. But if the external factor which induces necessity be an end, then it will be said to be necessary from presupposing such end—namely, when some particular end cannot exist at all, or not conveniently, except such end be presupposed. It was not necessary, then, for Christ to suffer from necessity of compulsion, either on God's part, who ruled that Christ should suffer, or on Christ's own part, who suffered voluntarily. Yet it was necessary from necessity of the end proposed; and this can be accepted in three ways. First of all, on our part, who have been delivered by His Passion, according to John (3:14): "The Son of man must be lifted up, that whosoever believeth in Him may not perish, but may have life everlasting." Secondly, on Christ's part, who merited the glory of being exalted, through the lowliness of His Passion: and to this must be referred Luke 24:26: "Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and so to enter into His glory?" Thirdly, on God's part, whose determination regarding the Passion of Christ, foretold in the Scriptures and prefigured in the observances of the Old Testament, had to be fulfilled. And this is what St Luke says (22:22): "The Son of man indeed goeth, according to that which is determined"; and (Lk 24:44-46): "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was yet with you, that all things must needs be fulfilled which are written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms concerning Me: for it is thus written, and thus it behooved

Christ to suffer, and to rise again from the dead."

REPLY TO OBJECTION 1. This argument is based on the necessity of compulsion on God's part.

REPLY TO OBJECTION 2. This argument rests on the necessity of compulsion on the part of the man Christ.

REPLY TO OBJECTION 3. That man should be delivered by Christ's Passion was in keeping with both His mercy and His justice. With His justice, because by His Passion Christ made satisfaction for the sin of the human race; and so man was set free by Christ's justice: and with His mercy, for since man of himself could not satisfy for the sin of all human nature, as was said above (Question 1, Article 2), God gave him His Son to satisfy for him, according to Romans 3:24-25: "Being justified freely by His grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God hath proposed to be a propitiation, through faith in His blood." And this came of more copious mercy than if He had forgiven sins without satisfaction. Hence it is said (Eph 2:4): "God, who is rich in mercy, for His exceeding charity wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together in Christ."

REPLY TO OBJECTION 4. The sin of the angels was irreparable; not so the sin of the first man (I, 64, 2).



O CROSS most abominable, most execrable! Did not God rescue the prophets from their dangers? Did God not save the righteous? Why not him? What could equal this folly? The coming of danger upon the prophets and saints did not injure their honor before God. But what happened to this incomparable person? By what he said and what he did he offended all our expectations to the utmost. He was forever correcting beforehand our assumptions about him. Even when all these ignominies were said and done, they could not prevail, even at that time. The thief who had lived deprayed in such great wickedness, who had spent his whole life in murders and house breakings, when these things had been said, only then confessed him. When he made mention of his kingdom, the people bewailed him. These things that were done seemed to testify the contrary in the eves of many who knew nothing of the mystery of God's dispensations. Jesus was weak and of no ostensible power; nevertheless truth prevailed even by the contrary evidences.

So hearing all these things, let us arm ourselves against all temptations to anger and outrage. Should you perceive in your heart a swelling pride, seal your breast against it. Set your hopes only upon the cross. Call to mind the humbling things that were then taking place. Then you will cast out

as dust all rage by the recollection of the things that were done to him.

Consider his words. Consider his actions. Remember that he is Lord and you are his servant. Remember that he is suffering for you, and for you individually. You may be suffering only on your own behalf. He is suffering on behalf of all by whom he had been crucified. You may be suffering in thee presence of a few. He suffers in the sight of the whole city and of the whole people of the covenant, both of strangers and those of the holy land, to all of whom he spoke merciful words. Even his disciples forsook him. This was most distressing to him. Those who previously paid him mind suddenly deserted him. Meanwhile his enemies and foes, having captured him and put him on a cross, insulted him, reviled him, mocked him, derided him and scoffed at him. See the Jews and soldiers rejecting him from below. See how he was set between two thieves on either side, and even the thieves insulted and upbraided him.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Apr 13, SUNDAY — Holy Week

8:00 AM | Sunday Mass

10:00 AM | Sunday Mass

11:00 AM | Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues

11:30 AM | Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

6:00 PM | Sunday Mass

7:00 PM | Eucharistic Adoration

Apr 14, MONDAY

10:00 AM | CONFESSION (until 12:00 PM)

12:15 AM | Daily Mass

1:00 PM | CONFESSION (until 3:00 PM)

6:00 PM | CONFESSION (until 8:00 PM)

Apr 15, TUESDAY

7:00 PM | Scouts

Apr 16, WEDNESDAY

12:15 AM | Daily Mass

10:30 AM | Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled

6:30 PM | Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled

6:30 PM | Grief Share

EASTER TRIDUUM

Apr 17, HOLY THURSDAY

9:00 AM | Day Away

7:00 PM | MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Apr 18, GOOD FRIDAY

10:00 AM | Food Pantry

3:00 PM | STATIONS OF THE CROSS

7:00 PM | COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S

PASSION

Apr 19, HOLY SATURDAY

8:30 AM | Men's Group

9:30 AM | Widow's Group (2nd Sat of month)

10:00 AM | Easter Vigil Rehearsal 7:45 PM | EASTER VIGIL

Apr 20, EASTER SUNDAY

8:00 AM | EASTER SUNDAY MASS

10:00 AM | EASTER SUNDAY MASS (followed by

Children's Easter Egg Hunt)

6:00 PM | EASTER SUNDAY MASS

OFFERING

6 Apr '25 (4th Sunday of Lent): not available at press time.

THANK YOU for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

Apr 12, 5:30 PM Rick Boucher, Jr. (req. by Ellie

Boucher)

Apr 13 (Sun), 8:00 AM Oliver Shank (req. by Maureen

Mooney)

Apr 13, 10:00 AM Hester Rapoza (reg. by Joe

Rapoza)

Apr 14 (Mon), 12:15 PM Jose Silva & Family - LIVING

INTENTION (req. by Adviges

Silva)

Apr 19 (Sat), 7:45 PM C. Rose Andersen (req. by Cheri

Andersen)

Apr 20 (Sun), 8:00 AM Ed Pinelle, Sr. (req. by Ed &

Sandy Pinelle)

Apr 20, 10:00 AM Ethnea Daniels (req. by John

Reedy)

The Code of Canon Law confirms the practice of offering Mass(es for particular intentions is ancient: "The Christian faithful who give an offering to apply the Mass for their intention contribute to the GOOD of the Church and by that offering share its concern to support its ministers and works" (945 §2).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY

Tenebrae 16 Apr, 7:00 PM

OS

HOLY THURSDAY

Mass of the Lord's Supper 17 Apr, 7:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY

Stations of the Cross

18 Apr, 3:00 PM

-and

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion 18 Apr., 7:00 PM

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HOLY SATURDAY

Easter Vigil 19 Apr, 7:45 PM

OB

EASTER SUNDAY

20 Apr

8:00 AM, *10:00 AM and 6:00 PM

*Children's EASTER EGG HUNT follows the 10:00 AM Mass



GRADUATING SENIORS RECOGNITION

If you are the proud parent of a High School Senior, the parish would like to honor and pray for them at the 10:30 AM Mass on Sunday, June 1st (followed by a reception in the parish hall). Please email Mickayla Waclawik at mwaclawik@sinnh.org with your High School Senior's first and last name, their picture, and their plans for after graduation [college and major(s), work, armed forces, vocation etc.]. Please submit requested information as soon as possible.

CATHEDRAL

Sacramental Gifts: Baptism, Confirmation, First Communion, Holy Matrimony, Ordination

Saint Joseph Cathedral
145 Lowell Street

Gift Shop Hours:
Mon: 9:00AM-2:00PM
Tues: 9:00AM-2:00PM

Manchester NH 03104 Wed: 9:00AM-5:30PM 603-622-6404 Thur: 9:00AM-2:00PM stjosephcathedralnh.org/giftshop Fri: 9:00AM-2:00PM Sat: 9:00AM-3:30PM

PRAYER LINE

To add someone to the Parish Prayer Line, contact Teri at the parish office: (603) 880-4689, tschmitt@sjnnh.org. PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Youth volunteers and students (past, present, & future). The Grief Share Group. Bernie. Jay. Leon. Ron. Abdul. Tricia. Marie. Jay. Leon. Ron. Russ. Sue & her surgical team. Ginny. Sofia. Margaret. David. Marty. Barbara. Tom. Our Guardian Angels. Steve. Jillian. Ella. Morgan. Anthony. Pat. Matthew & Diane. Jan. Joe. Margaret. Family of Bill. Soul of Judie. Christina & Cody. Edna. Bob. Joe. Peggy. College Students. Jeff. Linda. Sue. Ginny. Alan. Orestes. The souls of Laurett, Johnny and Joe. Margaret. Matthew & family. Wendy. Bob & Maryann. Those in hospice and those who care for them. Those with dementia. For our church. For our country. Family and friends who have stepped away from the faith. Vocations. All of our parishioners and their needs. Family and friends who have stepped away from the faith. Vocations. All of our parishioners and their needs.

PARISH online

For parish updates, subscribe via FLOCKNOTES:

https://SJNMERRIMACK.flocknote.com
Or, by texting "SJNMERRIMACK" to 84576
(message/data rates may apply)

SJN Staff

LOUISE HICKEY — Children (K-5)

lhickey@sjnnh.org

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CHERI ANDERSEN — Adult candersen@sjnnh.org | (603) 880-4689 x111

ARTIE CAREW — Music music@sjnnh.org

SHEILA BURNETT — Pastoral Associate

CAROL HOPFENSPIRGER & EVELYN VERBECK Outreach & Food Pantry outreach@sjnnh.org | (603) 880-4689 x116

KATHY HOPKINS — Day Away (Thursday)

dayaway@sjnnh.org | (603) 880-4689

PARISH COUNCIL parishcouncil@sjnnh.org

FINANCE COMMITTEE Bob Fregault (Chairman)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Arvid Skogsholm (Grand Knight) kofc@sjnnh.org