April 13, 2025 • Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord

St. Mary



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Pastor: Rev. Michael Hodges frmhodges@grpriests.org • For emergencies please call: 616.745.1409

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Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday	4:00PM	•	St Michael
Saturday	6:00P	Μ	• St Mary
Sunday	8:30AM	•	St Michael
Sunday	10:30A	Μ	• St Mary

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday12:00PMSt MaryAdoration begins after Mass until 3:30PMWednesday12:00PMSt MichaelAdoration begins after Mass until 3:30PMThursday12:00PMSt MaryFriday12:00PMSt Michael

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Mass Intentions

Saturday April I	2		Sunday	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
4:00PM	Our Parish Family Family	MI	,	Lk 19:28-40; ls 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20,
6:00PM	Our Parish Family	MA		23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14-23:56 or Lk 23:1-49
Sacrament of Reco	nciliation: 3:00 PM—3:45 PM - St Mi	chael	Monday	Holy Monday
			,	ls 42:1-7; Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11
	Palm Sunday of The Passion of	The Lord	Tuesday	Holy Tuesday
8:30AM	Our Parish Family Family	MI	/	Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a; 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17; In
10:30AM	Our Parish Family	MA		13:21-33, 36-38
Sacrament of Reco	nciliation: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM - St N	lary	Wednesday	Holy Wednesday
Monday April 14	NO MASS		,	Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34; Mt
, .				26:14-25
Tuesday April 15	NO MASS		Thursday	Holy Thursday of the Lord's Passion
Wednesday Apr	I I 6 NO MASS		,	Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16 bc, 17-18;
, ,				Cor :23-26; n 3:1-15
Thursday April I	7 Mass of The Lord's Supper		Friday	Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
	followed by Night Watch until 1		,	ls 52:13-53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25;
7:00PM	Our Parish Family	MA		Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1-19:42
7:00PM	Our Parish Family	MI	Saturday	Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil
Friday April 18	Good Friday		,	Gen 1:1-2:2 or Gen 1:1, 26-31a; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6,
3:00PM	Our Parish Family	MA		10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20
3:00PM	Our Parish Family	MI		and 22; Gen 22:1-18 or Gen 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15
8:00PM	Tenebrae' Service	MA		-18; Ps 16:5,8,9-10, 11; Ex 14:15-15:1; Ex 15:1-2,
				3-4, 5-6, 17-18; ls 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12,
, ,	9 Holy Saturday Easter Vigil			13; Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Bar 3:9-15, 32-
9:00PM	Our Parish Family	MA		4:4; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps
9:00PM	Out Parish Family	MI		42:3, 5, 43:3, 4; ls 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Ps 51:12-13,
Sunday April 20 E	aster Sunday, The Resurrection	of The Lord		14-15, 18-19; Rom 6:3-11; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-
8:30AM	Our Parish Family	MI		23; Lk 24:1-12
10:30AM	Our Parish Family	MA	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
MA	St. Mary MI=St. Michael's			

Prayer for Holy Week-

Lord Jesus Christ, in this sacred and solemn week when we see again the depth and mystery of your redeeming love, help us to follow where you go, to stop where you stumble, to listen when you cry, to hurt as you suffer, to bow our heads in sorrow as you die, so that, when you are raised to life again, we may share in your endless joy. Amen ("Celebrating God's Presence" UCPH 2000)



St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers			St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers						
	Holy Thursday Apr 17 7 PM	Good Friday Apr 18 3PM	· ·	Easter Sunday Apr 20- 8:30AM		Holy Thursday Apr 17 7PM	Friday	Holy Saturday Apr 19 9PM	Easter Sunday Apr 20-
Altar Servers	NEED TWO	NEED TWO	Dylan Ranney Bryson Lindberg	Lauren Meerman	Sacristan				10:30AM
Jervers			Reid Lindberg	Kenzie Harker Sharon Carlson	Altar Servers	Noah Davis Calvin Davis			
Eucharistic Ministers	NEED THREE	NEED THREE	Chris Albrecht NEED TWO	Kenny Harker Joe Hitchings Chris Albrecht Denise Nelson Jennie Taylor Greg Helsen	Eucharistic Ministers	Deacon Tom	Margie Jirous	Deacon Tom Jim Looks Marian Looks Becky Warners	Deacon Tom Bruce Kamp Margie Jirous
Lector	Joe LeMieux	Rob Guilbault Jeff Johnson	Dennis Zimmer Kevin Schumaker	Jeff Johnson	Hospitality				
Sacristan	NEED ONE	NEED ONE	NEED ONE	Rosemary Weigel	Ministers			Geary Farrell	
Ushers	NEED TWO	NEED TWO	NEED TWO	Curt DeVos Ed Irwin Wade Lindberg Pete Nielsen	Lector	Geary Farrell	Vito Dolci Doug Frantz	Vito Dolci Doug Frantz Gary Karr	Rita Carmody Angie Hanks
Music	Craig Bleckley	Craig Bleckley	Craig Bleckley	Craig Bleckley	Music	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko

Mass of Thanksgiving for All 2025 Graduates

Calling All Graduates: Our Cluster Parish family wishes to congratulate you on your graduation and extend our prayerful best wishes to you and your future endeavors. This is a time for you to be thankful for all that God has helped you to achieve and to pray for His continual guidance

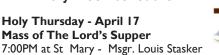


as you prepare for your future. To help you celebrate , we invite you to a Mass of Thanksgiving with a special Blessing for 2024 Graduates.

May 17 - 4PM Graduation Mass & Blessing at St Michael

Invitations with detailed instructions have been emailed to all of our registered 2025 High School Graduates. Please RSVP at your earliest convenience. If you did not receive your invitation, please contact your Parish Office **College & Trade School Graduates are also welcome** to attend. Please call the parish office and let us know you will be joining us.

Holy Week Schedule



7:00PM at St Mary - Msgr. Louis Stasker Followed by Night Watch until 10:00pm 7:00PM at St Michael - Fr. Michael Hodges Followed by Night Watch until 10:00pm

Good Friday - April 18

3:00PM at St Mary - Service - Msgr. Louis Stasker 3:00PM at St Michael - Service -Fr. Michael Hodges 8:00PM at St Mary - Tenebrae Service with Gary Karr

Holy Saturday - April 19 9:00PM Easter Vigil at St Mary - Msgr. Louis Stasker 9:00PM Easter Vigil at St Michael - Fr. Michael Hodges

Easter Sunday - April 20/ Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord 8:30AM at St Michael - Fr. Michael Hodges 10:30AM at St Mary - Msgr. Louis Stasker

All are Welcome

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Fr Mike's Musings

We call the coming week ahead "Holy Week" and it is indeed a Holy Week because we celebrate our salvation by Jesus. It is the holiest week of the year. It is astounding. Jesus died for us. People do not like to talk about sin or even use the word sin, but Holy Week is all because of sin. An exchange took place during Holy Week; Jesus



took our sins on Himself and paid the price or penalty for our sins to the Father. Surely, we are not so 'woke' in our self-identities that we cannot even mention the reason for Holy Week. Jesus exchanged His life for our sins, for our eternal lives. That is love like no other. Those who are married, you promised your spouse to love them for the rest of your lives. That promise did not mean that you would not be tempted by someone else in the future, but it did mean that should you be tempted by someone else you would remain faithful. This is genuine love—remaining faithful and making a sacrifice when what appears to be "better" comes along because love always involves making sacrifice.

We see the same in Jesus' love for us, except multiplied infinitely. Out of love for us, Jesus became human, one of us. Jesus "emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave." Imagine, God becoming one of us to convince us of His love for us. To imagine becoming a dog because you love your dog does not even begin to capture the love of God for us. Then temptations came to Jesus, but he remained faithful to his love. We see the temptations when Jesus was in the desert after His baptism before beginning His public ministry. The Devil offered Him what was seemingly better and more exciting but Jesus, even though He must have been physically weak from fasting, remained faithful in His love for us.

On the Cross, He was mocked but suffered another temptation, uttered to Him by the chief priests and scribes as they said: "Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the Cross that we may see and believe." How tempting that must have been for Jesus, to put an end to His suffering and prove to them who He truly was. But Jesus, in His intense suffering, remained faithful to us. That is because of His love for us. His love meant the ultimate sacrifice, suffering dreadful torture and giving His life in exchange for our sins. It indeed was a "Good Friday".

During every Mass, we hear again the words of Jesus during the Last Supper repeated at the consecration: "this is my body which will be given up for you. . . This is the chalice of my blood which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins." During Mass, the salvation Jesus achieved for us is pulled forward in time and given to us here and now during the Mass. During Mass we are spiritually present at the foot of the Cross, as if in a time warp, as the women and John were so long ago. There is no past, there is no present—there is only the present on-going salvation of Christ. At the sacrifice of the Mass, we celebrate the love of Jesus that saves us from our sins. During the Mass we are really at Golgotha celebrating that love. Love divine, love unending; during "Holy Week" and for all time.



Please Pray for our Engaged Couple

Sam Felicioni and Lindsay Ebling June 14, 2025 (St Michael)

Lord God, the source of all love, the wise plan of your providence has brought these young people together. As they prepare themselves for the sacrament of marriage and pray for your grace, grant that, strengthened by your blessing, they may grow in their respect for one another and cherish each other with a sincere love. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen



April 13, 2025 ~ Palm Sunday of the Passion of The Lord

St. Mary's Parish News

St Mary Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW): Pre-School thru 2nd Grade During 10:30 AM Mass.

Today is Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion. Luke 22:14-23:56 recounts Jesus' last supper, his arrest, trial, and crucifixion, culminating in his death and burial, all events that are central to the Catholic faith, showing Jesus' love and sacrifice for humanity. We do not have CLW today due to Palm Sunday. May

you and your family have a blessed Holy week!

Ist-7th Grade Faith Formation Classes -Wednesdays at Hall / 6:00- 7:30pm 8th Grade - Confirmation Classes -Wednesdays at Hall / 6:00- 7:30pm

- Faith Formation will resume on Wed, April 16.
- Our school year ends on Wed, April 16.
- Families are asked to join us for Rosary prayer service and to celebrate in the Community room with an Ice Cream Social.
- Have a wonderful Spring break with your families!

Questions

Please contact Debbie Veneklase at dre@saintmarysmarne.org or 616.677.3934

Vacation Bible School July 6 - 10, 2025

The Great Journey with Jesus Watch for more details.



New Mass & Confession Schedule April 26/27

Effective the weekend of April 26-27 the 6:00 PM Saturday Mass at St. Mary and the 12:00 PM Sunday Confession at St Mary will be taken off the schedule.

New Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00PM • St Michael Sunday 8:30AM • St Michael Sunday 10:30AM • St Mary

New Sacrament of Reconciliation Schedule Tuesday and

Thursday......12:30PM to 1:30PM • St. Mary Wednesday and



Knights of Columbus #11581 News

How to become a Knight: You can enroll in the Knights of Columbus immediately as an "Online Member" by scanning the QR Code. Once you complete and submit the form on that page a local council will contact you. For additional Information or to learn more about what the Knights do, Contact Grand Knight: Bruce Kamp b.kamp@charter.net / Phone 616-780-4941

Knight Person of the Month- March Paul Lothschutz, he has been our financial secretary since the beginning of the council. Knight Family of the Month- March Rob and Lori Rander, they have been indispensable in the operation of our council and have been involved with many Knight activities.





Tootsie

Roll Drive

The Knight Person/Family is a way to recognize someone who has gone above and beyond for our community. Thank you for your commitment!

Monthly Donation- Alexander Urbanski, he's a seminarian studying in Minnesota.

Tootsie Roll Drive- April 12/13. Get a Tootsie Roll, for a donation to help us support Special Olympics. Also, there will be Knights in the back of church after Mass to sign up anyone who would like to join our

Mass to sign up anyone who would like to join our Council.

Upcoming COR Dates: April 26, May 17, 31, June 14, 28 - 7AM - Community Room

Upcoming Blood drives: June 8 & October 12, 2025. Pre-Register here:

June 8 https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/ drive_schedule/11598499

Oct 12 https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/



Palm Sunday is the final Sunday of Lent, the beginning of Holy Week, and commemorates the triumphant arrival of Christ in Jerusalem, days before he was crucified. Palm Sunday is known as such because the faithful will often receive palm fronds which they use to participate in the reenactment of Christ's arrival in Jerusalem. In the Gospels, Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a young donkey, and to the lavish praise of the townspeople who threw clothes, or possibly palms or small branches, in front of him as a sign of homage.

Prayer for Palm Sunday

Almighty ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Savior to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen

Giving Bac	ck to God	
Mass: Attendance 4/5-6:00PM: 50		Т
Mass: Attendance 4/6 - 10:30AM: 116		c
Adult Contributions	\$5725.00	ge
Children Contributions	\$22.57	o so
Loose Contributions	\$202.00	fc
Capital Improvement	\$370.00	
Online Giving	\$3293.07	
Total	\$9612.64	
Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget	\$6425.91	
Offertory-YTD Budget vs YTD-Actual	\$-6128.73	

Thank you for your continued support and generosity! To donate now, open your phone camera, scan the QR code and follow instructions.



Welcome to the Cluster Parishes of St. Mary and St. Michael View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

raim Sunday ~ April 13

St. Michael's Parish News

Scrip News— Thank you to our 11 families that purchased Scrip this week. Our total profit was \$77.10.





St. Michael's Parish Family

Remembers in Their Prayers: Kevin Johnson, Anne Pols, Alexandria Gordon, George Langlois, Brooke Campbell, Linda Abel-Carroll, Jackie May, Dennis Goosen, Jean Mayse, Kathie Poelma, Ken Heflin, Marvin Hecksel, Payton Patterson, Pat Harlett, the victims of abortion, & the men and women in the military.

St. Michael's Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word: program is offered on Sunday during 8:30 Masses. Children 3-9 years old are welcome to join us each week as we pray, read and explore the



Sunday Gospel from a child's viewpoint. We include the Gospel Acclamation so children understand the importance of preparing our mind and heart for the Gospel reading. We do not have CLW today due to Palm Sunday. The Easter Triduum that takes place this week is the most important days of our Liturgical year. The services on those days (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday) actually flow as one long, extended liturgy. These days highlight the last days of Jesus' life, death and triumphant Resurrection.

Elementary Faith Formation: The elementary program is for students in grades 1-5. We meet on Wednesday from 6:00- 7:30 pm. Our program ended for this school year. We are on Summer break. Thank you catechist and helpers for your dedication in sharing our Catholic faith with the Faith Formation students! Your generosity of giving your time and talent is greatly appreciated! Thank you!

First Communion Mass Practice: For First Communicants and parents on Wednesday, April 30, from 6:00-7:30pm and Saturday, May 3, from9:00am - 11:00am in the church. Contact Debbie Veneklase with any questions 616-384-4026.

Please continue to pray for our First Communicants as they continue to prepare for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion: Quincy, Jase, Annette, Johnathan, Jayden and Kenten.

Middle School Faith Formation: Grades 6, 7 and 8 is on Summer Break. Thank you Catechists for helping to catechize the students. Class will resume in September.



St. Michael's Sanctuary Lamp

for +Sherry Maslowski by the Maslowski Family

Knights of Columbus News



The Knights of Columbus would like to thank everyone who donated items for Bunny Business and to those who helped prepare, stuff, and deliver Easter baskets. We especially would like to thank Dr. David Shabluk for donating 100 toothbrushes & toothpaste again this year. We have such a wonderful and caring parish, along with a great community. Thank you so much for your generosity, it is truly appreciated! The baskets are distributed to needy families by Coopersville Cares.

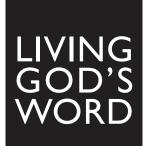
The Knights of Columbus would also like to thank everyone who donated desserts for the Lenten Fish Fries. Your "sweet treats" were a great way for our Fish Fry customers (and workers) to end the evening. These desserts were truly appreciated by all.

Giving Back to God				
April 5/6 2025				
Mass: Attendance 3/15-4:00PM:	91			
Mass: Attendance 3/16 8:30AM:	155			
Adult Envelopes	\$3,975.00			
Loose Cash	\$161.00			
Children's Envelopes	\$12.00			
Online Giving	\$1,345.00			
Total	\$5,493.00			
Building Fund	\$140.00			
Catholic Relief Services	\$188.00			
Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget	\$4,424.43			
Offertory-YTD Budget vs YTD Actual	+\$8,850.64			
Thank you for your continued support!				

Online Giving — Now there's an even more convenient way to contribute to St. Michael's! To donate now, open your phone camera, scan the QR code and follow instructions. Or text the word GIVE to: 616-384-5011.



April 13, 2025 ~ Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



DAVID M. KNIGHT

The Stones Would Shout

Tesus rode into Jerusalem to die in triumph there. The Pharisees wanted Jesus to stop his disciples from proclaiming him "the king who comes in the name of the Lord." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

The words the disciples were shouting are the same ones the Church chooses to pick up and repeat in every Sunday liturgy: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" But where Matthew's crowd acclaims Jesus as "Son of David," and Mark turns our attention to the reign that is about to begin ("Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David"), Luke focuses on the person of Jesus as king: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord." John does the same, but John specifies that Jesus is "the King of Israel," while Luke wants to present him from a more universal perspective as the king of the whole human race.

These differences invite us to ask how each of us would—and does—respond differently to Jesus who presents himself before the gates of our heart to enter, to dwell and to reign there. Do we accept Jesus in faith as "Son of David," the Messiah promised in prophecy and awaited as the fulfillment of all God's promises? Do we welcome him as the Lord who will bring order to our world by establishing the reign of God over every area and activity of human society? Do we open our gates in loving surrender to his person as king and commander of all that we are, desire and do? Who is Jesus for us, and what do we do to acclaim him?

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, people came out to meet him carrying palm branches. Some cut branches from the trees to carpet the road before him. Others spread their cloaks on the ground, a person's costliest piece of clothing. True to his theme of rich and poor, Luke describes people's responses to Jesus the king by means of the use of their possessions" (*The New Jerome Biblical Commentary*). All expressed their enthusiasm, each in a personal way. We will see this

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APRIL 13, 2025 PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Luke 19:28-40; Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Luke 22:14-23:56

done very movingly on Good Friday, when every person in the Church files forward to venerate the cross. Rich and poor, old and young, reserved and spontaneous, all will express themselves by kneeling, bowing, kissing the cross, acknowledging in some individual, personal way their own indebtedness and devotion to Jesus who died for them. And this is what every liturgical celebration should be: a group of people expressing their faith, their hope, their gratitude and love communally but personally, in the same way but differently, according to the personality of each and the special meaning which each person's situation and condition gives to what is said and done. And if we are silent, "the very stones will shout out."

The passion of Jesus which we begin to relive on Passion Sunday is just that: an expression of his passion, a passionate expression of his love for the Father and for us. Nothing that we see Jesus suffering during his passion is something that he just endured passively, as something inflicted on him from outside. No, everything that his tormentors did to him, Jesus appropriated and turned into a passionate, personal expression of his own heart. In his passion he was giving expression to his feelings about the sins of his own flesh-for the body that suffered during Jesus' passion and death was a body which included all the bodies that would ever be baptized "into Christ," with all of their sins. For "God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ.... For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him." The body that hung on the cross was guilty, not because Jesus had sinned, but because through our incorporation into Christ, all our sins were presenting it. And by Jesus' death they were annihilated. This is the mystery of our redemption. And it is what we have to shout about as Holy Week begins.

REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

Holy Week

Pray daily: Lord, enter my heart and take possession of me totally. Excite in my soul the joy of my salvation, and let me cry out in acclamation of you without reserve. Blessed are you who come in the name of love. Amen.

Monday: John 12:1-11: Mary took a liter of costly perfumed oil made from genuine aromatic nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and dried them with her hair; the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil. What is the most extravagant, passionate gesture of love that you have made to Jesus Christ?

Tuesday: John 13:21-33, 36-38: Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." How can you "lay down your life" for Jesus on a daily basis? Does this appeal to you?

Wednesday: Matthew 26:14-25: Jesus said, "Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, 'The teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples." Would you have felt privileged if Jesus had asked to use your house this way? What if he asks you to let him come into your heart in Eucharist every day that it is possible for you? Is there a difference?

Holy Thursday: John 13:1-15: Jesus poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry

them with the towel around his waist. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" How do you feel when you are conscious that the people serving you in restaurants and stores are the Body of Christ? Are you humbled that Jesus would "wash your feet" in them?

Good Friday: John 18:1 to 19:42: Then the maid who was the gatekeeper said to Peter, "You are not one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." Can you truly say you are? How much time do you give to learning from Jesus? Are his attitudes and values visible in your behavior? Which ones? Has anyone ever accused you of being "too religious"?

Saturday: Easter Vigil: Luke 24:1-12: The women remembered his words. Then they returned from the tomb and announced all these things to the eleven and to all the others. How often do you have the experience of remembering something Jesus said and using it in conversation with others? Do you quote him as often as mothers repeat things their children have said, or readers quote from books they are reading? Are his words really important to you? How does that appear?

SEVERAL SUGGESTIONS FOR LENT

Prayer: Each day during Holy Week say a short prayer in front of every crucifix that is in your house. If you live with family, do this all together, going into each member's room to pray in front of the crucifix there.

Fasting: Examine your life to see if there are any parts of which the gates are not open for Christ to enter and reign as king. Are there areas you just do not bring your religion into? Are there questions you don't want to face? Situations or conditions you prefer to ignore?

Almsgiving: Each day this week consciously "wash the feet" of someone in an act of loving, humble service.

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