

March 29, 2026 • Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord

St. Mary St. Michael

15164 Juniper Dr., Marne MI 49435
616.677.3934 • www.saintmarysmarne.org

17150 88th Ave., Coopersville, MI 49404
616.384.4026 • www.saintmichaels.us



Pastor: Rev. Michael Hodges

frmhodes@grpriests.org • For emergencies please call: 616.745.1409

Saint Mary Parish Staff

St. Mary Parish Office Hours
Monday 9:00AM - 4:30PM
Tuesday 9:00AM - 4:30PM
Wednesday 9:00AM - 11:30AM
Thursday 9:00AM to 4:30PM
Friday Closed

Deacon
Tom Roberts
troberts@saintmarysmarne.org

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Custodian
Marian Looks

Liturgical Minister
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Music Director
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616.490.3836
berniestanko@hotmail.com

St Mary Prayer Line
616.677.3934 or
Linda at 677.3269
For evening requests call
Darlene 616.453.0157 or
email bfa1414@yahoo.com

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Thursday Closed
Friday 9:00AM to 4:00PM

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St Michael Prayer Line
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616-403-7110
Judy Driedger
616-899-2470

Director of O.C.I.A
Cliff Kozminski
616.437.5318

Weekend Mass Schedule

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

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday 12:00PM • St Mary
Adoration begins after Mass until 3:30PM
Wednesday 12:00PM • St Michael
Adoration begins after Mass until 3:30PM
Thursday 12:00PM • St Mary
Friday 12:00PM • St Michael

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday and
Thursday 12:30PM to 1:30PM • St. Mary
Wednesday and
Friday 12:30PM to 1:30PM • St. Michael
Saturday 3:00PM to 3:45PM • St. Michael

Mass Intentions

Saturday March 28

4:00PM Our Parish Family **MI**
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:00 PM—3:45 PM - St Michael

Sunday March 29

8:30AM Our Parish Family **MI**
 10:30AM Our Parish Family **MA**

Monday March 30 NO MASS

Tuesday March 31 NO MASS

Wednesday April 1 NO MASS

Thursday April 2 Mass of The Lord's Supper

followed by Night Watch until 10PM

7:00PM Our Parish Family **MA**

Friday April 3 Good Friday

3:00PM Our Parish Family **MA**
 8:00PM Tenebrae' Service **MA**

Saturday April 4 Holy Saturday Easter Vigil

9:00PM Our Parish Family **MA**

Sunday April 5 Easter Sunday of The Resurrection of The Lord

8:30AM Our Parish Family **MI**
 10:30AM Our Parish Family **MA**

MA=St. Mary **MI**=St. Michael's



Readings

Sunday

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14-27:66 or Mt 27:11-54

Monday

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

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

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

Thursday

Holy Thursday - Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

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

Friday

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

Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter

Gen 1:1-2:2 or Gen 1:1, 26-31a; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20 and 22; Gen 22:1-18 or Gen 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; 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; Rm 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 20:20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10 or Lk 24:13-35 (Afternoon or Evening)

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)



Holy Week Liturgical Ministers

	Holy Thursday Apr 2 - 7PM St Mary	Good Friday Apr 3 - 3PM St Mary	Holy Saturday Apr 4 - 9PM St Mary	Easter Sunday Apr 5 - 8:30AM St Michael	Easter Sunday Apr 5 - 10:30AM St Mary
Sacristan				Jane Vitunskas	
Altar Servers	Peter Lothschutz Calvin Davis Need (1) - St Michael	Casimir Lothschutz Need (1) - St Michael	Timothy Lothschutz Need (1) - St Michael	Adalyn Taylor Clare Taylor Lincoln Taylor	Tanner Lampe Austin Lampe Calvin Davis
Precious Body	Deacon Tom Geary Farrell Need (1) - St Michael	Deacon Tom	Deacon Tom	Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Tom Joe Hitchings	Margie Jirous Nettie Leale Need One
Precious Blood	Rob Rander Lori Rander Need (2) - St Michael	n/a	Vito Dolci Need (1) - St Michael	Denise Nelson Jennie Taylor, Kenny H., Cindy Lindberg Sharon Carlson	Steve Lampe Michelle Lampe Need Two
Hospitality Ministers				Ed Irwin, Peter Nielsen, Wade Lindberg, Duane Snowdin	
Lector	Vito Dolci	Robert Lothschutz	1. Rita Carmody 2. Kevin Schumaker 3. Geary Farrell 4. Joe LeMieux 5. Need One— St Mary 6. Chris Albrecht 7. Need One—St Mary 8. Sue DeVos	Jeff Johnson	Need 2

Cluster News and Community News and Events

Exploring Priesthood Discernment Meetings

Discernment is a time of obtaining spiritual guidance and understanding. If you are considering the priesthood, the Diocese of Grand Rapids invites you to meet with other young men (ages 16+) to gather and discern God's will for your life.

Meetings will take place from 12:30-1:30 p.m. at St. Luke University Parish, 10144 42nd Ave., Georgetown Twp. and are offered on the **following Sundays in 2026: Apr. 19, May 17.** Just show up or email Pattie Reynolds, preynolds@grdiocese.org, to RSVP or with questions.

Is God calling you to consider the permanent diaconate?

Has the Vocations Prayer *moved* you to *question* if God is calling you to become a deacon? The Office of Diaconate Formation invites men with interest or questions about discernment and formation to a "Discerning the Diaconate" information session.

Monday, May 4 or Monday, Sept. 14 . 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Cathedral Square Center, 360 Division Ave. S., Grand Rapids. The next class of deacon aspirants will be formed in early Jan. 2027. To RSVP or learn more, contact Deacon Jerry Roersma, director of Deacon Formation, at 616-288-0913 or jroersma@grdiocese.org

Prayer for Vocations

O God, hear our prayer
and let our cry come to You.
Bless the Diocese of Grand Rapids
with many vocations to the
priesthood, diaconate,
and religious life.

Give Your sons and daughters
the confidence to accept Your call,
and the love to follow always
in the footsteps of Your beloved Son
with courage and dedication
to Your will.

Amen

Bulletin Sponsor of the Week

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Fr. Mike's Musings



We see the love of Jesus for us as He chose to allow Himself be sacrificed to atone for our sins. Jesus could have avoided death; in Luke 13:31 we read that some of the Pharisees said to Jesus, "*Leave this place because Herod means to kill you.*" And Jesus did depart from there because He had a long ministry afterwards. This was not the only time that Jesus avoided death; after John the Baptist had been arrested Jesus withdrew to Galilee where He would be safe. When Jesus was in Gethsemane and prayed, "Father let this cup pass me by" He could quite easily made His way to the village of Bethany and in another few minutes He would have been away safely. But Jesus chose to die for us to show us the extent of His love.

What a horrid way to die. He died as a common criminal; crucifixion was the capital punishment of the Romans for worst criminals. Death on the cross was not caused by heart attack or bleeding or bursting of blood vessels but simply exhaustion of the body and failure in breathing. Because of the weight of the body pulling down for every single breath, one would have to pull oneself up in order to get air into the lungs. Every breath was a source of extreme pain and struggle, the final demise came only after hours, sometimes days of torment. In the end, death came by suffocation.

What has that got to do with us? As we think of the love of God for us and how Jesus chose to die for us, we cannot but be aware of how we are like Israel in the Old Testament. We sometimes forget about the love of God for us and go after false gods—wealth, fame, power, etc.. We forget about the love of God for us and continually commit sin in pursuit of these false idols. We forget about the love of God for us and do not spend enough time in prayer. We forget about the love of God for us and live as if God does not exist, or that the atonement of Christ is a so-called 'one-and-done' proposition. We forget that Jesus suffocated to death on the cross "*so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.*" Two thousand years have passed since that great, and terrible, day. It is high time that we remember and begin to live in the saving honor that was bestowed upon us through a choice that Christ made in love for all mankind.

Good Friday "Way of the Cross" at PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Through His Holy Passion, Our Lord united Himself with all the victims of suffering in this life. None suffer more innocently than children in the womb whose lives are taken by abortion. None suffer more deeply than their parents, who carry such a burden of guilt and shame.

On Good Friday, we remember all the victims of abortion—the children lost, the families wounded, the communities blighted—in a solemn prayer service:

Event: Way of the Cross for Victims of Abortion

When: Friday, APRIL 3, 9:00 AM

Where: Planned Parenthood 425 Cherry St SE Grand Rapids

More Info: Call/Text Margaret Murphy at (616) 570-8544

Join us as we pray for healing for the victims of abortion and for a final end to this injustice in our land.

Hymns of Praise and Thanksgiving

Sunday, April 19 at 3:00PM



A sing-along featuring over 20 flutes, organ, piano, your voices.
Free and open to all.

St Mary-Marne 15164 Juniper Dr. Marne, MI 49435

March 29, 2026 ~ Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

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. In today's Gospel MT 26:14-27:66, is about Jesus Christ's betrayal, trial, crucifixion and resurrection.

We will not have CLW next week due to Easter

1st-7th Grade Faith Formation Classes -

Wednesdays at Hall / 6:00- 7:30pm

8th Grade - Confirmation Classes -

Wednesdays at Hall / 6:00- 7:30pm

There are no Religious Education Classes

Wednesday, April 8th due to Spring Break.

Faith Formation will resume on Wednesday, April 15.

Our school year ends on Wednesday, April 15th.

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!



For more information or any questions on any of these programs Please contact Debbie Veneklas at dre@saintmarys.marne.org or 616.677.3934

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



Upcoming Blood Drives – Save the Dates

June 14 Pre-Register:

https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11622155

October 11, 2026 Pre-Register:

https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11630810



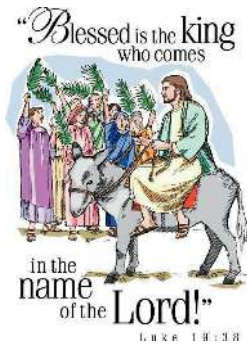
Tootsie Roll Drive - March 29.

Get a Tootsie Roll, for a donation to help us support Special Olympics.



Palm Sunday ~ March 29

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

Adopt-A-Garden Volunteers Needed

We are looking for parishioners to "adopt" an outdoor area on our parish grounds to help keep that area looking good and creating a great first impression for all who come to our parish. Sign-up for a small, specific area on the Parish grounds and keep your area cleaned-up on a regular basis. For more info or to see what areas are still available, please call the parish office.



Giving Back to God

	Mass: Date:	Mar 22
	Mass: Attendance:	150
Adult Contributions		\$3454.00
Children Contributions		\$29.00
Loose Contributions		\$381.00
Capital Improvement		
Online Giving		\$1640.00
Total		\$5504.00
Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget		\$5490.43
Offertory-YTD Budget vs YTD-Actual		+\$16.00

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



Looking Ahead- Save the Dates

Apr 2	Holy Thursday 7PM St Mary
Apr 3	Good Friday 3PM St Mary
Apr 3	Tenebrae Service—8PM St Mary
Apr 4	Easter Vigil - 9PM St Mary
Apr 5	Easter Sunday—8:30AM St Michael
Apr 5	Easter Sunday—10:30PM St Mary
Apr 11	COR- 7AM St Mary Community Room
Apr 19	Hymns of Praise Sing Along 3PM St Mary
May 3	Cookies after Mass

Welcome to the Cluster Parishes of St. Mary and St. Michael

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

St. Michael's Parish News

Scrip News— Scrip totals will be updated next week.



St. Michael's Parish Family

Remembers in Their Prayers: Kevin Johnson, Anne Pols, Alexandria Gordon, Carol Tasker, Brooke Campbell, Marcy Fortin, Linda Abel-Carroll, Jackie May, Jean Mayse, Debbie Veneklese, 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: CLW 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. Holy Week is the week between Palm Sunday and Easter, observed by Christians as a time of devotion to the Passion of Jesus. It commemorates the last week of Jesus' life, including significant days such as Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. This week is marked by special solemnity and various religious observances, reflecting on the events leading to Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. **We will not have CLW on March 29 and April 5 due to Palm Sunday and Easter. CLW will resume on April 12th.**

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 ends on Wednesday, April 1st with an end of the year Celebration for all students and their families. Parents and siblings are asked to join us at 6:00pm in the Church to pray the Rosary. There will be an Ice cream social immediately following. Let us end the school year, with faith, fun and fellowship!** Please pray for our First Communicants as they continue to prepare for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion: Liam, Jackson, Piper, Cooper, Delilah and Sarah.

Middle School Faith Formation: Grades 6, 7 and 8 will meet on Sundays after the 8:30am Mass from 9:45 to 11:15 AM in the Youth Room. The 8th Grade students will also receive Confirmation Preparation. Contact Debbie if you have any questions (616) 384-4026.



St. Michael's Sanctuary Lamp

for +Bobby Raczkiewicz
by Pam Raczkiewicz

Knights of Columbus

Thank You — The Knights of Columbus would 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.

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.

Giving Back to God

March 21/22

Mass Attendance: 3/21– 4:00 PM:	60
Mass Attendance: 3/22: 8:30 AM	150
Adult Envelopes	\$2,099.00
Loose Cash	\$230.00
Children's Envelopes	\$17.00
Total	\$2,346.00
Easter Flowers	\$465.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$150.00
<i>Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget</i>	\$5,554.94
<i>Offertory-YTD Budget vs YTD Actual</i>	-\$6,915.79

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.



March 29, 2026 ~ Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

An Unassuming Triumph

The key word in Matthew's report of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem is *praus*, which is translated as "meek," "humble" or "without display." Jesus' entry is seen as the fulfillment of Zechariah's prophecy: "Lo, your king comes to you; / ...humble [*praus*], and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." This text includes the king among the "lowly," the poor in spirit "whose poverty did not allow them the arrogance and assertiveness of the wealthy but imposed habitual and servile deference." The way Jesus chose to enter Jerusalem proclaimed him as one of these; "This was the only type of Messianic claim Jesus would publicly profess—the claim to be the Messiah who was one of the lowly" (*Jerome Biblical Commentary*, Prentice-Hall, 1968, 30:43, 142).

The description of Jesus as humble or lowly is very important because this entry into Jerusalem was the only triumphal entry that Jesus, the Son of David, would ever make into David's city. Perhaps Jesus' disciples saw this entry as a preview of the triumphal procession they would have once he defeated all his enemies and took over the government as king. But this was all there would ever be. Jesus would never reign on earth as the Messiah-king they expected. And that is the whole point: He was born poor and lowly, would die poor and lowly and never intended to become anything else. His Kingdom would be a reign established by no other power than the power of truth and love.

Jesus' entry into Jerusalem was in fact a victory parade. He entered as king to establish his reign. But he would triumph by being defeated; he would establish

MARCH 29, 2026

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S
PASSION

Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50:4-7;
Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66

his reign by dying; the only throne he would ever have on this earth was the cross. If we are going to join the crowd in shouting "Hosanna"—as we do at the *Sanctus* (Holy, Holy, Holy) of every Mass—we ought to know what kind of Messiah we are accepting. The only Messiah who comes "in the name of the Lord" intends to win by losing, to give life by dying, to conquer by loving and to reign by identifying himself with the poor and powerless.

This is not ancient history; this is now. Jesus still refuses to save the world with what we recognize as power. He still does not use divine force to wipe out disease, crime, poverty, oppression or error. He still tries to convert rather than to control. He still chooses to love instead of trying to look good. As a result, his Church and his followers

on earth make him look like a loser. Jesus still identifies himself not only with the powerless but also with sinners. He works through sinful people: popes, bishops, clergy and laity. He uses a Church which is still trying to understand the gospel after two thou-

**Jesus still identifies
himself not only
with the powerless
but also with sinners.**



sand years of learning by trial and error. Jesus works through human intelligence, teaching truth at a human pace to those who seek rather than impose truth on everyone with a blast of divine enlightenment. He works through human freedom, allowing evil to have its way until evildoers freely turn away from sin. Jesus respects human nature so much that the only way he will establish his reign on earth is through human beings freely cooperating with him, freely uniting themselves to him in mind, will and action.

At Baptism we were anointed as “kings” or sharers in the kingship of Christ through stewardship. We were consecrated to work with him to establish his life-giving reign over every area and activity of human life. But since Jesus chose to respect freedom rather than use force, to convert rather than control, the condition for working with him is a commitment to unconditional perseverance. We must keep trying to transform society, to renew human life on earth through love and powerlessness—regardless of visible results—while, as we say at Mass, “we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.”

REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

Holy Week

***Pray daily:** Almighty Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your Son to be born of a woman and to die on a cross, so that through the obedience of one man estrangement might be dissolved for all. Guide our minds by his truth and strengthen our lives by the example of his death, that we may live in union with you in the kingdom of your promise. Amen.*

Monday: John 12:1-11. Jesus said, “You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.” How do you find Jesus in prayer? In the poor?

Tuesday: John 13:21-33, 36-38. Jesus asked Peter, “Will you lay down your life for me? Very truly, I tell you, before the cock crows, you will have denied me

three times.” When do you take risks because of faith and love for Christ?

Wednesday: Matthew 26:14-25. Jesus said, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me.” In what ways do you express one thing in liturgy and something quite different at work or in your social life?

Holy Thursday: John 13:1-15. “And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God... poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel.” Then Jesus said to the apostles, “If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have set you an example...” Do you live your life in service to others—at home, at work, in social and civic life? Is your attitude always one of humble service, not wanting to be first, not asking to be served? Do you recognize and reverence Christ in other people as you do in the Eucharist?

Good Friday: John: 18:1-19:42. Jesus answered Pilate: “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth.” How do you testify to the truth through your words and actions at home, at work, in your social and civic life? Is your witness changing things? Is it causing hostility?

SEVERAL SUGGESTIONS FOR LENT

Prayer: Try to spend Holy Week in greater reflection and quiet. Participate in the Easter Triduum services: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil.

Fasting: Think about Jesus’ Passion, seeing his love expressed. Ask yourself, “What have I done for Christ? What am I doing for Christ? What will I do for Christ?”

Almsgiving: Ask what contribution you can make to improve conditions at home, at work, in your social life, in your city or country. How can you help bring people together into unity and peace according to Christ’s desire? (See Ephesians 1:9-10.)

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