

SAINT MARY of the Assumption



Roman Catholic Church
Manchester, Michigan



REVEREND FR. BOSCO PADAMATTUMMAL
Administrator

DEACON DENNIS WALTERS

210 West Main Street • PO Box 249
Manchester, Michigan
Phone: (734) 428-8811

stmarymanchester@gmail.com
www.stmarymanchester.org

WEEKEND MASSES:
Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am
Vigil Mass Saturday at 5:00 pm

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD ♦ APRIL 10, 2022

Ourselves in the Story

– Fr. Bosco Padamattummal –

SOME OF US may have accompanied loved ones on their last journey as they passed from this life to the next. The final journey of Jesus was written from the memory of his disciples. They came to understand the full significance of that final journey only afterwards, in the light of Easter and with the coming of the Spirit. What they initially regarded as a great tragedy came to be seen as good news. A story of brokenness and failure came to be recognized as a story full of promise and hope. That is how we read and listen to Luke's story of Jesus' last journey this Palm Sunday. We hear this story, not as a depressing word, but as a word that nourishes us and strengthens our faith and hope.

We have just been listening to Luke's account of Jesus' final journey. It is only Luke who tells us that on the Mount of Olives, while praying intensely, his sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood. Jesus did not choose to be crucified. He chooses to be faithful even if that meant being crucified. He chooses to be faithful to God's love for all of humanity. Although we have just heard a very tragic story, we consider it good news, gospel, because it is a story that proclaims the triumph of a truly life-giving love.

Luke emphasizes that Jesus died as he lived. He lived prayerfully and he died prayerfully, praying to God that Simon's faith would not fail, praying for forgiveness for his executioners, praying that his Father's Will would be done in his life, and with his final breath, praying himself into the welcoming hands of his Father.

Jesus lived compassionately and he died compassionately, healing the wounded ear of one of his enemies, granting Peter a look of acceptance at the very moment that Peter denied him, promising Paradise to the condemned man who turned to him in his hour of need.

The experience of his passion and death did not change Jesus. He remained in death all he was in life: a person in prayerful communion with God and in compassionate communion with all men and — *continued on p. 2*



St. Mary's Parish Weekly Calendar ❖ April 9-17

Mass Intention [requested by], & parish activities

SAT. APRIL 9 *Lenten Weekday*

Ez 37:21-28 3:30-4:30pm Confession
 Jn 11:45-56 ➤ **5:00pm Vigil MASS** for Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord: For the People

Pray the Stations of the Cross 20 min. before each weekend Mass

Is 50:4-7
 Phil 2:6-11
 Lk 22:14-23:56 (or 23:1-49)

SUN. APRIL 10 *Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*

8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession
 ➤ **8:30am MASS:** † Marianne Kroes [Pat Fitzgerald]
Outdoor Procession for Palm Sunday at the beginning of 10:30am Mass
 ➤ **10:30am MASS:** INT: For Protection of the People of Burkina Faso [Karen Berg]
 4-5:30pm Confirmation Class / PC

MON. APRIL 11 *Monday of Holy Week*

Is 42:1-7 ➤ **12:10pm MASS:** † Marianne Kroes [Shirley Krzyzaniak]
 Jn 12:1-11 3:30-4:45pm Rel Ed Classes / PC
 7:00pm Choir rehearsal / choir loft

TUES. APRIL 12 *Tuesday of Holy Week*

Is 49:1-6 ➤ **8:30am MASS:** † Mary Alice Krzyzaniak [Shirley Krzyzaniak]
 Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

WED. APRIL 13 *Wednesday of Holy Week*

Is 50:4-9a ➤ **8:30am MASS:** † Ron Driessche [Bill & Janet Shurtliff]
 Mt 26:14-25 7-8:00pm Special Confession Time

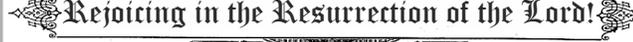
THUR. APRIL 14 *Holy Thursday*

➤ **10:30am CHRISM MASS** at St. Mary Cathedral in Lansing
 **The Sacred Triduum** 
 ➤ **7:30pm EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER:**
 † Mike Miner & INT. Elsie O'Dell [Bill & Sandi Kwolek]
 Ex 12:1-8, 11-14 1 Cor 11:23-26 ADORATION ("Watch & Pray") until 11:00pm, closing with NIGHT PRAYER (Compline)
 Jn 13:1-15

FRI. APRIL 15 *A DAY OF FAST & ABSTINENCE* *Good Friday*

Is 52:13-53:12 † 12:00 noon Stations of the Cross
 Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9 ➤ **3:00pm GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD** 
 Jn 18:1-19:42

SAT. APRIL 16 *Holy Saturday*

1:00pm Blessing of Easter Food Baskets (no confession time today)
 **Rejoicing in the Resurrection of the Lord!** 

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 • Lk 24:1-12

SUN. APRIL 17 *Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord*

(no confession before Masses today)
 Acts 10:34a, 37-43 ➤ **8:30am MASS:** For the People
 Col 3:1-4 (or 1 Cor 5:6b-8) ➤ **10:30am MASS:** † Leon Ball [His loving wife Eileen Ball] ■
 Jn 20:1-9 (or Lk 24:1-12)

FR. BOSCO'S ARTICLE FROM PAGE 1, continued:

Ourselves in the Story

women, including those who rejected him and failed him.

Calvary was a place, an expression of human brutality at its worst. Yet, in the light of the resurrection of Jesus, the early Church came to recognize that what happened on Calvary was more than just a monument to human brutality. There was already a light shining in that darkness, the light of God's unconditional love for all humanity, including those who crucified Jesus.

This was a recognition ever after that God could be present in a loving way in the darkest of human situations. When faced with the cross, we can either renounce our faith in God, or open our hearts to God present in our suffering. Just as God was present to Jesus and to all of humanity on Calvary, God is present in every experience of the cross.

The story we have just heard reveals both the worst and the best of the human spirit.

- The *worst* of the human spirit: the brutality of the absolute power of the Roman Empire.
- It is above all Jesus who reveals the *best* of the human spirit in this hour: He dies as he lived, standing in loving solidarity with sinners, praying for those responsible for his death, promising paradise to a condemned criminal who turned to him for support.

Those best instincts of human nature in the story we have heard can inspire us. The Jesus who lived and died is also the Jesus who is risen. As risen Lord, he remains in prayerful communion with God, interceding for us. He joins us on our own life's journey, as he joined the two sorrowful disciples on the road to Emmaus.

As the Lord journeys with us, he pours out his Spirit into our hearts, so that we can journey in the same prayerful and compassionate way that he journeyed. His Spirit enables us to be prayerful and compassionate people as he was, in good times and in bad, when the path of life is easy and effortless, and when it is painful and difficult.

As we listen to Luke's Passion Story, we might find it easier to identify with the other characters in the story:

We might recognize something of ourselves in the disciples who, at the last Supper, argued as to which of them was the greatest, in the followers of Jesus who, at the moment of his arrest, resorted to physical force when a different response was called for, in Peter who lacked the courage of his convictions under pressure. We might even recognize something of ourselves in Judas who turned a sign of affection into a signal of betrayal.

I suspect many of us could also recognize something of ourselves in those who responded well: in Simon the Cyrenean who helped to carry Jesus' burden, in the good thief who confessed his sin and turned to Jesus in trusting prayer, in the centurion who saw more deeply than any other Roman, in Joseph of Arimathea who did not go along with his peers in the Jewish council but stood apart.

Wherever we locate ourselves in the story, the prayerful and compassionate Savior opens his arms to receive us. That is why this story is good news for us all. ✠



We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
 Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world!

NOTICE REGARDING CEMETERY DECORATIONS: The Cemetery Board reminds all parishioners to kindly remove all decorations on graves at St. Mary Cemetery **before April 15** for Spring Cleanup. Items remaining after that date will be discarded. Spring and summer grave decorations may be placed on graves **after May 1.**

HOLY THURSDAY
EVENING MASS of
the LORD'S SUPPER
7:30pm

Good Friday
at Noon



Pray the
Stations
of the
Cross

Altar Flowers
for the
Holy Thursday
Altar of Repose...

In memory of
+Duane Beuerle
(NICK & RUSS AIUTO)

★ Birthday
★ Blessings! ★

APRIL 10
◆ EDWARD STERLING

APRIL 11
◆ NANCY JOHNSON
◆ ADLER LINE

APRIL 13
◆ SANDI SZUFNAR

APRIL 14
◆ PAULA SAFT

St. Mary Pro-Life

Great news! The St. Mary Pro-Life Group is up and running again! If you're interested in being part of the group and/or receiving announcements about upcoming pro-life events, please email Kathy and Tina at stmaryprolife@gmail.com.

Mark your calendars for our first event on **Tues., May 3** at 7pm in the Parish Center. Jeff Sangster, parishioner and author of *Common Sense: Changing the Conversation of Life*, will talk about the truth, lies, and deceptions of the abortion issue and the conversation that surrounds it. Diapers and donations will be accepted in support of Sienna Women's Health pregnancy center. Refreshments will be served. Contact stmaryprolife@gmail.com for more information or to reserve a seat.

Easter Decorations

Order forms for MEMORIAL EASTER LILIES are available in the vestibule. The cost is \$20, and you can take your lily home after the 10:30 Easter Sunday Mass. Orders are needed by **Mon., April 11**. Checks should be made payable to "The Flower Garden."

Also, sign-up sheets to **HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH** on **Sat., April 16** are in the vestibule. Contact Susan Fielder at 734-972-5652 or sfielder@umich.edu if you have questions.

Final Opportunity for Confession before Easter

Fr. Bosco will be in the confessional to hear confessions this week on **Wed., April 13** from 7-8:00pm. "O my God, I am heartily sorry..."

Please return your Rice Bowl Boxes

If your almsgiving for Lent included saving your loose change in a Rice Bowl box throughout Lent, please bring it back to church **this weekend, Palm Sunday**. If you missed getting it back this weekend, it's not too late! Just drop it off at the Parish Office ASAP.

Holy Thursday Candle Bearers Needed

This year, we will again need 14 ladies to lead the procession of the Holy Eucharist to the Altar of Repose on the evening of **Holy Thursday, April 14**. The ladies must be at least 14 years of age to do this. This will be a "first come-first taken" for the position. To volunteer or for more info, please call Marja Warner at 734-428-9506. The *deadline* for volunteering will be this weekend, **Palm Sunday, April 10**. FYI: Be sure to contact Marja directly, since sometimes messages left elsewhere might not get to her, and that causes confusion on Holy Thursday evening. So again, be sure to contact Marja directly. Thank you.

Almsgiving this Week

Please remember that there will be special collections on both Holy Thursday (to replenish our parish Poor Box funds) and Good Friday (to support the Franciscan Friars of the Holy Land who care for the Holy Places as well as for the "Living Stones," i.e. the Christians living there.) Be sure to include these important needs in your Lenten almsgiving. ■

The SANCTUARY LAMPS
are burning this week for
the following intentions:
PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK...

- 1) Int. Anna Brogley's health
(Martin & Kathy Brogley)
- 2) +Mike Miner
(Bill & Astrida Panches)

Please Pray for...

- Andrea Mendoza
- Cindy Marie Remski
- Lorri McConnell
- David Roncoli
- Denny Steele and his wife Cindy
- Lee Ann Vitale
- For the people of Ukraine
- Anna Brogley (mother of Martin Brogley)
- Sally Gavin
- Joyce Stein
- Jerry Kripas
- Addison Elder
- Loretta Widmayer
- Annie (sister of Lynn Waldecker)
- The family of Alice Kidd
- Gary Brokaw (and his wife Polly)
- Paul Whelan (imprisoned in Russia)
- Doug Hunt and his wife Lisa (Pat Fitzgerald's daughter)

ST. MARY'S SUPPORT
of our 2022 DSA

Our parish goal:
\$27,837

As of March 28 **32** families
have supported DSA with
\$15,165 or **54.5%** of our goal!

WE STILL NEED \$12,672⁰⁰...

Let's all do our part!

St. Mary Roman Catholic Church Stewardship

WEEKLY COLLECTION
Sunday, March 27, 2022

Sunday Env (47) \$ 4,615.00
Welcome, Loose, Kids 145.00
E-Giving (5) 163.60
Easter (1) 25.00
Easter decorations (3) 60.00
E-Giving Easter décor (1) 25.00

Combined toward budget: ... \$ 5,033.60
Budget goal: 5,300.00
Amt UNDER goal: - 266.40

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:

Bldg & Maint (3) \$ 60.00
Blk & Ind (1) 100.00
Catholic Relief Serv (7) 160.00
Poor Box 172.00
Votive candles 49.00

CHURCH REGULATIONS REGARDING Good Friday FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Remember this week is Good Friday, one of the two days during the year that Holy Mother Church tells us we are bound to observe fasting and to abstain from meat. FYI, these are the guidelines:
▶ **ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT** (beast or fowl) is to be observed by all Catholics 14-years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent.

▶ This obligation prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products, or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat.
▶ **FASTING** means limiting oneself to one full meal on the fast day.
▶ Catholics who are 18-years of age but have not yet reached their 60th year are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

▶ On fast days, two additional smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength. However, the two smaller meals together may not equal one full meal.
▶ Moreover, eating solid foods between meals on fast days is not permitted. ■

Think you might be pregnant?
Need Help?
Alternatives to Abortion
Call (800) 712-HELP (4357)

Need Help? PROJECT RACHEL
(post-abortion reconciliation and healing) Call the confidential phone line: 517-993-0291, or email nlc@resurrectionlansing.org

NEED HELP? "COURAGE" is a Catholic spiritual support group for those struggling with same sex attraction. "ENCOURAGE" is a separate support group for families & friends. For info in the Diocese of Lansing, call 517-342-2596 or email caverart@comcast.net

NEED HELP? An "AA" group meets Tuesdays at 7:00pm at Manchester United Methodist Church, 501 Ann Arbor St. (next to Klager School)