



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday Of The
Passion Of The Lord

4:00 PM
8:00 AM
10:00 AM

Gathering: Hosanna To The Son Of David BB 140
Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 22)

*My God, my God, O why have you
abandoned me?*

Preparation What Wondrous Love Is This BB 484

Mass Parts Mass For Christ The Savior

Communion: Ubi Caritas BB 328

Recessional: **We depart in silence during Lent**



Out of respect for the Lord and in consideration of fellow parishioners, please remember to silence or turn off your cell phones during Mass. Thank you!

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

April 2	Property Management
April 7	Good Friday – Holy Land
April 9	Easter & Needs of Parish
April 16	Fuel
April 23	No Second Collection
April 30	NH Catholic Appeal

PLEASE HELP US!

As you leave church, kindly take your Bulletin with you - or return it to the basket at the entrance of the Church, return your music book and Mass card to their proper place, and pick up after yourself as you leave.

✠ PARISH TITHING ✠

Our Parish needs to take in \$9700.00 each week in order to make ends meet. This amount represents an adjusted budget offertory of \$8500.00 per week plus the combination of budgeted Property and Fuel second collections (\$4800.00 per month divided into 4 weeks or \$1200.00 weekly). Your weekly contribution helps ensure that the Parish remains a vibrant community. Please remember to submit your weekly gift even if you will be away. Consider signing up for electronic giving (see below). Especially in these trying times, your Parish depends on your responsible stewardship and support!

March 26, 2023

Offertory	\$6,109.40
Easter Flowers	\$1,847.77



Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish uses **Parish Giving** to provide parishioners with an opportunity to make your offertory and other contributions through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Parish Giving is a simple, secure, and convenient way to manage your stewardship without weekly envelopes and without worries. This program is available to parishioners at no cost. Log on to the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish website at <http://stlukenh.org>, click on the Parish Giving logo, and follow the easy registration instructions.

TURKEY – SYRIA EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

Persons desiring to make a contribution to the relief efforts in Turkey or Syria in the aftermath of the earthquake should strongly consider these two Church agencies:

Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

228 W. Lexington St., Baltimore, MD 21202-3443

www.crs.org

Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA)

1011 1st Avenue, Floor 15, New York, NY 10022-4195

www.cnewa.org

Suggested Weekly Contribution Based on Income

Annual Income	5% Commitment annually/ weekly	3% Commitment annually/ weekly
\$100,000	\$5,000/\$100	\$3,000/\$60
\$75,000	\$3,750/\$75	\$2,250/\$45
\$60,000	\$3,000/\$60	\$1,800/\$36
\$50,000	\$2,500/\$50	\$1,500/\$30
\$40,000	\$2,000/\$40	\$1,200/\$24
\$30,000	\$1,500/\$30	\$900/\$18
\$25,000	\$1,250/\$25	\$750/\$15
\$15,000	\$750/\$15	\$450/\$9

Suggested Weekly Contribution Based on a Percentage Increase

Your Current Offertory Contribution	25% Increase	30% Increase	40% Increase
\$75.00	\$93.75	\$97.50	\$105.00
\$50.00	\$62.50	\$65.00	\$70.00
\$40.00	\$50.00	\$52.00	\$56.00
\$35.00	\$43.75	\$45.50	\$49.00
\$30.00	\$37.50	\$39.00	\$42.00
\$25.00	\$31.25	\$32.50	\$35.00
\$20.00	\$25.00	\$26.00	\$28.00
\$15.00	\$18.75	\$19.50	\$21.00
\$10.00	\$12.50	\$13.00	\$14.00
\$5.00	\$6.25	\$6.50	\$7.00

✠ PARISH NEWS ✠

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

The Secular Franciscans of the Greccio Fraternity in Derry, NH are extremely grateful to the parishioners of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish for their very generous donations to help the homeless people in our area. Thanks to **YOU**, we have collected **over 500 pairs of socks, 100 T shirts, 300 pairs of underwear**, and many more items in children's and miscellaneous wear. We have delivered these items to shelters in Exeter, Portsmouth, and Haverhill which were delighted and grateful indeed!

Thank you from Susan Ronan, ofs and Mary Galpin, ofs



The Sanctuary Light
at Mary Mother of the Church
will burn this week in loving memory of
Marcia Gallant
by William Tucker

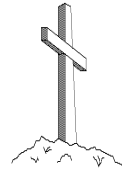
The Sanctuary Light
at Holy Angels Church
will burn this week in loving memory of
Bob Giallongo
by his family



The Vigil Light in front of the
Blessed Mother icon
at Mary Mother of the Church
will burn this week in loving memory of
Moses and Ellen Tucker
by William Tucker

MEN OF ST. JOSEPH

The regularly scheduled St. Luke the Evangelist MOSJ meeting on April 15 is canceled. Sts. Mary & Joseph Parish and the Men of St. Joseph of Salem NH is offering hospitality by inviting men of our parish to join them on **Saturday, April 15 from 8:00 to 9:30 AM** at St. Julie Hall (located at the bottom of St. Joseph's parking lot), 40 Main Street, Salem NH. They will share a delicious breakfast with us and Deacon Geoff Ashman will be the guest speaker. The breakfast is free. Contact Mike Rametta at 978-361-5946 by April 2 if you plan to attend.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will take place this week on **Good Friday at 3:00 PM in Newton.**

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER

Evening Prayer is sung at Newton at 6:00 PM on all Sundays of Lent. Join us for a quiet time of prayer and reflection. The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available immediately after Evening Prayer each Sunday of the Lenten Season.



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Bishop Peter A. Libasci invites all couples celebrating 5, 10, 25, 50, and 60+ years of marriage to attend a **Wedding Anniversary Mass**. The Mass will be held on **Sunday, April 30, 2023 at 2:00 PM** at St. Joseph Cathedral, Manchester. To register, please contact the parish office **by March 31, 2023**. The parish office will gather and submit all necessary information to the Diocese.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

We appreciate the gracious support of our bulletin by our Advertisers. Please be sure to support our advertisers by calling them first! If you have a business and would like to place an ad in our bulletin, call 1-800-333-3166.

RETROUVAILLE

A Lifeline For Married Couples

Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vi) means rediscovery in French. This program helps couples put their broken pieces back together and rediscover their love for each other. This program starts with a weekend which teaches couples a new form of communication called Dialogue and lets couples know that they are not alone. Our next Retrouvaille weekends are **June 9-11, 2023, August 18-29, 2023, and November 10-11, 2023**. For more information, email 3023@halpourmarriage.org.

WHILE AWAY THIS SPRING...

We appreciate all of you who remember to send in your Parish Offertory during the Spring even when on vacation or visiting other parishes. Thank you for remembering that our expenses also continue through the Spring months. We invite others to consider doing the same before or even after you return home.

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, April 2

6:00 AM Vespers *Newton*
6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Newton*

Monday, April 3

11:00 AM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*
5:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Newton*
7:00 PM Knights of Columbus *Plaistow*

Wednesday, April 5

7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal *Plaistow*

Thursday, April 6

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
NO ADORATION IN NEWTON

Friday, April 7

3:00 PM Stations of the Cross *Newton*

Saturday, April 8

NO SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Sunday, April 9

6:00 PM Vespers *Newton*

RESTROOM BREAKS DURING MASS

Attention Parents

Please be sure to accompany your young children when they need to use the restroom during Mass. This is for their safety and your peace of mind!

PRAYER LINE

St. Luke's offers a prayer line as a resource for those seeking prayer assistance. To submit your prayer request please call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 314 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.



From the Pastor's Desk



HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED

Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow is closed until Spring 2023. This decision comes as result of the real dangers of snow and ice in the Cemetery and the costs to Parishioners to inter during the winter months. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, April 1 ~ Palm Sunday - Passion of the Lord

Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14-27:66 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Kevin A. Gallant (30th Anniversary)
by his mother Patricia Gallant and family
Plaistow

Sunday, April 2 ~ Palm Sunday - Passion of the Lord

Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14-27:66

8:00 AM The Intentions of Slawek Gawlik and his family
by Slawek Gawlik
Newton

10:00 AM Bob Giallongo by his family
Plaistow

Monday, April 3 ~ Monday of Holy Week

Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11

8:00 AM Richard W. Sullivan (Birthday Remembrance)
by Jeanne Sullivan
Newton

Tuesday, April 4 ~ Tuesday of Holy Week

Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

8:00 AM Philip V. Consentino and Martin M. Feuer
by Eleanor Feuer, Jodi Consentino, and families
Plaistow

Wednesday, April 5 ~ Wednesday of Holy Week

Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25

6:30 PM Ron Metcalf by Barbara Metcalf
Plaistow
7:30 PM Tennebrae
Plaistow

Thursday, April 6 ~ Holy Thursday

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

6:30 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper
Newton

Friday, April 7 ~ Good Friday

Is 52:13-53:12; Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9; Jn 18:1-19:42

6:30 PM Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
Plaistow

Saturday, April 8 ~ Holy Saturday - Great Vigil of Easter

*Gn 1:1-2:2; Gn 22:1-18; Ex 14:15-15:1; Is 54:5-14;
Is 55:1-11; Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4; Ex 36:16-17a, 18-28;
Rom 6:3-11; Mt 28:1-10*

8:00 PM People of the Parish
Plaistow

Sunday, April 9 ~ Easter - Resurrection of the Lord

*Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8;
Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10*

8:00 AM People of the Parish
Newton
10:00 AM People of the Parish
Plaistow

WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Office, Holy Angels Cemetery Office, Saint Luke Food Pantry, and the Parish Liturgical schedule complies with the longstanding inclement weather policy of Saint Luke Religious Education Program and Holy Angels Pre-School-Kindergarten: **If the Timberlane and/or Sanborn regional school districts close because of inclement weather, ALL Parish Offices and Parish programs will be closed or suspended. All activities by any Parish or non-Parish groups will be cancelled for that day/evening on both campuses.**

In the event of a weather related closing, the scheduled weekday Liturgy will not be held and the intention (if any) will be moved to a conveniently available date. **Sunday (or Saturday evening) liturgies can never be cancelled, but all are advised to use prudence when deciding to travel to Church during winter storms.**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

In addition to Saturdays at 3:00 PM in Plaistow and 6:30 PM in Newton on the Sundays of Lent, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be celebrated on **Monday of Holy Week, April 3:**

**11:00 AM to 1:00 PM in Plaistow
5:00 to 7:00 PM in Newton**

BUSTED HALO

Busted Halo is a unique media resource sponsored by the Paulist Fathers of the US that utilizes a relevant and accessible voice to help people understand the Catholic faith, put it into practice in their everyday lives, and share it with others. Check out their site, podcasts and videos at www.bustedhalo.com.

THE GOD MINUTE

Every morning a small group of priests, religious, and lay people start their day in prayer. Soft music, sacred scripture, and a thoughtful reflection are weaved into a 10-minute prayer called "The God Minute." It's then uploaded for you to access and pray along with us on your own time. And it's free. Listen with your coffee in the morning, while driving to work, or taking a walk. See how easy and beautiful prayer can be! www.thegodminute.org

TAX TIME SUGGESTION

Did you know? If you are 72 or older and need to take a "required minimum distribution (RMD)" from an IRA retirement account, a direct distribution to a qualified charitable organization, such as Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish, can save you money on your taxes. Such a donation will count toward your required minimum distribution but will be excluded from taxable income. Ask your tax preparer or IRA trustee for more details.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you would like an "end of year" financial statement of your contributions to the parish for 2022, **please call Jackie** at the Parish Office at 382-8324. **Financial Statements are issued on a request only basis.**

PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY

If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, non-judgmental help is available from Project Rachel Ministry. Call 603-6630192 or email ProjectRachel@rcbm.org for Project Rachel in New Hampshire.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

We are truly blessed to have times for Adoration of Our Lord in our Parish. This time of prayer and intercession is not only a source of great grace for the individual, but it is a great source of grace for us as a parish family, as well.

We have many who have made the commitment to spend an hour each week with our Eucharistic Lord, **but** we need more people so there will be at least two people at each hour. We are also looking for people who would be able to substitute.

**Newton – Thursday
8:30 AM – 8:30 PM**

If you can commit to one hour a week in Adoration of our Lord, or if you can be a substitute, please contact Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

The Church in Plaistow is open all day on Wednesdays for people to stop by and pray before the presence of Jesus in the tabernacle.

✠ PARISH DIRECTORY ✠

Parish Office	603-382-8324
Parish Prayer Line	603-382-8324 x 314
St. Vincent de Paul Society	603-382-8324 x 315
St. Luke's Food Pantry	603-819-4949
Preschool	603-382-9783
Presentation of Mary Convent	603-382-2744

Fr. Albert Tremblay	fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net
Cathy Smith	csmith@stluketheevangelist.net
Joyce Szczapa	jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net
Jackie Tremblay	jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net
Val Barczak	mvmbarczak@comcast.net
Parish Council	parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net

❖ Community News ❖



SAINT JUDE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus of our Parish are sponsoring a monthly food drive to support the Saint Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry. A list of items needed, along with a paper shopping bag, will be distributed at the end of Masses on the 3rd weekend of each month to those who wish to participate. We ask that you bring back the non-perishable food items the following weekend (4th weekend of the month). You are also welcome to drop off donations at the Parish Office during normal business hours or at one of our Parish churches. Monetary donations are also welcome (make checks payable to Saint Luke Food Pantry), or gift cards to local supermarkets. Thank you for reaching out to help families in our community who need assistance. The Knights and the Food Pantry appreciate your generosity and support.



Find us on:
facebook®

St. Luke the Evangelist is now on Facebook! Go to www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/ or **St. Luke the Evangelist Parish – Newton/Plaistow** and give us a Like! Please invite fellow parishioners & friends to do the same.

**St. Vincent
de Paul
Society**



Your “Dropped Dollar” Hard At Work

Thank you for your continued support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society! Please know that your “dropped dollars” are being used wisely to help the poor in our area. Your generosity does not go unnoticed.

Drop-a-Dollar in the St. Vincent de Paul box
on your way out of church.

Remember ~ 100% of your donation is used to help
those who need a hand up, not a handout.

Our next meeting on **Wednesday, April 19 at 7:00 PM.**
We meet downstairs in the Church Hall in Plaistow. **New
members are always welcome!**

If you seek assistance or need information about the
St. Vincent de Paul Society, call 603-382-8324 x315.

**Hear, OH LORD, and answer me
for I am poor and needy.**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will be closed on **Holy Thursday** (April 6) and on **Easter Monday** (April 10). Please note that there is **NO ADORATION on Holy Thursday** and **NO MORNING MASS in Newton on Easter Monday**. We return to our regular schedule on Tuesday, April 11.

CURSILLO

If you have a desire to know Jesus more closely, a Cursillo is for you. The Cursillo weekend is a short course in Christianity. The purpose of the weekend is to facilitate a meaningful personal encounter with Christ and his body, the Church. The three day weekend is also the bridge connecting the faithful with the supportive post-Cursillo community, where we live our faith joyfully with our fellow Christians. Cursillo weekends are being offered at the Sato Center in Hookset, NH. To find out more, contact Mark Collopy at 603-833-7341 or explore www.nhcursillo.org.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

A Men's AA Step Meeting is being on Sunday mornings from 7:00 to 8:00 AM at the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish Hall in Plaistow, NH (Holy Angels). Bring your own coffee. For more information, call 617-921-9899.



DO SOMETHING GOOD WITH US

The Knights of Columbus are a vital and vibrant
part of St Luke the Evangelist Parish.

We welcome any practicing Catholic man,
18 or older, to join the Knights.

We are sons, fathers, husbands and grandfathers,
whose main purpose is charitable works in support
of our parish and community.

Where there is a need, there is a Knight.

Joining is simple – talk to a brother Knight, contact

Dan Sullivan at 603-770-4803, email him at

dans49@comcast.net or you can now join online:

www.kofc.org/joinus

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST. JUDE COUNCIL #6617
WWW.KOFC6617.ORG**



The Paschal Triduum

The Church's holiest days begin with the **Liturgy of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, April 6 at 6:30 PM in Newton.** At Mass that evening, the holy oils blessed earlier that week by Bishop Peter will be presented to the Parish, Jesus' call to service and humility is remembered through washing of feet, and the institution of the Eucharist by Jesus at the Last supper is celebrated. Adoration and prayer with the Eucharist will go on that night in church until Night Prayer at 9:00 PM.

Throughout the Triduum, the Church is in almost constant prayer. The **Liturgy of the Hours** will be celebrated beginning on Holy Thursday at 8 am and Noon at Newton. Night prayer will be at 9 PM. The same schedule for Morning and Mid-Day prayer will be kept on Good Friday and Holy Saturday at Plaistow.



The Passion and death of Jesus on the cross is celebrated on **Good Friday, April 7.** Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 3:00 PM in Newton, and **the principal celebration of the day, the Reading of John's Passion, the Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion will be celebrated at 6:30 PM at Plaistow.**

On Holy Saturday, the Church waits in prayer at the Lord's tomb. No Masses are allowed, no sacraments other than communion for the dying are celebrated. We wait for announcement of Easter victory. Morning prayer will be celebrated at Plaistow at 8 am, and Mid-Day prayer at Noon.



The ***Great Vigil of Easter*** will begin at 8 PM on Saturday, April 8 with the blessing of new fire and the lighting of the Paschal Candle, the principle symbol of the Easter Season. We will then listen to our story of salvation, proclaimed through readings and song. We will proclaim the Easter Gospel and renew our Baptismal Promises. We will then celebrate the solemn Eucharist of Easter.

The ***Great Vigil of Easter*** begins from the Parish Hall, where we'll process to the blessing of the new fire, burning just outside the doors of the Church. ***If you plan on attending the Great Vigil on April 8, plan on gathering in the Hall for 7:50 PM on Holy Saturday evening.***

Easter Sunday

Easter Liturgies will be celebrated at 8:00 am in Newton and at 10:00 am in Plaistow on April 9, with renewal of Baptismal Promises and blessing with Easter Water.

Easter Evening Prayer with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will conclude our Easter Sunday at 6:00 PM at Newton.

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST
Lent - Easter Liturgical Schedule 2023

THE BEGINNING OF THE LENTEN FAST	FEBRUARY 22
ASH WEDNESDAY	LITURGY
	8 am Newton
	Distribution of Ashes 12:15 PM Plaistow
	LITURGY
	6:30 PM Plaistow

RECONCILIATION

Plaistow: Saturdays 3:00 PM (except Holy Saturday)
Newton: Sundays of Lent following 6 PM evening prayer
Monday of Holy Week: Plaistow 11:00am – 1:00 PM
Newton 5:00-7:00 PM

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER Sunday evenings of Lent at Newton, 6 pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Fridays of Lent - 6:30 pm – Plaistow
Lenten Soup Supper March 31

HOLY WEEK

Monday of Holy Week – Liturgy at 8 am - Newton
Tuesday of Holy Week – Liturgy at 8 am - Plaistow
Wednesday of Holy Week – Liturgy at 6:30 pm - Plaistow
Tenebrae at 7:30 PM

PASCHAL TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 6 – Morning prayer 8 am - Newton
Mid-day prayer 12 noon – Newton

LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER 6:30 PM - Newton
-Eucharistic Adoration follows-
Night Prayer 9:00 pm - Newton

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 7 - Morning prayer 8 am - Plaistow
Mid-day prayer 12 noon - Plaistow
Stations of the Cross 3 pm - Newton

**SERVICE OF THE LORD'S PASSION
& HOLY COMMUNION 6:30 PM - Plaistow**

HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 8- Morning Prayer 8 am - Plaistow
Mid-day Prayer 12 noon - Plaistow

EASTER GREAT VIGIL AT 8 PM - Plaistow

EASTER SUNDAY LITURGIES APRIL 9

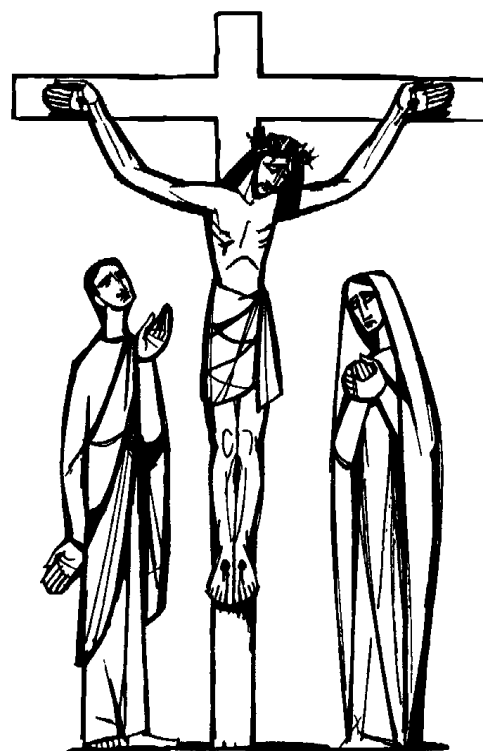
8 AM – Newton

10 AM – Plaistow

Easter Solemn Vespers with Benediction at 6 pm – Newton

LENTEN SEASON DAILY LITURGIES:

M 8 am Newton
T 8 am Plaistow
W 6:30 PM Plaistow
Th 8 am Newton

**SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH**

**Newton: 12 Amesbury Road, Newton, NH
03858**

**Plaistow: 8 Atkinson Depot Road, Plaistow,
NH 03865**

www. <http://stlukenh.org>
(603) 382-8324

Keeping the Holiest Days of the Year

Today is the sixth and the last of the Sundays of Lent. We know it also by other names. It is called **Palm Sunday** because the first thing that we do when we gather this day is to take up palms and tell the story of how Jesus once came into the holy city, Jerusalem, riding over a carpet of branches, cheered by people waving branches. Today also is known as **Passion Sunday** because the Gospel story read (today) is the account of Jesus' passion as told by Matthew.



Today knows other events. This is the last Sunday when the Church calls forth and dismisses those Elect, who, at the start of Lent, were chosen or "Elected" for the Easter Sacraments. Beginning with Easter Sunday, they will not be dismissed after the homily, but will stay with the Church and do all that Baptized people do. They will begin to keep each Sunday by joining the church to give God thanks and praise at this table, over bread and wine, which we eat and drink and so become, little by little, the living body of Christ.

Today marks the beginning of the days we call **Holy Week**. That name, Holy Week, can be misleading - or it can be a rich insight into these days. It can mislead if we think of the time from today until next Sunday, Easter Sunday, as one segment of time that day by day tries to tell the story of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. That's not really what happens here. Rather, we have a week that splits in two on Thursday night - and each one of us ought to know how and why. That will tell us what puts the "holy" in Holy Week. **Until Thursday night it is Lent.** The Forty Days right now are down to their last five days. Thursday evening Lent ends. If we have kept these days so far with various kinds of fasting, various forms of almsgiving, and times of prayer each day, then we are near the end and can perhaps put on an extra burst of energy and so finish this great Lenten contest smiling and exuberant to have done penance and turned the world a bit upside-down.

**Passion Sunday
Evening Prayer
At Newton 6:00 PM
Sacrament of Reconciliation
follows Evening Prayer.**

**Reconciliation available at
Plaistow on Holy Monday 11 am-1
PM, and at Newton 5-7 PM**

And if we have not kept these days so well, or perhaps not at all, if we have forgotten to pray, neglected to fast, not gotten around to all the ways alms can be given, then the news is good: Five days, counting today, to go! It isn't too late at all. Time enough remains to discover what hunger feels like-bodily hunger and other hungers too. Time remains for that spring-cleaning of house and wallet and life that Lent makes almost appealing to us who are too heavily laden

with possessions and near-addictions. Time remains also for quiet, for taking out the Bible and reading the Passion stories, reading here and there in Paul, reading psalms and prophets, and quietly reflecting on these words and stories and letting them help us to pray. Time remains. Five days of Lent to conclude your Forty Days, or Five Days to be your Forty Days.

The Paschal Triduum

But that brings us only to Thursday evening. That is the reason we say that this so-called Holy Week is really two very different pieces of time. For when Lent ends, we move without stopping for breath into the three days that are for us the heart and soul of the entire year. The church calls them a "*Triduum*," just the Latin for "three days." But we call them the "Easter Triduum" or the "Paschal Triduum." What that means is that

they are about the Paschal mystery, the Passover mystery, the way life and death and resurrection, our own, our church's, our human race's, get all tangled up in the life and death and resurrection of the one who is truly God and truly human, Jesus.



On Thursday night we walk out of Lent into these three holiest days, and we walk into them singing: “We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.” And there it is, in one part of one sentence from Paul: Our glory is in the cross. The cross is our only and ultimate glory. Somehow that is what it comes to for us, the transforming cross that never ceases to be the cross, the death that is death itself, all the ways death reigns in this poor world, but we look at it and we say, “Glory”. **From Thursday night until Sunday afternoon, it is Triduum.** We will gather in God’s house Thursday day and Thursday night and Friday morning and afternoon and evening, and Saturday in the morning and then in the darkness of Saturday night. These are liturgies we do not celebrate three or four times each day so that it is convenient for us to come. We do it once and we hope that all of us can be together, most especially at the **Great Easter Vigil**. That gathering of



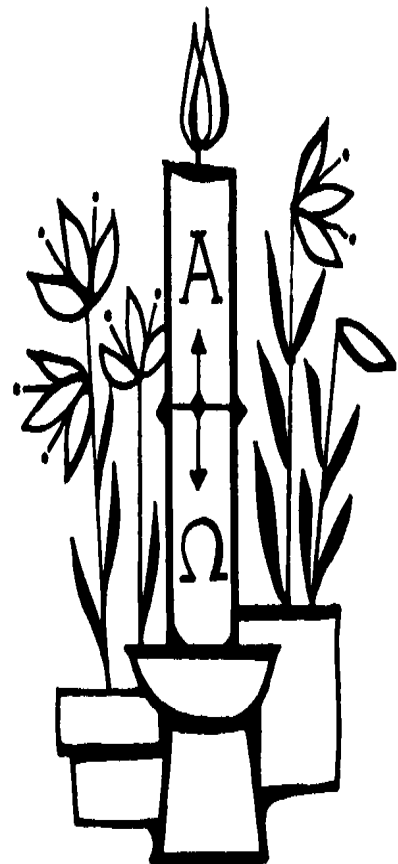
the church between Saturday evening and Sunday morning is the life that nourishes our whole year, all our days. It is when we come to spend some good time in the reading of scripture, and then go finally to the Baptismal font where our catechumens are challenged to renounce evil, to believe in Father and Son and Spirit, and so to die in the waters and live forever in Christ. We do the liturgies of these days only once because who would have the energy to do them again? We do them once because we wish that this whole Parish be, this once in the year, all together here to do scripture and Baptism and Eucharist.

And we dare to do these liturgies just once and to say that we should all be here because of something that we so easily overlook. It is: What else could we possibly find to do? That is the key to getting from the end of Lent back into life in this world. ***We have to know that life-as-usual stops from Thursday evening to Easter Sunday.*** Or perhaps it doesn’t stop, but we do. We drop out. We do not do on this Good Friday and this Holy Saturday what we do on any other Friday and Saturday of the year. So we are not ever trying to work in “going to church” among a hundred other things. No. The decks are clear. Lots of things in our lives have been closed down. We are free.

We have to know this: The way these three days are kept is not only with the liturgies here in this assembly. For these to have any sense at all to them, the three days must be kept in our lives. A generation ago, at the second Vatican Council, the world's bishops had a great and ancient insight into this. They said these strange words: *“Let the Paschal fast be kept sacred. Let it be celebrated everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible, prolonged throughout Holy Saturday.”* They spoke not of a Lenten fast but of a Paschal fast, an Easter fast. What's that? And they spoke not just of fasting, but of “celebrating” this particular fast. What sort of fasting is celebrated? It is the fasting of excitement and expectation, of butterflies in the stomach because of what is about to happen. It is fasting from food, yes, but fasting also from work, and from entertainment and distraction. It is getting real hungry. it is clearing the mind and the heart. It is being famished for the word of God.

So the invitation to us Christians is to leave all we can of the normal on Thursday night. Off and on through those next three days, we'll meet here. You have your schedules of liturgies and other times of prayer. But it is the times between the liturgies that make the liturgies possible. Let all of us together find again and anew what is this glory that is ours in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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The Paschal Triduum

The Church's holiest days begin with the **Liturgy of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, April 6 at 6:30 PM in Newton.** At Mass that evening, the holy oils blessed earlier that week by Bishop Peter will be presented to the Parish, Jesus' call to service and humility is remembered through washing of feet, and the institution of the Eucharist by Jesus at the Last supper is celebrated. Adoration and prayer with the Eucharist will go on that night in church until Night Prayer at 9:00 PM.

Throughout the Triduum, the Church is in almost constant prayer. The **Liturgy of the Hours** will be celebrated beginning on Holy Thursday at 8 am and Noon at Newton. Night prayer will be at 9 PM. The same schedule for Morning and Mid-Day prayer will be kept on Good Friday and Holy Saturday at Plaistow.



The Passion and death of Jesus on the cross is celebrated on **Good Friday, April 7.** Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 3:00 PM in Newton, and **the principal celebration of the day, the Reading of John's Passion, the Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion will be celebrated at 6:30 PM at Plaistow.**

On Holy Saturday, the Church waits in prayer at the Lord's tomb. No Masses are allowed, no sacraments other than communion for the dying are celebrated. We wait for announcement of Easter victory. Morning prayer will be celebrated at Plaistow at 8 am, and Mid-Day prayer at Noon.



The *Great Vigil of Easter* will begin at 8 PM on Saturday, April 8 with the blessing of new fire and the lighting of the Paschal Candle, the principle symbol of the Easter Season. We will then listen to our story of salvation, proclaimed through readings and song. We will proclaim the Easter Gospel and renew our Baptismal Promises. We will then celebrate the solemn Eucharist of Easter.

The *Great Vigil of Easter* begins from the Parish Hall, where we'll process to the blessing of the new fire, burning just outside the doors of the Church. *If you plan on attending the Great Vigil on April 8, plan on gathering in the Hall for 7:50 PM on Holy Saturday evening.*

Easter Sunday

Easter Liturgies will be celebrated at 8:00 am in Newton and at 10:00 am in Plaistow on April 9, with renewal of Baptismal Promises and blessing with Easter Water.

Easter Evening Prayer with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will conclude our Easter Sunday at 6:00 PM at Newton.

The Gospel at Home

This Week's Gospel: Matthew 26:14–27:66

Palm/Passion Sunday celebrates Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. It begins the most solemn week of the Church year. During Holy Week, we remember Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection. We also listen to the Passion according to Matthew at this Sunday's Mass.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): Bring home a blessed palm and display it. Talk about welcoming Jesus into your home and into your hearts. Discuss the joy you have because Jesus is with your whole family. Sing hosanna in praise to Jesus.

Promise (Grades K–1): The class learned about how Jesus was welcomed to Jerusalem and talked about the ways we welcome people. Your child also reviewed all the events of Holy Week. Try to take your child to at least one of the Holy Week liturgies. Talk about Jesus' suffering and Death with your child, and comfort them with the promise of new life at Easter.

Good News (Grades 2–3): This week your child learned about the events of Holy Week. Ask your child to tell you what the words *Hosanna*, *Friend*, and *Cross* mean for the events of Holy Week. Decide together on ways you will celebrate Holy Week in your home. Work the word, Hosanna, into your prayers of praise for Jesus. Discuss, too, the meaning of Passion when talking about Jesus.

Venture (Grades 4–6): In class, your son or daughter experienced the many events of Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum. Ask your young person to share with the family, "My Good Friday Stations of the Cross," a booklet that contains dramatic paintings of the traditional moments in the final hours of Jesus' life. Plan to go to church during the week and pray the stations, guided by the booklet. At the end, kneel together and pray to understand the Resurrection's role in your lives.

Visions (Grades 7–9): Your young person's class tackled many questions to learn more about the events of Holy Week. Ask your young person to share the reports on how the city of Jerusalem welcomed Jesus and the events of Holy Thursday and Good Friday. Plan to attend Good Friday services together. After the liturgy, spend a few minutes sharing together what the experience meant to each of you.

Pray Together

Each day of Holy Week, plan to eat a simple meal together. Begin and end the meal with prayers appropriate to the day. For example, on Palm/Passion Sunday the prayer might simply be, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." On Holy Thursday, you may wish to use some of the prayers from Mass. The important thing is to bring the prayerful spirit of these days into your home.





Stand Watch

In the ancient world the soldier who kept the night watch was said to be on station. He neither slept nor ate but kept his whole attention on looking out for friend or foe who might approach the gates of the city or camp. The church took over that vocabulary. Stational liturgy, when the bishop presides at the eucharist of the local church, is the fullest form of communal prayer for us. Its derivative form will take place in every parish where the pastor presides at the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil. For centuries the candidates, the ministers and the rest of the local church fasted together and saw their fasting as a necessary element of the celebration.

The original Lenten fast was that of Holy Saturday and through the night which opened onto Easter morning. To that was

added the fast of Good Friday. The fast of this Holy Week is not so much an acceptance of physical pain in order to know the suffering of Jesus. It is much more an entrance into a state of heightened awareness triggered by our hunger. The pain in the belly calls us to be on the lookout for the glorious coming of Christ into the lives of those whom God has called to join our number. For those who have observed the Lenten fast as well as for those who have done little or no fasting the closing days of this week call us all to stand and watch.

How faithful have I been to fasting this Lent? How can I redouble my efforts in these last days?

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LENTEN REGULATIONS

FASTING

Fasting for anyone between 21 and 59 years of age means having only one full meal to maintain one's strength. Two smaller meatless and penitential meals are permitted according to one's needs, but should not equal the one full meal. One may, however, enter more into the spiritual element of fasting and not partake of any of the above-mentioned meals. Eating between meals is not permitted; but liquids, including milk and juices are allowed. Days of fasting are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Wednesdays and Fridays are also traditional fast days; however, one may fast on any day of the week.

ABSTINENCE

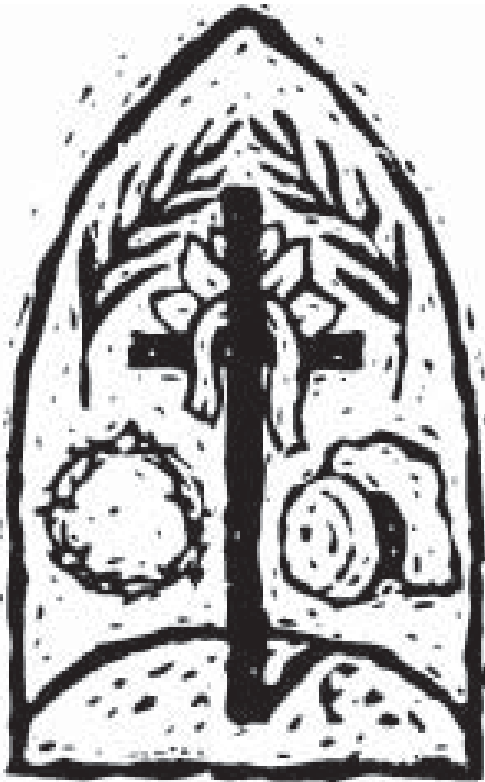
Abstinence is the observance for all those 14 years of age or older to forego the eating of meat on: Ash Wednesday; all Fridays in Lent and on Good Friday. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, this discipline does not apply.

EASTER PRECEPT

The Easter Precept – or Easter Duty is the decree for all the faithful to receive Holy Communion at least during the Easter Season (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2042). The faithful must celebrate the Sacrament of Penance at least once a year in preparation for the reception of Holy Eucharist. Traditionally, the Church has marked the time in which one may fulfill the Easter Duty between the First Sunday of Lent and Trinity Sunday. A monthly celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is encouraged for all.

PRAYER AND ALMSGIVING

All of the faithful are encouraged to spend additional time in prayer during the Lenten season, and to participate in the devotional practices of the Parish. It is also praise worthy for the faithful to give generously to charities and to their Church during this Season of Sacrifice.





Bringing Home the Word

Palm Sunday (A)
April 2, 2023

Who Is This Man?

By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

He is a convicted criminal. He is a threat to the sovereignty of Rome, because he might be a rival king; a challenge to Jewish religious tradition, for he interprets the law by his own authority. Still, he is just a common carpenter, a sometimes preacher and healer like many others. He's a man whose friends and followers have deserted him and are in hiding. This is how some might describe Jesus. But we know better.

Sunday Readings

Matthew 21:1–11

The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road.

Isaiah 50:4–7

The Lord God is my help,
therefore I am not disgraced.

Philippians 2:6–11

He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave [and]...humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

Matthew 26:14–27:66 or 27:11–54

Jesus cried out again in a loud voice, and gave up his spirit.

He fits well the Isaian image—a man with “a well-trained tongue” who knows “how to answer the weary” (Isaiah 50:4). He also resembles the Psalm 22 sketch of one to scoff at and mock, one whose hands and feet are pierced, an image also found in the Gospel account of his suffering and death. This is a man rejected, beaten, and nailed to wood like a piece of flimsy material. Who is this man and why was he so hated?

The hymn in Philippians 2 probably offers the best likeness of him. He was in the form of God, but out of love for others he took on the form of a slave so that he might serve them. What about this was so objectionable? Does he represent an idea of God that is too different from the one with which we have grown comfortable? As a man for others, does he put our own selfishness to shame? Does his desire to serve challenge our propensity to control? Is this why he has been rejected? †

***Does Jesus represent
an idea of God that is
too different from the
one with which we have
grown comfortable?***

A Word from Pope Francis

Brothers and sisters, in the course of this week, let us cling to the certainty that God can forgive every sin.... The certainty that with Jesus there is always a place for everyone. That with Christ things are never over. That with him, it is never too late. *With God, we can always come back to life.*

HOMILY, ROME, APRIL 10, 2022



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

ONE QUESTION REFLECTION

- What does Jesus' self-emptying tell me about God?
- How can I let go of my status or privileges this Holy Week?

The Christ Hymn

By Paige Byrne Shortal

Between the Palms and the Passion is a little reading we hear only once a year. It's a creedal hymn, a profession of faith sung by the early Christians. Saint Paul quotes this hymn in his letter to the Christians at Philippi, which is part of the liturgy on April 2.

The passage begins with an exhortation. Saint Paul writes that if we claim to know Christ, then we must love one another and adopt the same attitude as Christ.

Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped.

Before Jesus walked among us, he existed and was united with God the Creator, but even so he did not protect or exploit his divine status.

Rather he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death,...

Jesus emptied himself of his divinity to become like us in all things but sin, and therefore, we who call ourselves Christians, must forsake our self-interest and love one another, even if it should mean death.

... even death on a cross.

This line was not in the original hymn. Crucifixion was so scandalous, so dishonorable a death, that the early Christians could not bring themselves to speak of it. Paul inserted this line because he understood the paradox that what was high must be brought low; that "only what is assumed is redeemed."

Because of this, God greatly exalted him, and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,...

Having made the ultimate sacrifice: journeying from the pinnacle of divine existence to the depths of human depravity, Jesus was raised by God, and with him, all of humankind.



that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

All creation bows to him: the angelic beings; we who are still alive in this world; and those who have died and are buried.

and every tongue confess, that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. †

It is ourselves that we must spread under Christ's feet, not coats or lifeless branches or shoots of trees, matter which wastes away and delights the eye only for a few brief hours. But we have clothed ourselves with Christ's grace, with the whole Christ—"for as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ"—so let us spread ourselves like coats under his feet.

St. Andrew of Crete, 650–740 AD



So that we may enter into this Holy Week and pray together with other believers for the salvation of the world, we pray— Lord, let us be like you.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

April 3–8

Monday of Holy Week: Is 42:1–7 / Jn 12:1–11

Tuesday of Holy Week: Is 49:1–6 / Jn 13:21–33, 36–38

Wednesday of Holy Week: Is 50:4–9a / Mt 26:14–25

Holy Thursday: Ex 12:1–8, 11–14 / 1 Cor 11:23–26 / Jn 13:1–15

Good Friday: Is 52:13–53:12 / Heb 4:14–16; 5:7–9 / Jn 18:1–19:42

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 / Mt 28:1–10

Bringing Home
the Word 

April 2, 2023

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