

St. Mary's Our Lady of the Lake

*Christ Centered + Biblically Grounded + Sacramentally Nourished +
Serving Our Neighbors in Christian Love*

April 5, 2020

PALM SUNDAY


ALL MASSES IN THE DIOCESE OF ALBANY CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
FAITHFUL URGED TO TAKE TIME TO PRAY AT HOME

www.rcda.org/livestream

Holy Thursday: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper –
Cathedral ~ livestream April 9th at 5:30pm

Good Friday: Solemn Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord –
Cathedral ~ livestream April 10th at 5:30pm

The Easter Vigil –
Cathedral ~ livestream April 11th at 8pm

Easter Sunday Mass (during the day) –
Cathedral ~ livestream April 12th at 11am

Interim Parish Administrator

Karen Walker ~ 607-264-3779

pastor@stmaryscoop.org

Karen is in St. Mary's parish office each Monday or can be reached by phone.

Parish Office ~ 547-2213

Kitty Dykstra

Administrative Assistant/ Bookkeeper
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Faith Formation Director ~ 293-7901

Maureen Davidson

cooperstowncatholic@gmail.com

Anointing of the Sick ~ 547-3626

Call the Parish Office, or if at the hospital, contact the Chaplain Office's office

Trustees

Peter Henrici & Mike Millea

Finance Chair

Vincent Russo

Pastoral Planning Chair

Rob Bohm

Church Sexton

Frank Liberati ~ 607-644-5958

Cemetery Sexton

John Sansevere ~ 607-435-9137



HOSANNA

“Hosanna to the Son of David / blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”

MATTHEW 21:9

31 Elm Street
Cooperstown, NY 13326

607-547-2213

<https://stmaryscoop.org/>

April 1, 2020

"I would like to pray today for pastors who need to accompany the people of God during this crisis. May the Lord grant them the strength and the ability to choose the best ways to help."

Pope Francis - March 13, 2020

Dear Parishioners;

It is my hope that this letter finds you and your family coping well with the current health alerts around Covid-19 and its extraordinary impact on everyday life. As Interim Administrator at St. Mary Our Lady of the Lake I am here to be your spiritual guide as we weather this emergency together. As Bishop Scharfenberger noted in his recent column in *The Evangelist* (March 12, 2020), *"Corona, however ironically, means crown. By all means, we should wash our hands and keep a distance when we cough or sneeze, and maybe bump elbows until spring instead of shaking hands. But now, more than ever, we need to stay close to one another, crowning one another with care and affection, and not allowing the predicted 'new social distancing' to separate us from our families, friends and neighbors. They need us, more than ever, just to love them through."*

Please consider our parish as part of your extended family, not just for this situation but throughout the ups and downs of life, wrapping you in God's loving arms. This serves as a good reminder of some of the ways our parish can serve you and our local community during times of joy as well as struggle:

A. Prayers and Intentions – Bishop Ed wrote: *"Now we know that you do not physically have to be IN church to be a church. While the Mass is the highest and foremost expression of our Catholic identity — and the Mass is being celebrated daily by every priest in our Diocese, joining us all in a communion of prayer and sacrifice — it is possible, essential in fact, to live our Catholic identity in many ways when we are not assembled. In fact, I might go so far to say, one reason why we may not have all as publicly expressed our belief in the treasure of the Mass by weekly participation is that our awareness of being a part of Christ's body wherever we are has not been nourished spiritually or in practice. Each and every one of us is a valuable and essential part of the Mystical Body, no matter where we are. And family is a special place to practice that reality of God's presence in us."* See more about spiritual communion on the Diocesan web site www.rcda.org.

B. Activities – please check out the web sites noted in the bulletin with Easter activities

C. Ministries – Bring communion, such a wonderful service to our friends and neighbors in the hospital had to cease but that does not mean we totally forget about them: cards can be sent; even flowers to the ward-especially maternity where mothers are all alone would mean so much. Telephone calls and emails are great ways to let others know you are missing them and thinking of them and are concerned for their wellbeing. The Lenten food drive seems to have come to a halt but if you have extra and are able to contribute more, please drop it off at the church and we will see it gets to the food pantries. Remember also, if you are spring cleaning during this forced time at home, put aside items that may be of use to others so you can donate as soon as the threat is over.

D. Priest/Deacon visitation – may not be possible in all situations but if you have an emergency please call Mrs. Walker at 607 264-3779 or 315-269-8434 and we will try to locate a priest or deacon.

E. Outreach – I understand our seniors have a telephone tree and are making arrangements to check in on them and perhaps offer to pick up groceries or prescriptions, or even prepare some meals to drop off. Call the parish office 607 547-2213 if you have a need (continued on next page)

WORD FOR THE DAY

Caregiving often calls us to lean into love we didn't know possible.



Just as this national emergency is having a negative economic impact on families & businesses, so it is on our parish offertory which is our principal source of revenue to fund the mission of our church. Despite that we cannot meet in person, my team and I, along with our colleagues in the Diocesan Pastoral Center, are working diligently to find innovative ways to meet the needs of you, our faithful, during this challenging time, especially as we mark this Holy season of Lent. So that we may continue to fund these efforts and to ensure the strong endurance of our church, we ask for your prayerful consideration to continue your offertory support either online at <https://stmaryscoop.org> or by mail to 31 Elm Street, Cooperstown, NY 13326. With deepest gratitude for your generosity and kindness.

This health emergency is unique in that it is something we are all experiencing together simultaneously. While we may not see our parish family at Mass each week until this situation improves, on behalf of Lucille, Gayle, Kitty, Frank, Maureen and myself, we pray ...

Peace be with you,

Karen

Karen J. Walker, Interim Administrator

Pray for the sick and homebound of our parish:
Fr. Peter Pagonis ~ Ivy Bischof ~ Maureen Brennan ~
David Butler ~ Vin Cronin ~ Mary Devenpeck ~
Robert Davenport ~ Richie Davy ~ Julia Fassett ~
Stephen Markuson ~ Senator Jim Seward ~
Bradley Smith ~ Sarah Tarr

Pray for members of the military from our families
Liam Dolan-USMC ~ Ryan Barrow
Please call the Parish Office to add any names.



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You have already come, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

“The greatest challenge of the day is:
How to bring about a revolution of the heart,
a revolution which has to start,
with each one of us.”

Dorothy Day

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd;
there is nothing I lack.
In green pastures you let me graze;
to safe waters you lead me;
you restore my strength.
You guide me along the right path
for the sake of your name.
Even when I walk through a dark valley
I fear no harm for you are at my side;
Your rod and staff give me courage.
You set a table before me
as my enemies watch;
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Only goodness and love will pursue me
all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of the LORD
for years to come.

NAB St. Joseph's Edition

Refrain: Abba, Abba, Father You are the potter; we are the clay, the work of your hands.

- 1) Mold us, mold us and fashion us into the image of Jesus, your Son,
of Jesus your Son. *Refrain*
- 2) Father, may we be one in you. May we be one in you as he is in you,
and you are in him. *Refrain*
- 3) Glory, glory and praise to you. Glory and praise to you forever,
amen, forever, amen. *Refrain*

READINGS FOR PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL:

"Hosanna to the Son of David;
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
hosanna in the highest." (Mt 21:9b)

FIRST READING:

The Lord GOD is my help,
therefore I am not disgraced. (Is 50:7a)

PSALM:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22)

SECOND READING:

He humbled himself,
becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross. (Phil 2:8)

GOSPEL:

But Jesus cried out again in a loud voice,
and gave up his spirit.
And behold, the veil of the sanctuary
was torn in two from top to bottom. (Mt 27:11-50-51)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International
Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 5, 2020

Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Wednesday: Administrative Professionals' Day
Thursday: Holy Thursday
Friday: Good Friday
Saturday: Holy Saturday
Next Sunday: Easter Sunday



REFLECT

FIRST READING

The prophet Isaiah speaks of his commitment to his calling regardless of the consequences he suffers. Who do you see today modeling this depth of faith?

SECOND READING

This Christological hymn in Philippians is one of the earliest attempts by believers to define who Jesus is. What do you find interesting or provocative about how Jesus is defined here?

GOSPEL READING

Matthew's passion narrative has a number of unique details, including the report of "the saints" rising from their tombs and appearing to "many" after Jesus' resurrection. What do you think Matthew was teaching us with the inclusion of this episode?

Remember in Your Prayers

**ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE CORONAVIRUS
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**



*Compassionate and Loving Father,
In the face of confusion and concern
impart to us the calm of Your presence.
In You allow us to find hope and healing.
Be with those who serve the sick and
give them Your caring hands.
Be with those who lead and give them
Your spirit of wisdom.
Be with those who have fallen ill and
give them Your comforting heart.
Wrap Your arms around our world
and hold us in Your love.
Allow us at this time of trial to then
serve as instruments of that love
to all we meet.
We ask this in Your Name.
Amen*

**I WILL
BUILD
MY LIFE
UPON
HIS
LOVE**

©LPI

*Blessed
are you who
believed
that what
was spoken
to you by
the Lord
would be
fulfilled.*

Luke 1:45

APRIL 5, 2020

THE 6 CHARACTERISTICS OF AN EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP FOR LENT – ACCOUNTABLE

Easter is only a week away, and churches everywhere in the West are beginning the holiest of weeks. For a moment, even the secular world will bow to religious observances: closings on Good Friday, Easter baskets filled with treats, and television specials featuring Biblical figures. You and I will be reflecting on the meaning of Lent and how we have died and risen with Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Either we have prepared well for this Holy Week observance, or we are left lamenting that maybe next year will be when we get back on track.

The question before us is: “To whom are we accountable?” Did our Lenten observance only have to do with us? Does it matter to anyone if we really took this time seriously or not?

Both faith and community are gifts from God to us. The Church exists so we may live out that faith and respond to God’s call, being strengthened by the grace imparted through the sacraments and the community in which we find ourselves. If we are accountable to no one, then the community is simply an option on a Sunday morning, much like golf or household chores. If we are not accountable to God, then our faith is simply something we look to periodically when we are sad or frightened.

However, if we are accountable to each other and to Jesus Christ, then we must answer for our stewardship gifts of faith and community. The Body of Christ is counting on us. Without a strong sense of accountability, we think our actions only affect us. In the end, we are connected to each other through Christ in such a manner that no one ever stands alone.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

WHY DO CATHOLICS MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS?

The sign of the cross is a devotional practice that dates back to the first Apostles. When making the sign of the cross, we remember Jesus Christ who died for us and also bear witness to the fact that we belong to him and are called to share the Good News to all the world. At our Baptism, we were signed with a cross and marked for Christ. That mark remains on us throughout the entirety of our lives. We remind ourselves of that mark every time we make the same gesture over our bodies. We also remind ourselves that to be a Christian means we are to “put on Christ” and be Christ for a world that needs to know him. In a way, this devotional gesture covers us with Christ so that others may see him in us.



APRIL 5, 2020

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Listen carefully to the passion of Christ as it unlocks the door that brings us to the true meaning of human life. Holding what seems like opposite polarities of human existence, it weaves us through the highest of triumphs and the darkest of tragedies. As we witness and meditate upon Jesus's last days on earth, we see most vividly that God is present in and through it all. God is not only the glue that holds all of life's seemingly opposing experiences together, but He is the One who offers incredible promise and hope on our road to fulfillment and eternal life. It was only through experiencing the burning agony of suffering's loneliness and heart-wrenching pain that Jesus experienced the joyful exultation of his resurrected self. There are profound lessons here for all of us to learn.

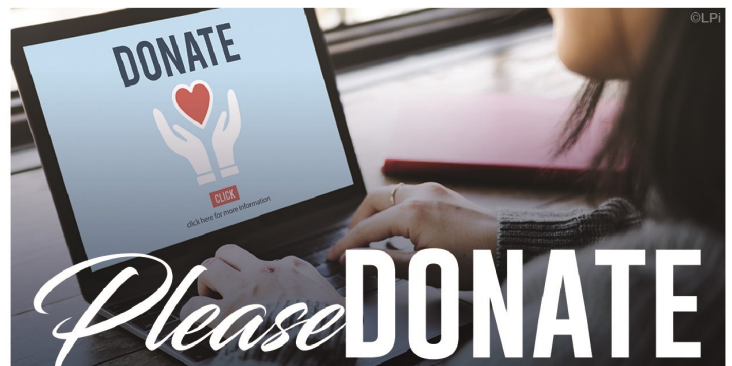
PEACE
IN HEAVEN
AND GLORY IN
THE HIGHEST.

—
LK 19:38

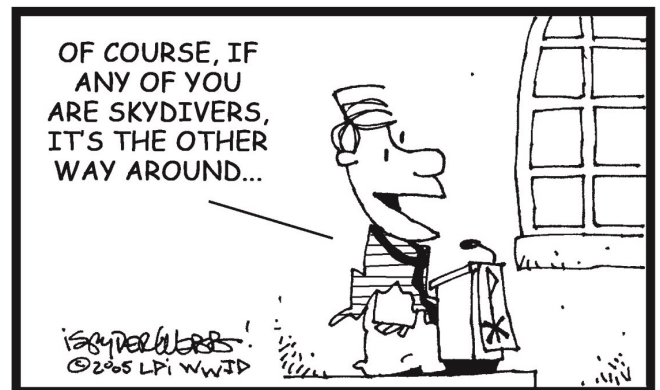
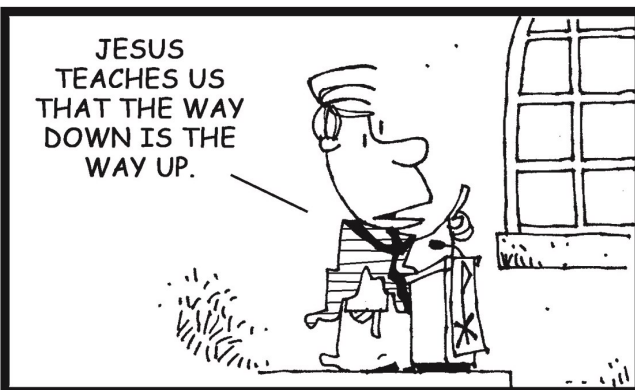
©LPi

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time. Thank you!



PALM SUNDAY



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

GOSPEL MEDITATION PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Human beings are united in their suffering. When we find ourselves in a painful moment, our first reaction is “why me?” as if we are the only person on earth who ever encountered this challenge. Going through life with a “why me” attitude only finds us wallowing in the mire of self-pity and never seizing opportunities or graces. We walk in solidarity with every human being in the experience of suffering. Believing that the goal of life is the elimination or avoidance of suffering is simply an illusion that keeps us entrenched in a collective myth. This myth distorts us and limits us.

There are living witnesses among us showing how courage and determination can overcome any degree of hardship, pain, loss, or tragedy. Folks finding the normalcy of their lives suddenly torn asunder are faced with options: opportunity or despair, stay or leave. Jesus stands before us as the prime example of endurance and perseverance. He is the One who showed humility through both the triumphs of life (by learning to be humble) and the tragedies

and injustices (by learning how to be obedient). To secular ears, this may be perceived as nonsense. But to those with the eyes of faith, they are pearls of great price.

True humility tempers the temptation we have to become complacent and prevents an excessive relishing of life's successes and affirmations. Learning obedience keeps us faithful to our relationship with God so that we can find the courage to endure any depth of hardship, disappointment, betrayal, or agony. While we may want our cup of suffering to be taken away, it simply cannot be. Somehow and somewhere in the seemingly opposing experiences life can deal us, God is present with His reassuring, compassionate, empowering, and persevering

love. To be true to who we are and who God is, we must take up the cross of suffering, even when it's the hardest and most apparently senseless thing to do.

Only our soul can understand these things, but our minds cannot, so they continue to run to secular ideas and solutions to pain and hardship. It goes without saying that we need to do all we can to eliminate as much senseless, unjust suffering as possible. Hunger, violence, abuse, exploitation, rejection, prejudice, homelessness, disrespect for life, and a whole host of other sins all result in suffering that is within our control. Then, when we face the uncontrollable kind of suffering or find ourselves the victim of injustice, what do we do?



©LPi

*Say to daughter Zion,
“Behold, your king comes to you,
meek and riding on an ass,
and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.”
- Mt 21:5*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Local businesses and sponsors that advertise on bulletins need you now more than ever before. Please encourage and remind others to show their support during this time.

APRIL 5, 2020

3 EASY STEPS

TO KEEPING YOURSELF & OTHERS HEALTHY!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.



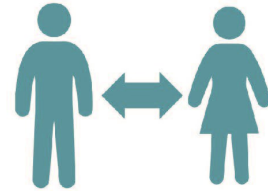
WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.



DON'T TOUCH YOUR FACE

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.



KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD