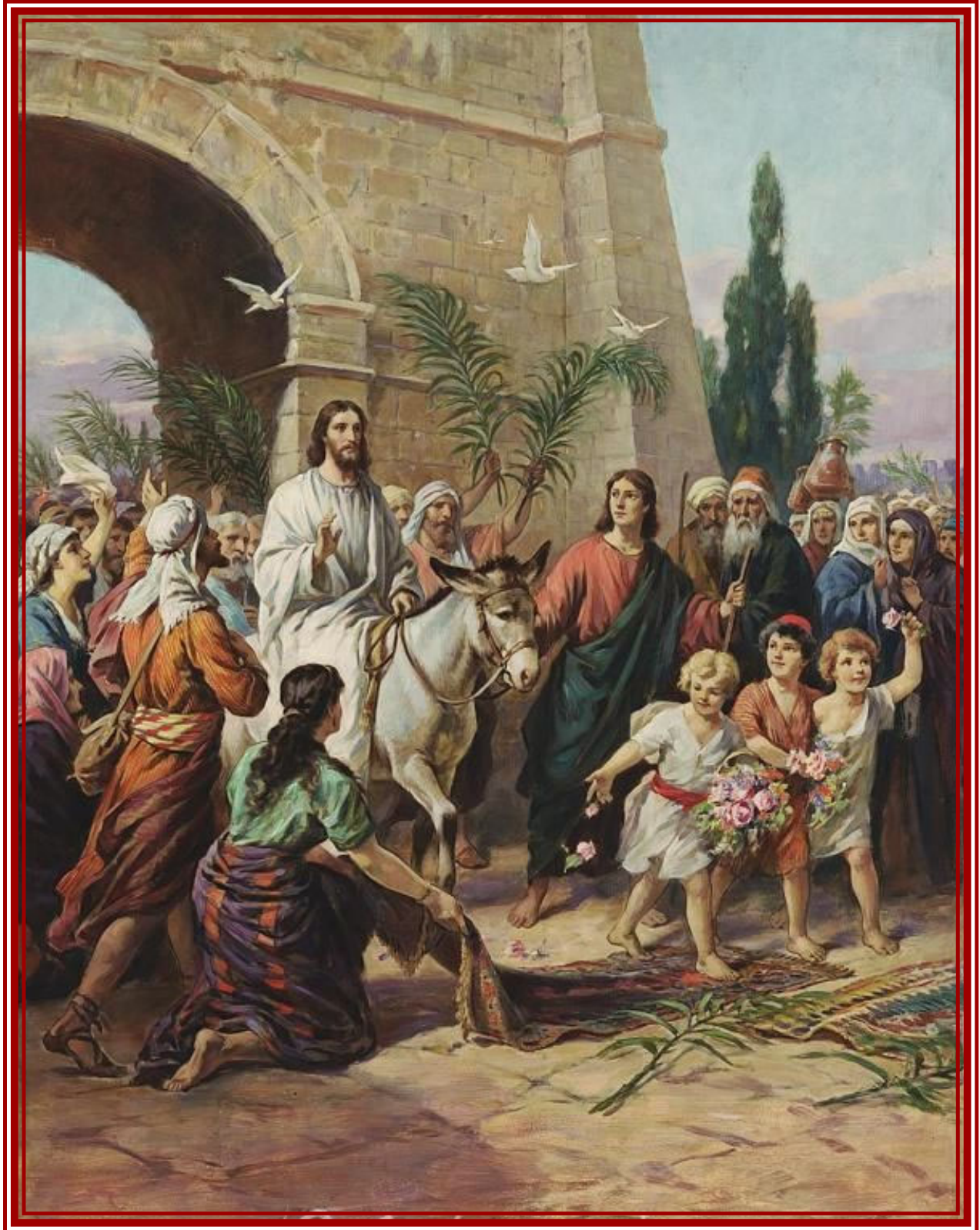


PALM SUNDAY

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

MARCH 24, 2024





Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Our celebration of Palm Sunday reveals the reality of human nature which Jesus clearly understood. It is also a true study in contrasts. Jesus enters Jerusalem like a triumphant hero only to be rejected as an object of scorn and derision His procession of Glory is actually the beginning of His Passion. Hosannas become shouts to crucify Him. It is rather astounding and jarring, this movement from palms of praise to persecution and the Crucifixion.

Equally astounding to me is how closely this Liturgy reflects (perhaps predicts?) the reality of our lives and our world to this very day. To be a Christian is to experience, albeit at a much less degree, persecution and rejection by the world. It may also be a clarion call to each of us that we all too often reject our Savior and His ways when we sin. In one day we may proclaim Him as our Savior and King only to reject Him when we choose anger, pleasure, or worse to satisfy our own wills and desires over His. Palm Sunday reminds us how easily we embrace the empty promises of culture even though they contradict the promises of Christ as revealed through Holy Scripture and Church teaching.

Palm Sunday is an opportunity for us to pray that we may persevere in the Faith when "the crowds" turn against Him. What would we do if confronted with the choice of accepting the mark of the beast in order to have access to food, travel, public entertainment and comforts?

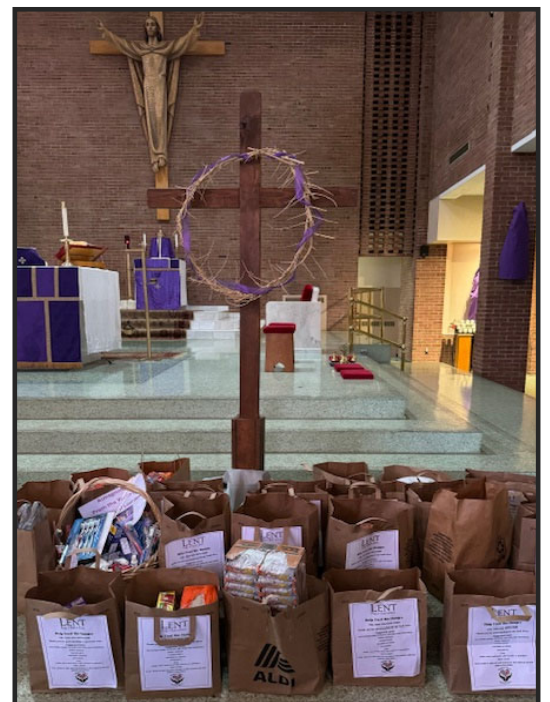
Palm Sunday reminds me that I must pray for strength and final perseverance. St. John Vianney tells us, "We cannot please God and the world at the same time, they are utterly opposed." Yet we are here, exiled as it were, in the world of flesh and dust. Without the Grace of Jesus Christ, I know I would fail in the face of extreme suffering. So let us all throw ourselves into His Arms of Grace. Let us learn how to completely rely upon Him. Let us walk with Mary and the Saints as we follow our Lord and Savior. It will involve suffering and sacrifice, but it does not end with suffering and sacrifice. Palm Sunday leads to the Sacred Triduum, the three holy days known as Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. These three days prepare us for the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday.

*Joyfully yours,
Father Michael*



Pictured is a beautiful display of the true meaning of the word "Almsgiving". Thank you to all who have donated so far for our March Lenten Food Drive. We will continue collecting until the end of the month, and items can be dropped off at the front entrance of the Church or bring to the Office. God Bless You All!

Hosanna!



March is dedicated to Saint Joseph

This Week at Our Lady of Lourdes

Saturday, March 23
~Confessions ~ 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 24 ~ Palm Sunday
~No Religious Education

Monday, March 25
~The Light Is On For You ~ Adoration & Confessions 5:30-7 p.m.

Thursday, March 28 ~ Holy Thursday
~Adoration ~ 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
~Night Prayer ~ 10:00 p.m.

Friday, March 29 ~ Good Friday +Passion of Our Lord
~Church opens ~ 12:00 p.m.
~Liturgy of The Lord's Passion ~ 1:30 p.m.
~Stations of the Cross ~ 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 30 ~ Holy Saturday
~Blessings of Baskets ~ 12:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 31 ~ The Resurrection of Our Lord!
~No Religious Education Classes

Monday, April 1 ~ Easter Monday
~K.O.C. Business Meeting 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Offertory Collections (Includes on-line contributions) March 16 & 17, 2024

Loose	\$	819.00
Offertory	\$	7,003.00
Maintenance	\$	82.50
Utilities & Fuel	\$	87.00
Votives	\$	77.00
Religious Education	\$	22.00
Ash Wednesday	\$	10.00
Christmas	\$	3.00
Easter	\$	35.00
Easter Flowers	\$	335.00
Holy Day ~ Ascension of The Lord	\$	20.00
Holy Day ~ Good Friday	\$	25.00
TOTAL	\$	8,518.00

Diocesan Collections

Rice Bowl	\$	107.00
Catholic Relief	\$	2.00
Care and Education of Priests	\$	150.50
Human Development	\$	3.00
Retirement Fund	\$	23.00
TOTAL	\$	285.50

Penance Service

Wed., Mar. 27 @ 6:30 p.m. ~ St. Boniface

Annual Parish Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 6

11:00 a.m.

Pre K thru 6th Grade

Sign-up sheets at entrances of the Church, or call the Office.

Faith In Action

LENT Pray + Fast + Give

For the month of March we will be participating in a **Lenten Food Drive**.

Suggested items: Ramen Noodles, Canned Soups, (Pop open lids preferred), Macaroni & Cheese, Applesauce, Fruit Juices & Tuna (Dollar Store small packs). Please return items by the end of March.

PLEASE, no expired foods, no glass and only items suggested on the front of the bag. Thank you and God Bless.

As always, we are collecting 16 oz. jars of peanut butter for the Montoursville Back Pack Program.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 23 ~ St. Turibius of Mogrovejo
4:00 p.m. Michael Sullivan (By Tim & Joi Sullivan Family)

Sunday, March 24 ~ Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord
8:00 a.m. People of the Parish
10:30 a.m. Al Gomb (By Gloria Gomb)

Monday, March 25
9:00 a.m. William McGuire (By Arlene McGuire)

Tuesday, March 26
9:00 a.m. Mary Vaccaro (By Frances Vanik)

Wednesday, March 27
9:00 a.m. Rose Imrisek (By Terri Atwell)

Thursday, March 28 ~ Mass of Our Lord's Supper
6:00 p.m. First Communion Class

Friday, March 29 ~ **Friday of The Passion Of The Lord**
12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Good Friday Service ~ *NO Mass*

Saturday, March 30 ~ **Holy Saturday**
8:00 p.m. (Vigil) ~ Easter Intentions

Sunday, March 31 ~ Easter Sunday
8:00 a.m. Easter Intentions
10:30 a.m. Easter Intentions

Readings For The Week

Monday: *Isaiah 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-14; Jn 12:1-11*

Tuesday: *Isaiah 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-17; Jn 13:21-38*

Wednesday: *Isaiah 50:4-9; Ps 69:8-34; Mt 26:14-25*

Thursday: *Isaiah 61:1-9; Ps 89:21-27; Luke 4:16-21*

Friday: *Isaiah 52:13-53; Ps 31:2-25; Heb 4:14-16; Jn 18:1-19*

Saturday: *Gen 1:1-2; Ps 104:1-35; Gen 22:1-18; Mk 16:1-7*

Sunday: *Acts 10:34; Ps 118:1-23; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9*



Prayer List for the Month of March

If you or a loved one would like to be added to our prayer list, please contact the parish office.

Dave Bonus, D. Jane Brown, Mark Brumbach, Joanie & Gayne Campbell, Ann Dorin, Carisa Foulds, Margie Foulds, Cliff Hales, Michael Hook, Lois O'Malley, Al and Karen Marlett, Mary Shuhler, Sofia Steinbacher, Carl Ulsamer, Jim Wilson, Debbie Winterer

Collection Counter Schedule

March 25, 2024 ~ **Group 3** Judy DeGregorio, Jan Ransdorf, Gloria Renhan

April 2, 2024 ~ **Group 4** Wendy Marshalek, Bonnie Fry, Judy DeGregorio, Willie Hepburn



Holy Week and Triduum Schedule

Palm Sunday ~ March 24

+Mass (Vigil, March 23) @ 4:00 p.m.

Procession starting in Hall

+Mass @ 8:00 a.m. ~ No procession

+Mass @ 10:30 a.m. ~ No procession

Holy Thursday ~ March 28

+Mass of Our Lord's Supper ~ 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday ~ March 29

+Church opens for prayer @ 12:00 p.m.

+Service @ 1:30 (*No Mass*)

+Stations of the Cross @ 3:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday Morning ~ March 30

+Blessings of Baskets @ 12:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil ~ March 30

+Mass @ 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday ~ March 31

+Mass @ 8:00 a.m.

+Mass @ 10:30 a.m.

Get Up and Pray

Lycoming County Young Adults
Holy Thursday, March 28

Join the Young Adults in a Pilgrimage as we visit the Eucharist in all our area churches on Holy Thursday

- ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER**
(702 W. 4th St, Williamsport)
8:30 PM - 8:45 PM
- IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**
(6001 Jacks Hollow Rd, Williamsport)
9:00 PM - 9:30 PM
- OUR LADY OF LOURDES**
(100 Walnut St, Montoursville)
9:45 PM - 10:00 PM
- ST. ANN**
(1305 Northway Rd, Williamsport)
10:15 PM - 10:30 PM
- ST. BONIFACE**
(526 Washington Blvd, Williamsport)
10:45 PM - 11:30 PM
- NIGHT PRAYER • 11:30 PM



Pro - Life Ministry Notification



Parishioner Russell Gombosi, M.D., would like to invite interested citizens, medical professionals, and public officials to a medical conference titled **"Shed Some Light"** on Thursday, April 4, from 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m., at the Michael Ross Room (Trade & Transit Center), Williamsport. Two speakers will discuss Chemical Abortions and Pediatric Gender Dysphoria. *Registration is required, and deadline is April 1.*
Email: rgombosi@openarmsmedpeds.com

Around the Diocese

St. Maria Goretti Church (Laflin, PA): "Festival Of Praise", April 4 @ 6:00 p.m. Includes Adoration, Reconciliation, and Music from Joel Kankiewicz.

St. Joseph the Worker (Fleming Center) Rummage Sale! April 20 from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Food and Bake sale available. Donation drop-off the week before the sale. *NO TV's, Computers, Mattresses or old/worn clothes.*

Sponsor Of The Week

We highlight JNNJ, this week in our bulletin. We appreciate your support and that of all our sponsors.



Did you know....Men first consider the priesthood because a priest encouraged them to do so. Year over year, around 70 percent of those ordained report that it was a priest who invited them to consider the priesthood.

<p>WILLIAMSPORT WEST VETERINARY HOSPITAL Peter J. Sikora, V.M.D. Stephanie A. Daverio, V.M.D. David V. Daverio, V.M.D. 3537 W. Fourth St. Williamsport (570) 323-9588</p>	<p>It's My PARTY STORE 1231 Sheridan Street Williamsport, PA 17701 ph: (570) 666-4915 fax: (570) 666-4954</p>	<p>JUSTIN McCOY FREE ESTIMATES FULLY INSURED McCOY EXCAVATING LLC Trout Run, PA Cell 570-560-0353 Office 570-435-0622</p>	<p>CROUSE FUNERAL HOME Traditional and Memorial Services Cremations and Cemetery Monuments Directors Jeffrey T. and Carl W. Crouse 133 E. 3RD ST., WILLIAMSPORT (570) 322-4706</p>	<p>Quality Air Mechanical Residential • Commercial Industrial Heating • Ventilation Air Conditioning • Plumbing Refrigeration • Piping 24 Hour Emergency Service 570.322.6500 qualityairmechanical.com 76 TERMINAL ROAD MONTOURSVILLE, PA 17754</p>
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