

*“Blessed is the king who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Peace in heaven  
and glory in the highest.”*

LUKE 19:38





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*Mass Intentions*  
 for the Week

**THE PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD  
 APRIL 14, 2019**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13**

*The Mass of Anticipation for Palm Sunday*  
 5:00PM Anthony Gelsomino, Sr.—Birthday Remembrance

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14**

*The Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*  
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 9:00 AM Melissa Mlga—1st Anniversary  
 10:30AM Maria DiChiaro—Birthday Remembrance  
 5:00PM Phyllis Maura T. Tripode—16th Anniv. & Family

**MONDAY, APRIL 15**

*Monday of Holy Week*  
 7:30AM Michael R. Dumont—30th Anniversary  
 12:05PM Robert Riccio—Memorial

**TUESDAY, APRIL 16**

*Tuesday of Holy Week*  
 7:30AM Fay Masterson—Birthday Remembrance  
 12:05PM Special Intention

**SPY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17**

*Wednesday of Holy Week*  
 7:30AM Gregory D'Emilio—Memorial  
 12:05PM Normand J. Demers—Memorial

**HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 18**

*Mass of the Lord's Supper*  
 7:00PM Deceased Bishops & Priests of Providence

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19**

*Friday of the Passion of the Lord*  
 3:00PM Stations of the Cross  
 7:00PM Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

**HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 20**

*Easter Vigil*  
 8:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21**

*Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord*  
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 9:00 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 10:30AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church





Dear Parishioners:

As we celebrate Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion we mark Christ's entry into Jerusalem and the beginning of Holy Week. It is often called the "*week that changed the world!*" This week we enter into the most sacred time of the year.

During our Palm Sunday Masses, the Gospel account of the Passion of Christ is proclaimed. Crucifixes are veiled and statues covered until after the Good Friday ceremonies and just before the Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday.

On Holy Thursday we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper – that commemorates the institution of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper and the institution of the Priesthood. On the night before Jesus Christ was crucified, he changed bread and wine into his own Body and Blood and ordained the apostles priests.

He commanded the Apostles – and their successors through the centuries – to act in his stead and re-present this holy and living sacrifice. So at every Mass, by way of transubstantiation, the bread and wine offered by the priest becomes Christ's Body and Blood again.

After the Last Supper and before he was arrested and condemned to death, Jesus went to pray in the Garden of Gethsemane, accompanied by two of the disciples. So after the Holy Thursday Mass, the remaining sacred hosts are carried out of the sanctuary to an "altar of repose," and we are invited to go with the Eucharistic Christ in a procession.

We are then invited to stay for a time in prayer "in the garden" as we adore the wondrous sacrament that Jesus instituted that day 2,000 years ago. Our Church remains open until Midnight on Holy Thursday as people come to stay with the Lord in prayer and adoration.

The Mass of the Lord's Supper finished, the Church – now without the Eucharist – is truly empty. So the tabernacle light – which is always lit signifying Christ's presence – is extinguished, and the tabernacle door is left open, exposing the vacant space inside.

The altar is stripped bare of its linens and candles, holy water is removed from the Church's fonts and the sacraments are not celebrated until the Easter Vigil. Like the first Christians bereft of Jesus and mourning the two days after the Crucifixion, the Church stands unadorned until the Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday night. With the resurrection of Jesus, the Church's joy is restored.

On Good Friday, we recall Christ's Crucifixion. We are invited to make the Stations of the Cross as we make a spiritual pilgrimage to the principal scenes of the salvific Passion of the Lord. We pray and meditate at each station the Lord made on his way to Calvary.

Also, on Good Friday, we gather for the central liturgical ceremony of the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion. This includes a reading of a Gospel account of the Passion, reception of Holy Communion (consecrated at Mass on Thursday night) and veneration of the Cross.

At this somber liturgy, we are invited to "*behold the wood of the Cross on which hung the salvation of the world.*" In this act of devotion we process to Christ at the foot of the sanctuary to reverence the crucifix. "*We adore You O Christ and we praise You, because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.*"

Good Friday is traditionally a day to keep quiet and silently reflect on the suffering and death of Christ. It is a day of fast and abstinence from meat, and a day when we put aside the worldly distractions around us to focus on Christ who died for us and our sins.

On Holy Saturday our silence and prayer continues, and is only broken by the joyful songs of the Easter Vigil — the *Exultet* and the Great Alleluia! As we rejoice and proclaim Christ's victory over sin and death.

We welcome the newest members who are received into the Church. We bask in the Light of Christ breaking the darkness or our world. We continue our rejoicing on Easter Sunday as we mark the empty tomb and the resurrection of Christ!

It is indeed the week that changed the world, and it begins today. I pray you make it a week that changes your world. Please join us for Holy Week services! Let us pray, adore and rejoice together in mysteries of our Catholic Faith. A Blessed Holy Week and Holy Easter to all!

*Father Healey*



**Did God punish Jesus on the Cross?**

Did God punish Jesus for our sins? This is an important question it gets to the heart of why the Son took on human flesh, what exactly Christ did for us on the Cross, and how we are transformed as a result.

Some Protestants, particularly those in the Evangelical tradition who follow the 16th century reformer John Calvin, think that Jesus Christ on the Cross, by the will of God the Father, took on the punishment due to the human race as a result of sin. This is called “Penal Substitutionary Theory.” Jesus is the scape goat who takes our punishment and transfers to us in an extrinsic way his innocence (i.e. we are not actually changed). God’s wrath must be satisfied and Christ satisfies it. This is a problematic vision for many reasons. One reason is its obvious sadistic vision of God. It is in essence saying that God needs to make someone suffer to be satisfied. The second reason that this is problematic is that Jesus is innocent. As we read in 1 Peter 3:18 “For Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God.” So Christ would be unjustly punished. The day to day injustices we see committed among human beings would be elevated to a divine level. God, to save us, would commit the ultimate injustice.

When theologians explain what Jesus Christ did for us in his passion, death and resurrection, they use a term called “satisfaction.” It is not that God is punishing Jesus or forcing him to suffer, but Jesus is offering freely to God the perfect obedience and love that we as humans were meant originally to offer to him. Where we failed to be just, merciful, and charitable, Jesus did these things perfectly. No sinful human being could ever restore this relationship, but as the perfect God and perfect human Jesus is able to restore friendship with God and overcome our alienation from Him (in fact Jesus’s act is proportionately greater than all human sin throughout time).

God, being God, could simply wipe out sin and restore friendship with us, but God wants us to participate in the restoration of this friendship. By taking on human nature, he has transformed us, making us able to offer to God that perfect obedience and love through grace. The Incarnation transforms us! The fruits and grace from the sacrifice come to us through the sacraments. Further, the suffering that Jesus endured on the Cross shows us the depths which God is willing to condescend to bring us back. It is true that there is punishment due to sin (that is why souls go to purgatory), but the center of Christ’s act is his offer of obedience and love, and not God punishing him. The suffering Jesus endured comes not from God, but from all the machinations and permutations of human sinfulness.

In this way, during Holy Week we celebrate the restoration of friendship with God in and through Jesus Christ.

*Weekly Collection*

**April 7, 2019**

Weekly.....	\$12,468.00
EFT.....	\$1,677.00
	<b>Total=\$14,145.00</b>
Building & Grounds.....	\$3,050.50
Outreach.....	\$1,377.00

If you have been away on vacation or visiting another parish, we kindly ask you to please make up your missed budget envelopes. We depend solely upon your weekly support to meet our weekly parish expenses.

**Thank You for Your Generous Support!**

**Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Church in your will or estate.**

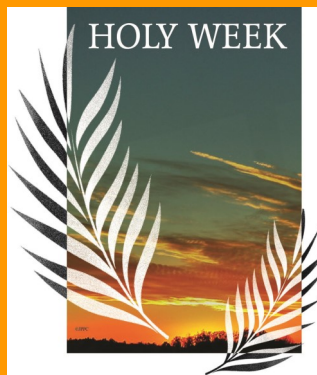
**Second Collections**

**This Week: Operation Rice Bowl  
Next Week: Easter Collection**



**Our Lady of Mercy  
2019 Parish  
Goal=\$200,000  
Pledged to Date=\$134,670  
Number of Donors=340  
Average Gift=\$396**

**Thank You for Your Generous Support!  
Make your Pledge Today!**



**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

The OLM Parish Office closes at Noon on Holy Thursday, April 18th and reopens on Tuesday, April 22, 2019 at 8:00AM. The Office is closed all day on

**Good Friday and Easter Monday.**



*We wish all our OLM School faculty, staff, students and families a healthy and happy Spring Break! See you on April 22nd!*

**Scott W. Fuller**

**Principal**

*Discover the OLM Difference!*

[www.olmschool.org](http://www.olmschool.org)

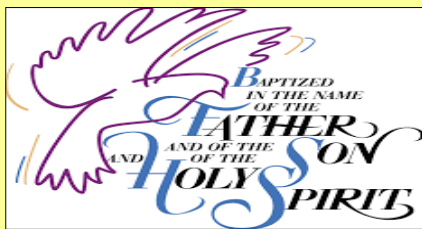


- **April 14 & 21:** No RE Classes due to School Break
- **Sunday, April 28:** First Communion practices are April 29th and 30th for RE only. May 1st is a combined RE and OLM School practice. Practice is from 4:00-5:00pm
- **Sunday, May 5:** First Communion practices are May 6th and 7th for RE only. May 8th is a combined RE and OLM School practice
- **Saturday, May 11:** First Communion Mass at Noon
- **Sunday, May 12:** First Communion Class May Crowning at 10:30AM Mass



- OLM Food Pantry is always in great need of non-perishable food items. Please leave items in the Food Box in the vestibule.
- OLM Bereavement Group meets Thursday, May 2nd at 4:00PM in Mercy House. All those experiencing grief or loss is welcome to join us for prayer, discussion and support.
- For more information about OLM Outreach, please contact OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 884-4410 or by email at [outreach@olmparish.org](mailto:outreach@olmparish.org)

*Best Wishes to our newly baptized*



Montgomery Emerson Kranz,  
and his parents, Gregory and Christina.

*"Dearly beloved, this child has been reborn in baptism. He is now called a child of God, for so indeed he is."  
– The Rite of Baptism*

*Ordination of Hiep Nguyen  
as a Transitional Deacon*



**Saturday, May 11, 2019 at 10:00AM**  
**St. Philip Church, Greenville, RI**  
**Bishop Robert C. Evans**  
**Ordaining Prelate**

*All are invited to attend.*

# Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, Year C



**T**he proclamation of the Passion is central to the liturgy on this final Sunday of Lent.

Because this is a C year in the three-year cycle of Sunday readings, the Passion according to Luke is read.

Lent ends on the afternoon of Holy Thursday. The season known as Triduum begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on that evening.

Triduum is celebrated as a unit which is why the Mass of the Lord's Supper and the liturgy for Good Friday have no concluding rites. The final blessing does not occur until the end of Mass at the Easter Vigil.



*This bulletin insert was written by Marion Eagen, a liturgist and musician in the diocese of Scranton, Pa. © 2002 Resource Publications, Inc., 160 E. Virginia St. #290, San Jose, CA 95112, (408) 286-8505. All rights reserved.*



## **MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK-APRIL 15, 2019**

Masses at 7:30am & 12:05PM

Confessions at 11:45AM & 6:00PM

Chrism Mass at 5:00PM

Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul

## **TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK-APRIL 16, 2019**

Masses at 7:30AM & 12:05PM

Confessions at 11:45AM

## **SPY WEDNESDAY-APRIL 17, 2019**

Masses at 7:30AM & 12:05PM

Confessions at 11:45AM

## **HOLY THURSDAY-APRIL 18, 2019**

Solemn Morning Prayer at 8:00AM

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00PM

Adoration at the Altar of Repose until 12:00AM

## **GOOD FRIDAY-APRIL 19, 2019**

Solemn Morning Prayer at 8:00AM

Stations of the Cross at 3:00PM

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 7:00PM

## **HOLY SATURDAY-APRIL 20, 2019**

Solemn Morning Prayer at 8:00AM

Easter Vigil at 8:00PM

## **EASTER SUNDAY-APRIL 21, 2019**

Masses at 7:30AM, 9:00AM & 10:30AM

No 5:00PM Mass on Easter Sunday

