

Put Yourself in the Scene before the Palms were Waved

We begin Mass this Sunday with Luke's Gospel (19:28-40) describing the scene of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. As we read and listen to his text, put yourself in the moment and more importantly be mindful of the moments that led up to this point.

Picture yourself among the disciples before He entered Jerusalem for Passover, riding on a humble donkey as the Prince of Peace, and greeted with glorious shouts

of "Hosanna;" before the palm branches were waved by those recognizing him as the Messiah, Christ our King; and before the same branches and cloaks were spread on the ground to line his procession.

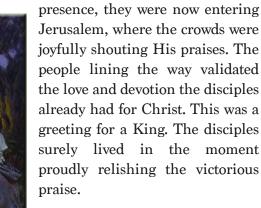
Consider what your feelings, emotions, and thoughts would have been, when you heard Jesus predict His Passion to you and the disciples. He did so three times in Luke's gospel.

The first was Luke 9:21-24, when he boldly said "The Son of Man must suffer..., be rejected..., killed, and raised" on the third day; then 9:43-45, Jesus told them to let it sink in that He would be "betrayed"; and finally in 18:31-34, He told them the word of the covenant would be fulfilled – He would be turned over, mocked, hated, and killed, but would rise on the third day. The twelve didn't understand and were too afraid to ask.

We can imagine their confusion and disbelief of such awful news. Peter's response was in anger, "God forbid, Lord!"

Surely, we can assume the disciples would have been distraught and extremely concerned.

As we put ourselves among them, knowing what we know now it would be hard to fight back tears in the moment, but Glory to God, we know the ending. Even though Jesus revealed the Resurrection, the twelve struggled to comprehend it. Certainly, they had mixed emotions –after Jesus predicted a horrible death for the third time in their



However, with the wisdom of the Gospels, we go into Palm Sunday with reservations for we know the

dark days are soon approaching – agony, suffering, denial, and death. Sunday's readings take us there.

Conversely, with that same wisdom taught to us by Christ, by the Gospels, by our parents, pastors, and teachers - we focus on the real reason for Christ's Passion. For we know in the end God triumphs and death is defeated for Jesus is resurrected as a Savior for all.

On Palm Sunday let us enter into this blessed time mindful of the ultimate sacrifice of Christ and recognize Him every moment of our lives as Christ our King! Consecrate Him in our hearts through prayer, penance, and praise.



SIGNIFICANT SAINTS THIS WEEK

The days leading up to the Triduum include two days to honor to saints who kept God as the center of their lives despite their trials in life and physical suffering.

Although her feast day isn't until July, we remember St. Teresa of the Andes on this anniversary of her death April 12, 1920. She was 19 when she passed.



Born Juana (Juanita) Fernandez Solar, she was raised in an upper-class family, educated by Sisters of the Sacred Heart, and determined to be a nun herself at the age of 14. She entered the Carmelite order and was given the name Teresa of Jesus. Saint Teresa invites us to get to

know God and seek a kind of

relationship with Him that we go to Him with everything without hesitation – a conversation with the One who knows and loves us best.

"How much I would like that all would love God, but before anything else that they would know him", she wrote.

From her early teens, she kept a journal. In her words she described that everything that is good is God, "Is there anything good, beautiful, or true that we can think of that would not be in Jesus? Wisdom, from which nothing would be secret. Power, for which nothing would be impossible. Justice, which made Him take on flesh in order to make satisfaction for sin. Providence, which always watches over and sustains us. Mercy, which never ceases to pardon. Goodness, which forgets the offenses of His creatures. Love, which unites all the tendernesses of a mother, of a brother, of a spouse, and which, drawing Him out of the abyss of His greatness, binds Him closely to His creatures. Beauty which enraptures... what can you think of that would not be found in this Man-God?"

Vatican records describe the holiness of her life, "shone out in the everyday occurrences, wherever she found herself: at home, in college, with friends, the people she stayed with on holidays. To all, with apostolic zeal, she spoke of God and gave assistance. She was young like her friends, but they knew she was different. They took her as a model, seeking her support and advice. All the pains that are part of living, Juanita felt keenly, and the happiness she enjoyed deeply, all in God."

April 13 is the birthday of St. Nunzio Sulprizio, an Italian born saint who also died at the age of 19 in 1836. To say he had a hard life is an understatement. Both of his parents died when he was just a child. He was three when his father died and only six when he lost his mother. Initially he was sent to live with his maternal grandmother, who radiated the love of God and



was strict with their religious practices, but she passed, when young Nunzio was nine. He was left to be raised by his stone hearted uncle who refused to let him go to school and put him to work in his blacksmith shop. He suffered a severe leg injury, which caused him immense pain and resulted in gangrene. He would pray before the Tabernacle to "keep Jesus company."

He accepted his sufferings and is quoted to have said, "Jesus suffered so much for us and by his merits we await eternal life. If we suffer a little bit, we will taste the joy of paradise. Jesus suffered a lot for me. Why should I not suffer for Him? I would die in order to convert even one sinner."

Saint Nunzio was canonized in October 2018, by Pope Francis, who described him as an elite example of patience and gentleness in his suffering. "The saintly, courageous, humble young man, who encountered Jesus in his suffering, in silence and in the offering of himself."



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A \$300 deposit is due at time of registration.

CLICK HERE to learn more and register.

Working toward a Common Goal

"You can do what I cannot do. I can do what you cannot do. Together we can do great things." - Mother Teresa

At Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa), we are committed to reducing poverty.

As the causes of poverty are complex and varied, there is no one-size-fits-all solution for those we serve. Collaborations with other social service agencies are a way to drive broader social and systems change, and to utilize resources as effectively and efficiently as possible.

"Struggling to piece together the various supportive services available in any given community is often half the battle for people in times of crisis or chronic need," said Beth Zarate, CCWVa President and Chief Executive Officer. "The more we focus on service integration and building meaningful strategic partnerships, the more streamlined our collective impact becomes for those we serve."

New Initiatives

Across the western area of the state, we have partnered with parishes in Charleston, Huntington and Parkersburg to open Catholic Charities Community Centers. Our Centers provide access to a variety of social services, including HomeCare, Disaster Services, SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) Outreach, basic needs assistance, case management services and more.

In Morgantown, Catholic Charities has joined Hazel's House of Hope, a

social service hub housing multiple non-profit organizations. We are thrilled for this opportunity to influence a model of collaborative services that truly move people out of poverty.



Catholic Charities Community Centers have opened in Charleston, Parkersburg and Huntington.



Catholic Charities West Virginia operates a Hospital Transition Program in partnership with WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital.

In Wheeling, we operate our new Hospital Transition Program in partnership with WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital. We have seen great success in providing a supportive transition for high-risk patients as they are discharged from the hospital.

"WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital is so proud to have this truly unprecedented partnership where patients now have access to the array of services at Catholic Charities. This is changing the lives of so many." – Deacon Paul Lim, WVU Medicine Wheeling

Hospital Vice President of Mission Integration.

Through collaborations with other social service providers, we know we can better empower those we serve, improve their quality of life – and ultimately reduce poverty.

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, please visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org.

The Mission of Catholic Charities West Virginia: Guided by God's love, Catholic Charities collaborates with community partners, parishes, and families to provide caring and compassionate services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change.



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Blessing of Branches & Procession Gospel: Luke 19:28-40

Two disciples do as Jesus says and retrieve a donkey for Him to ride through the Mount of Olives and to Jerusalem. The disciples witnessed the joyfully boisterous crowds and also the sneering Pharisees, who commanded Jesus to reprimand them. Jesus said "if they keep silent, the stones will cry out" for nothing can quiet down true love and joy found in God.

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Let us strive to be live the Suffering Servant Isaiah describes – confident in our devotion to God that no suffering attempt to be shamed or ridiculed severs our confidence in our faith.

Responsorial PSALMS 22

We listen to the suffering Christ – the Word made flesh: "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

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Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Paul shares, Christ became the ultimate suffering servant on earth in order to redeem us from our sins and wickedness. And in this obedience to the cross and death, the Almighty Father acclaimed Christ as Lord the triumph of God the Father.

Gospel Luke 22:14-23:56 (or 23:1-49)

Be in the moment as Luke shares the agonizing Passion of our Jesus our Lord and Savior including the betrayal by Judas, Peter's three denials, and the voices of the people shouting for the condemnation of Jesus, and the description of the crucifixion scene. Luke also includes the story of the thief, whose last moment on the earth was asking Christ for forgiveness for he believed he was with God the Almighty – the source of compassion, salvation, and love.

CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT FOR TODAY'S READINGS.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

That the Church that we never lose sight of the promise of eternal peace and happiness as we cling to the teachings of Christ our Redeemer and mirror them in our choices and actions, let us pray to the Lord.

For leaders of all nations, especially those who harbor religious persecution, so that all people may worship God freely without fear, let us pray to the Lord...

For all who will be welcomed into the Church at the Easter vigil, may Holy Week reaffirm their commitment and energize them to spread the Good News of having Christ the center of life, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all of us, here today that we may not only sincerely pray for the return of those who have fallen away from the Church, but also find the courage to gently and joyfully invite them back, let us pray to the Lord...

Lord hear our prayer

Broadcast of Holy Week, Easter Masses

Easter Mass will be broadcasted on: WTRFDT3/ABC - Wheeling Area • WBOYDT/ABC - Clarksburg Area Live Streamed throughout the state at www.DWC.org/Mass

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Holy Thursday, April 14

Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston

7:00 p.m. - Live Stream

Closed captioning provided.



The Easter Mass broadcast is sponored by the Welty Corporation.

Passion of the Lord

Good Friday, April 15
Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Wheeling
3:00 p.m. - Live Stream

EASTER MASS

Sunday, April 17
Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Wheeling
10:30 a.m.
Live Stream and Broadcasted



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER MASSES



Click here to find mass times in your area along with the live stream and broadcast schedule.

Liturgy of the Hours LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour! <u>EBREVIARY.COM LITURGY OF THE HOURS</u>

Scan the OR code or visit the link below to view a PDF version of the Liturgy of the Hours.



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MASS ONLINE

Saturday 6pm Masses will continue to be livestreamed from the Cathedral of St. Joseph, and will be available on our website each Sunday at DWC.ORG.

Below are four options for enriching your spirit through daily Mass online.

- EWTN airs daily Mass from Our Lady of Angels Chapel, in Irondale, Alabama, at 8am, noon, and 7pm: HTTPS://WWW.EWTN.COM/TV/WATCH-LIVE
- St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York has daily Mass live streamed at 7am: HTTPS://SAINTPATRICKSCATHEDRAL.ORG/LIVE
- Catholic TV also streams its daily Mass: http://catholictv.org/masses/catholictv-mass
- Daily Mass Online at Notre Dame' Basillica of the Sacred Heart is live at 11:30 am Monday-Friday: HTTPS://CAMPUSMINISTRY.ND.EDU/MASS-WORSHIP/BASILICA-OF-THE-SACRED-HEART/WATCH-MASS/SPECIAL-MASSES/