

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

HOSANNA!

— MARK 11:9 —

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SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024



It's Holy Week – Let us become holy!

There is only one week a year called “holy,” for good reason. It is a time set apart from all other weeks. We should be more attracted and excited about it than Christmas, the birthdays of those we love, or Superbowl Sunday.

The week is full of drama, to be sure. Palm Sunday Mass is unique in that it starts on a high with Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and about 20 minutes later, we are asked to say, “Crucify Him, crucify Him!” A woman once told me after Mass that she wouldn’t say those words since they make her uncomfortable, which made me sad as I don’t think she is open to the whole experience of Holy Week. It should make us uncomfortable, challenged, reflective, and, in the end, exuberant with joy.

Have you ever done the whole Triduum of Holy Week starting on Thursday evening, when we commemorate the Last Supper, the first Mass, and the Institution of the Sacred Priesthood? The Lord is left in the Tabernacle in St. Thomas More until late in the evening so you can spend time with Him, just as He was alone overnight in the cell of the basement of the High Priest, Caiaphas.

Good Friday is a day of complete fasting, so we only eat one full meal, abstaining from meat, etc. We will walk in the streets at noon and then have traditional stations in the church at 3 PM. In the evening at the 7 PM Service, we will read the Passion and receive Holy Communion, which is stored from Holy Thursday, as there is no Mass anywhere in the world from Holy Thursday until sundown on Holy Saturday.

Easter is a day of joy, but only in as much as we entered into Jesus’s suffering and sorrow in the days before. This year, we are adding an Easter egg hunt outside St. Veronica Chapel following 11 AM Mass.

Please try to come to everything. If we have a good Holy Week, it will make us more like Jesus...holy!

Fr. Taillon



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 24th:

St. Thomas More Masses

5:00 PM Vigil & 10:00 AM

St. Veronica Chapel Masses

4:00 PM Vigil, 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM

Holy Thursday, March 28th:

St. Thomas More

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

Institution of Priesthood & Holy Eucharist

8:30 PM - 11:00 PM ~ Adoration of Eucharist in the church

Good Friday, March 29th:

St. Thomas More

12:00 PM ~ Stations in the Streets (rain or shine)

3:00 PM ~ Traditional Stations of the Cross

7:00 PM ~ Service ~ Veneration of the Cross

Holy Saturday, March 30th:

St. Thomas More

Please Note:

7:30 PM ~ Easter Vigil (blessing of fire, receptions)

NO 4:00 PM Mass at St. Veronica Chapel

NO 5:00 PM Mass at St. Thomas More

Easter Sunday, March 31st:

St. Thomas More Masses

10:00 AM

St. Veronica Chapel Masses

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM



Above: Rosary group outside Planned Parenthood last Saturday.
Below: Celebration after Mass on St. Joseph's Day.



Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday, March 31st

Following the 11 am Mass

St. Veronica Chapel

Begins in Msgr. Halloran Hall

For children 12 years old and under.
(rain or shine)



MASS *intentions*

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

SATURDAY, MARCH 23rd

4 PM – for the soul of James Sheridan

5 PM – for the deceased members of the Andersen &
Wojciechowski Families

SUNDAY, MARCH 24th

8:30 AM – for the soul of Lindsay Lindean

10 AM – 1st Anniversary ~ Kevin Mulholland

11 AM – for the souls of Charles & Helen Napolitano

MONDAY, MARCH 25th

9 AM – for the deceased members of Our Lady's Guild

TUESDAY, MARCH 26th

9 AM – for the soul of Mary C. Sullivan

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27th

9 AM – for the soul of Bob Winward

HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 28th

7 PM – for Priestly Vocations

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

SUNDAY, MARCH 31th

8:30 AM – for the souls of Gerald & Lydia Coli

10 AM – for the soul of Dawna Lee Ursillo

11 AM – Birthday Remembrance ~ Mathew Gagne &
Margaret Brown

Second Collections

The 2nd collection THIS weekend, -Palm Sunday, will be for Rice Bowl & Catholic Relief Services.

The 2nd collection NEXT weekend will be the Easter collection for the poor.

Save the date for a

Mass and send-off reception for Fr. Taillon

on Sunday, April 7 - 11:00 AM

St. Veronica Chapel

Walk Every Step with Christ

Holy Week is a week for being mindful. We must set loose the baggage of Lent, and not be deterred by the dazzling sunrise of Easter morning beckoning in the distance.

It's okay for us to be excited for Easter. We've waited so long, after all. In my opinion it's one of the best feelings there is: the yearning we have in our hearts for the Resurrection as we embark on Palm Sunday. And in a purely logical sense, many of us have Easter celebrations for which we are preparing, and practical considerations to contend with. It's going to be a busy week, one likely full of happy distractions.

But my friends, we simply must keep our feet on the ground. Let's not "skip" Holy Week. Resist the urge to flip to the last page of the book, to fast-forward to the final scene of the movie. Don't rob yourself of the journey. This week is a blessed opportunity. It is this week that teaches us who we are. In the span of the Triduum, we have the birthday of the priesthood, the institution of the Eucharist, the sacrifice on Calvary and so many other vivid and meaningful scenes.

It may sound strange, to advise someone to savor the moments of Holy Week. There are so many violent and heartrending moments, after all. But this is the valley of tears, remember — we are not in Heaven yet. And here, in our fallen, sin-filled world, it is the heartrending moments that seem to matter the most.

These are the moments that define us as Catholics. Live them. Cherish them. Be present for each one.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



Happenings around the parish

Alpha Returns April 4th



Mark your calendars to participate in this year's Alpha program! Alpha is an opportunity to invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join you and members of our parish family in exploring life's biggest questions through the Catholic faith. It's a series of interactive sessions that begin with a delicious meal followed by a short film and small group discussions to intentionally create space for the Holy Spirit to lead people to a personal encounter and relationship with Jesus. Alpha is free-of-charge and anyone is welcome to join.

Click on the QR above to register.

Alpha begins Thursday, April 4th at 6:30 PM at St. Francis of Assisi and will run for eleven consecutive weeks.



Rhode Island Blood Center

Every Donation Can Save Up To 3 Lives

Consider donating blood at any Rhode Island Blood Center donor center throughout the state.

To register, visit www.ribc.org/locations or call 401-453-8383

When donating, please be sure to use parish Sponsor Code 0626.

WEEKLY PARISH FOOD COLLECTION

Current Needs

- ✓ Natural Peanut Butter
- ✓ Brown Rice
- ✓ Low Sugar Jelly
- ✓ Canned Fruit in 100% Juice
- ✓ Baked/Black/Kidney Beans
- ✓ Whole grain wheat flour
- ✓ Whole Grain Cereal/Crackers/Pasta & Jarred Pasta Sauce

Collection baskets are located at the entrance of both churches.

Religious Education

There are no Religious Education classes the week of March 24th and March 31st for Easter Break.

Knights of Columbus

Interested in joining the Knight of Columbus?

We are looking for new members.

Please contact Bernie Casey at 617.293.9201



Knights of Columbus
Pope Pius XII Council 5295



UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO

Over time, things change, and in an effort to stay current, St. Thomas More is requesting your help to update your contact information.

Please send us an email with your name/s, addresses, phones and emails

stmoffice53@gmail.com



DIOCESE of PROVIDENCE

OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord."

Docility in prayer is essential to vocation discernment. Are you open to a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life?

Talk to your priest or reach out to the Office of Vocations at (401) 331-1316 or via email: fathersimas@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED

Christian Brothers Center in Narragansett seeks a full-time maintenance person. Responsibilities include general maintenance, lawn care, and snow removal. Requirements include lifting 50 lbs, walking multi-level facilities, and basic electrical/plumbing knowledge. Experience in routine building maintenance, a valid driver's license, and BCI clearance are required. Must be personable, dependable, and COVID-vaccinated. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plan, and paid vacation. High School diploma or equivalent required. Monday to Friday, 8 am to 4 pm. Send resume to cbcenter@dlcb.org.

Rhode Island Civic Chorale & Orchestra

On April 6 and 7, the Rhode Island Civic Chorale & Orchestra will perform Felix Mendelssohn's oratorio *Elijah*. This is a monumental work portraying the life of the prophet Elijah: from his depth of faith to his dramatic confrontation with Queen Jezebel and the priests of Ba'al to his despair and loneliness in the wilderness.

For this monumental work, RICCO Music Director Joshua W. Rohde brings together musicians from across New England for an intergenerational performance of students, amateurs, and professionals totaling nearly 300 on the stage. The message of perseverance and hope amid despair, balanced with the overwhelming adrenaline of so many musicians, will make this an event not to miss.

Saturday, April 6 at 7pm

Cathedral of Sts. Peter & Paul, Providence, RI

For ticket information, go to Concerts – Rhode Island Civic Chorale & Orchestra (ricco.org)

DIOCESE OF PROVIDENCE OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

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Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati



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