

March 29, 2026

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
CUT BRANCHES AND
STREWED THEM ON
THE ROAD.



A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST
A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

———— MATTHEW 21:8 ————

Scripture Reflection

As we enter into the solemn mystery of Palm Sunday, the Church places before us the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ—His suffering, His cross, and His total self-gift for the salvation of the world. It is a day marked by a striking contrast: we begin with palms and cries of “Hosanna,” yet we soon hear the proclamation of His suffering and death. In this liturgy, we are drawn deeply into the mystery of salvation.

Each year, reflecting on the Passion, I cannot help but recall not only the Gospel itself but also the great prayers and hymns of the Church that have contemplated this mystery across the centuries. Among these, one stands out in particular: the ancient sequence *Dies irae*, once sung in the pre-conciliar funeral liturgy. Its vivid imagery of judgment, trembling, and mercy resonates profoundly when placed alongside the suffering of Christ on the cross.

At first glance, the *Dies irae* may seem like a hymn filled with fear: it speaks of the “day of wrath,” of a world shaken, of hidden things brought to light. Yet when we read it in the light of the Passion, we begin to see more clearly what it truly reveals. The “day” it describes is not only the end of time—it is also present in the mystery of Calvary.

For on the cross, the judgment of the world has already begun. Sin is exposed in all its seriousness, yet it is not met with condemnation alone. Instead, justice is fulfilled in mercy. The Judge Himself takes the place of the guilty. The One before whom all must stand chooses first to stand in our place and bear the weight of our sin.

This is why the *Dies irae** moves again and again from fear to hope: “Remember, merciful Jesus... let not such labor be in vain.” These are not the words of despair, but of a soul that knows it has been redeemed at great cost. The hymn, though often associated with funerals, is ultimately about Christ—Christ who judges with justice, and Christ who saves with mercy.

As we begin Holy Week, we are invited to place ourselves within this mystery. We are not merely observers of the Passion—we are its cause, and yet also its beneficiaries. The cross reveals both the gravity of sin and the immeasurable depth of God’s love.

The *Dies irae* reminds us that one day we will stand before the Judge. Palm Sunday reminds us of something even more consoling: we already know who that Judge is. He is the one who entered Jerusalem in humility, who carried the cross in love, and who gave His life so that we might live.

*Translation for *Dies irae* is in the expanded bulletin found on the website.

Parish Contact

Pastor: Rev. Anthony Onoko
aonoko@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Michael Thomas
mthomas@dioceseofgreensburg.org

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, March 28 — Vigil

4:00 PM Pro Populo

Sunday, March 29 — Palm Sunday

8:30 AM † Florence Cipa by Mark & Patti Drake

10:30 AM † Albert Foglia by Phyllis and Family

Monday, March 30

8:00 AM † Kenneth Zimmaro by Dave & Barb Mandarino

Tuesday, March 31

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Wednesday, April 1

9:00 AM Mass at St. John the Baptist

Thursday, April 2 — Holy Thursday

6:00 PM Mass of the Lord’s Supper

Friday, April 3 — Good Friday

1:00 PM Stations of the Cross
Good Friday Liturgy

Saturday, April 4 — Vigil

8:30 PM Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter

Sunday, April 5 — The Resurrection of the Lord

8:30 AM Easter Sunday

10:30 AM Easter Sunday

Parish Office:

44 PENNSYLVANIA BLVD, MONESSEN, PA 15062

Parish Office (24/7): 724-684-7661

Church Hall: 724-684-5512

Religious Education: 724-929-9300

Emergency Pastoral Care: 724-397-7035

www.eolparish.com

youtube.com/EpiphanyofOurLordCatholicChurch

Facebook.com/Epiphany-of-Our-Lord

OFFICE HOURS :

Monday –Thursday: 8:30 a.m. –12; 1 p.m.– 3 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Ministry Schedule — April 4 & 5, 2026

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
8:30 p.m.	M. Melvin P. Fantauzzi	J. Todd T. Todd E. Yatchyshyn	S. Yatchyshyn G. Yatchyshyn
8:30 a.m.	S. Stein	F. Petrosky L. DeFelices A. Pastella	G. Pesì
10:30 a.m.	D. Yagodich	K. Imbresia K. Byron R. Francowic	M. Guiliford

Money Counters

Monday, March 30 – Team #4 – A. Daniele

With Deepest Sympathy — Condolences are extended to the family of GLORIA VASUNDA AND EDWARD LANE. May God grant them eternal rest, and comfort to their families. We commend their souls to rest in the peace of Christ.

Stewardship

Weekly Collection March 22

Votive Candles:	224	Children & Adult:	3,102
Utility & Energy:	190	Online :	940
Accent:	66	Total Collection:	\$5,693
Easter Flowers:	440	Heifer:	410
Lenten Folder:	90	Total Collection:	\$6,103

Groups

Epiphany Ladies will meet on Tuesday, April 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Church Hall. All women of the parish are invited to attend.

Purse Bash



A ticket to the purse bash makes a great Easter gift for family member or friend. Tickets are available in the church office. Epiphany of Our Lord and St. Sebastian parishes will hold a Designer Purse Bash and “Unique” Bake Sale on **Sunday, April 26**. The event will be held at Epiphany Church Hall from 2 p.m.—5 p.m. Doors will open at 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35 and include lunch, beverage, and door prizes.

Good Friday Breakfast

The Mon Valley YMCA is pleased to welcome **Rev. Anthony Onoko** as this year's guest speaker for our annual Good Friday breakfast service. This service commemorates the crucifixion, suffering, and death of Jesus Christ at Calvary. Join Father Anthony as he reflects on and uplifts us with thoughts on the sacrificial love Jesus has shown us. The service will begin at 8 a.m. **Please call the YMCA at (724) 483-8077 to reserve your spot.** The cost for breakfast is \$7 which will include scrambled eggs, an assortment of cereals, pastries, coffee, and juice.

Good Friday Fish Fry

The Fish Fry for Good Friday will **begin at 3:00 p.m. following Liturgy**, and finish at 6:00 p.m. Or until we run out. There will be a limited menu

Ministry Schedule — April 2 & 3, 2026

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
6:00 p.m.	G. Pesì	W. White S. Stein T. Mazzei	D. Harkins G. Yatchyshyn Volunteer
1:00 p.m.	F. Petrosky D. DeCarlo	L. Henry	D. Harkins T. Gigliotti G. Yatchyshyn S. Yatchyshyn

Faith

The Triduum is the heart of Christian Faith. It begins with the evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper and continues through Good Friday and ends with the celebration the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday.

Thursday: Chrism Mass 10:00 a.m at the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. The Chrism Mass is when the Bishop, along with all of the priests of the diocese, blesses and consecrates the Holy Oils that will be used throughout the year. It is also the Mass where the priests of the diocese re-dedicate their ministry to the people of the church as well as to the Bishop.

Thursday: Mass of the Lord’s Supper: 6:00 PM.

Friday: Stations of the Cross, followed by Celebration of the Lord’s Passion: 1:00 p.m.

Saturday: Easter Vigil: 8:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

We invite you and your families to be as much a part of this year’s celebration as you are able. If you are interested in being part of the Holy Thursday Liturgy and having your feet washed, or dressing the altar, please call the office.

Adoration

After the Liturgy on Holy Thursday there will be **Eucharistic Adoration**. The Blessed Sacrament will be in repose after Mass. As soon as Mass is over the altar will be stripped completely bare. While this is going on, please maintain decorum of silence and reverence. **You are invited to remain, or visit, to keep watch** with the Lord until the closing prayer at 10 p.m., at which time the Blessed Sacrament will be taken from the altar and the church will be empty.

Blessing of Baskets

We will have Blessing of the Baskets on **Holy Saturday at 1:00 p.m.** The Christian significance of Easter is symbolized in the items used and foods chosen for this special Easter tradition. Baskets are lined with a white cloth and decorated with ribbons, flowers, and greenery. Traditionally, the baskets are filled with: **decorated hardboiled eggs, lamb shaped butter, bread, meats such as ham, sausage, lamb or smoked bacon, salt, cheese, horseradish, pepper, oil and vinegar, wine and a white candle.**

Holy Week Choir

We welcome all parishioners to **join our Holy Week liturgies by lending your voices.** We will be singing during Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Saturday. A single rehearsal is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 1, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the church.**

If you have any questions, please reach out to Dan Godla at 412-737-7332. We hope you'll join us! Everyone is welcome!

Scripture Reflection

(Cont. From page 2)

*Translation of *Dies Irae*

The day of wrath, that day, will dissolve the world in ashes: (this is) the testimony of David along with the Sibyl.

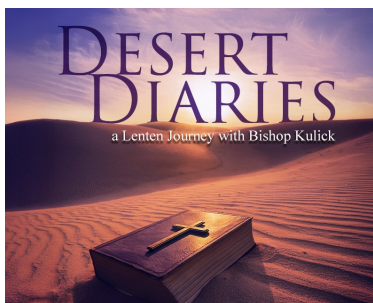
How great will be the quaking, when the Judge is about to come, strictly investigating all things! The trumpet, scattering a wondrous sound through the sepulchers of the regions, will summon all before the throne.

Death and nature will marvel, when the creature will rise again, to respond to the Judge. The written book will be brought forth, in which all is contained, from which the world shall be judged. When therefore the Judge will sit, whatever lies hidden will appear: nothing will remain unpunished. What then shall I, poor wretch [that I am], say? Which patron shall I entreat, when [even] the just may [only] hardly be sure?

King of fearsome majesty, Who saves the redeemed freely, save me, O fount of mercy. Remember, merciful Jesus, that I am the cause of Your journey: lest You lose me in that day. Seeking me, You rested, tired: You redeemed [me], having suffered the Cross: let not such hardship be in vain.

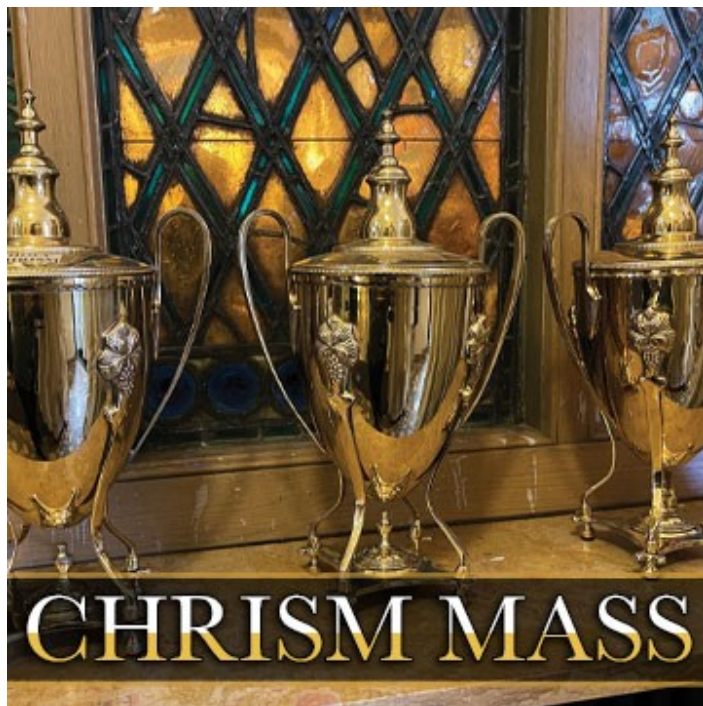
Just Judge of vengeance, make a gift of remission before the day of reckoning. I sigh, like the guilty one: my face reddens in guilt: Spare the imploring one, O God.

Podcast



Follow Bishop Larry J. Kulick throughout Lent with his special **podcast, *Desert Diaries***. If you hear the word “desert” and think of emptiness, struggles or something you’d rather avoid, you’re not

alone. But in Scripture, the desert isn’t a place God abandons people – it’s often where he meets them most deeply. As we continue our journey through Lent, Bishop Kulick explores how Jesus’ time in the desert can help us understand our own struggles and questions, and the places in our lives that God is asking us to grow and intentionally change the way we walk toward Easter. You can watch or listen to *Desert Diaries* at theaccentonline.org or download from where you download your podcasts.



Bishop Larry J. Kulick invites the faithful to attend the **Diocesan Chrism Mass Thursday, April 2, at 10 a.m. at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg**. During the Mass Bishop Kulick will consecrate the Sacred Chrism and bless the Oil of Catechumens and the Oil of the Sick, oils used in parishes for sacraments such as baptism, confirmation and anointing of the sick. The Mass will be livestreamed on the Diocesan Facebook page.

A seat is waiting for you around the table in



Young Adult Ministry for those aged 18 to 40

2nd Wednesday of Each Month 6pm

Guest Speaker

Dinner & Soft Drinks Provided

You may bring your own wine or drink.

No Cost
Sign Up Here

St. Mary’s Hall at St. Peter Parish
(118 Church St., Brownsville)



Kerygma

Discipleship Retreat

Want to hear the Gospel message with new ears? Are you looking to deepen your relationship with Jesus? Are you looking to discover joyful living through your faith? Find all of that and more at the **Kerygma Discipleship Retreat April 10-12** at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. The retreat is designed to give you an opportunity to begin, renew or strengthen your relationship with Jesus Christ. It’s a time to evaluate where you are in your Christian way of life and discover practical ways to stay close to Him. Learn more about this transformative retreat at DioceseofGreensburg.org/Kerygma.



Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities provides volunteer services to older adults (60+) including supportive and regular visits, telephone calls and mailings to prevent loneliness and isolation. To become a client, contact Deborah Klinvex at dklinvex@DioceseofGreensburg.org or call 724-837-1840.

Knights’ Notes

- Council #954 voted to donate \$300 to the Epiphany and St. Sebastian PURSE BASH fundraiser.
- Our next Spaghetti Dinner will be held on May 17th from 11:30am-5pm.
- Our Brothers voted to purchase ads to be placed in the weekly church bulletins for both Epiphany and St. Sebastian churches.
- Brother, Bill Watson participated in a POLAR PLUNGE raising \$1300 dollars for Special Olympics!
- We welcome all to gather at the council hall for the recitation of the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the third Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm
- Interested in becoming a member? The easiest way to join is online. Our web page is KofC.org Please (indicate Council #954).

Divine Mercy

St. Sebastian Ladies of Faith invite you to participate in the **Divine Mercy Chaplet with Exposition of the Holy Eucharist on Sunday April 12 at 12:15 PM**. All are welcome to join us in our church, for this beautiful Chaplet.

Bulletin

Receive the bulletin via email. Have it delivered directly to your inbox. Subscribe at Parishesonline.com. Type in the church name and ZIP code. Click on receive bulletin via email and complete the form.

Faith

Holy Thursday Adoration

Adoration on Holy Thursday directly commemorates Jesus’ agony in the Garden of Gethsemane and his request to the Apostles to “watch one hour.” Following the Mass of the Lord’s Supper, the Eucharist is carried in a procession to a specially prepared altar of repose, not the main tabernacle. This represents Jesus’ imprisonment. The altar is stripped bare, signifying the stripping of Christ and the beginning of the Passion. Adoration will end with closing prayers 10:00 p.m. and the church will be empty.

Visiting Churches

On Holy Thursday it is a Catholic devotion to visit seven churches and pray at the altar of repose. These visits act as a vigil in response to Jesus’ request in the Garden of Gethsemane: “Could you not spend one hour with me?”

Each stop represents the seven places Jesus was taken: **The Garden of Gethsemane** (Lk 22:39-46), **House of Annas** (Jn 18:19-22), **House of Caiaphas** (Mt 26:63-65), **Jesus before Pilate** (Jn 18:35-37), **Herod’s Court** (Lk 23:8-9; 1), **Pilate’s second appearance** (Mt 27:22-26), the site of the **Crucifixion** (Mt 27:27-31).

Although seven churches is the standard, we have to go with local availability. Regardless of the number, the purpose remains focused on contemplative, late night prayer on Holy Thursday.

Should you make visits, here is a list of the times of closing prayers at local churches:

- Epiphany of Our Lord: 10:00 p.m.
- St. Sebastian, Belle Vernon: 10:00 p.m.
- St. Anne, Rostraver Twp.: 10:30 p.m.
- St. Andrew the Apostle, Monongahela: 9:00 p.m.

For Catholics, going on a pilgrimage, even a mini one such as visiting these churches, represents our recognition that we are in a journey to life with God in the fullness of His Kingdom. To be on a pilgrimage is to be on a sacred journey in search of fulfillment in God. As a church, we are a “Pilgrim People.”

Save the Date

Plan to attend our next **Diocesan pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine** of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. It will be led by Bishop Larry J. Kulick on **Saturday, Sept. 19**, and is one of the special events planned to celebrate the 75th anniversary of our Diocese.

Calling all middle school students! Save the date, **Friday, Nov. 6, for PAX: CHOSEN** from 6-9:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Grace Parish, Greensburg. Key-note speaker will be Mari Pablo. Registration details are coming soon!