

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
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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](https://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!