# PALM SUNDAY April 2, 2023



BLESSED IS HE

A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

# LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

#### Saturday, April 1 — Vigil 4:00 PM † Bill Hopkins & Ted Zelinsky by Wives, Andrea & Jackie

Sunday, April 2 — Palm Sunday 8:30 AM † David & Rose Perotti & Frank & Irene Vizza by Family

10:30 AM † Angela Lancas by Bruna Falbo

#### Monday, April 3

8:00 AM † Tesznar Family by Mike & Beth Tesznar

# Tuesday, April 4

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Wednesday, April 5 No Mass

**Thursday, April 6** — Holy Thursday 7:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday, April 7 — Good Friday 1:00 PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion 6:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 8 — Easter Vigil 8:30 PM For the Parish Family Sunday, April 9 — Easter Sunday 8:30 AM For the Parish Family 10:30 AM For the Parish Family

#### **Parish Office:**

44 PENNSYLVANIA BLVD MONESSEN, PA 15062 Parish Office: 724-684-7661 Church Hall: 724-684-5512 Religious Education: 724-929-9300

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 8 & 9, Easter

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server		
8:30 p.m.	J. Sacco M. Sacco D. Harkins	K. Byron	B. Rizzuto S. Punturiero L. Assenat T. Todd		
8:30 a.m.	K. Miller	L. DeFelices	D. DeFelices		
10:30 a.m.	G. Pesi	E. Yatchyshyn	G. Yatchyshyn S. Yatchyshyn		
Money Counters Monday, April 3—Team #5— R. Croushore					

With Deepest Sympathy — Condolences are extended to the family of MARK D. VRABLE. May God grant him eternal rest, and comfort to his family. We commend his soul to rest in the peace of Christ.

# **Entering the Passion**

All around the world, Christians are remembering the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem with the celebration of Palm Sunday. It is easy for us to allow ourselves to be caught up in the drama of what Holy Week is about. The truth of what we are and what



we remember this week characterizes what we believe. It is in and through the death of Jesus that we define what our faith is all about. However, everything we find throughout the scriptures leads us to this week, so it cannot be separated from the rest of our Liturgical year.

We start off this week with a celebration or parade if you will. People are welcoming the man Jesus with triumph and honor. They are celebrating the man for what he was and for what they hoped he would become. In spite of their misunderstanding of what Jesus was all about, the people were drawn in by this event of his entry into Jerusalem; as they struggled with who Jesus really was. Apostles, friends and disciples who should know who Jesus was and what he was about, they were the ones who betrayed, denied and fled. One really has to look at this triumphant celebration and ask: what went wrong? As followers of Jesus the real irony is that only by our own entry into Jesus' dying and rising can we truly discover who he is. Until we do that, we may participate in a nice parade but we haven't a clue where it leads.

It is interesting to take a closer look at the role the women play in the Passion. It has been said that they are like the "bookends" to the drama: we meet them in the beginning and at the end. Regardless of what is going on, it is the women who are always the faithful ones. The men in the story were not very nice, pay attention to the women and learn from them. They have something to tell all of us.

If we pay attention to the passion narrative, we will see that it is basically a story of life. The feelings and behavior of the people involved give us a live perspective of living. There is joy and singing. There is faith, doubt, greed, treachery, false accusations, mockery and jeering. There is the despair of Judas, the lying of Peter, the pride and arrogance of religious and political leaders, betrayal by friends, and the tenderness of the women. Yes, it is all there – life at its best and at its worst. The Passion of Jesus is everybody's story.

Christ showed us by his own way of living and by his ministry that the only way to share in his glory is to die to self by becoming servants and disciples following him to the cross. The only way to enjoy the passionate glory of risen life is to suffer the risk of dying. All of this is something that takes place more than just this once a year. It is the everyday of our ordinary human

living: when we choose to respond to another instead of ignoring him or her, having patience rather than snapping, talking things through rather than staying angry. Yes, the paschal mystery unfolds in the little things in life that we turn into big ways to say yes to the Christ in others. This is how we get to know Jesus – by living as he did, by embracing the dying so we rise with him to new life.

Weekly Collection March 19			
Votive Candles:	190		
Utility & Energy:	30		
Accent:	56		
Lenten Folder:	135		
Easter Flowers:	271		
Holy Thursday:	36		
Good Friday:	16		
Easter:	57		
Children & Adult			
Collection:	\$3,749		
Online Collection:	\$730		
<b>Total Collection:</b>	\$5,330		

**Parish Contacts:** Pastor: Rev. Michael Crookston: mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org Sec.: Tara Manderino: tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org Faith Formation: Scott Martin: smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org

# Stewardship

## **Diocesan Lenten Appeal**

Our DLA started only a few weeks ago and here we are already getting ready to celebrate Easter! We all know how important DLA is for the maintenance of the Diocese, this campaign provides the operating expenses for the Diocese to operate.

Everybody has their opinions about the Diocese and DLA, but what we all need to remember is that if **it weren't for the Diocese**, we wouldn't exist as a parish. Our Diocesan goal for this year is \$43,854, and we have only heard from 18% of our people or 139 families, and from them we have collected \$26,907 in gifts and pledges. Our parish goal is set for \$53,854 and we were hoping to repurpose a couple windows from the church on Knox and have them framed and back lit so we can use them in the church..

# **Filling the Ark!**

As we near the end of the Lenten Season, we are still boarding animals onto the ARK.

This week we are able to board:

#### 1 Goat, 1 Trio of Ducks, 1 Bee Hive

Please know that your contributions will help many people around the world. I am

grateful to all of you in our parish for your generous support.

**Gift of Bees:** Too often, we think of bees as a springtime nuisance when in reality, these pollinators contribute directly to food security. According to bee experts at the Food and Agriculture Organization, a third of the world's food production depends on bees. A gift of bees not only increases the global honeybee population, it provides the recipient family with income from the sell of honey, wax and pollen. It takes 252 bees to produce one teaspoon of honey each day; one bee colony can produces 60 to 100 pounds of honey per year.

# Fish Fry

This year, we will have a fish fry on **Good Friday** from 11 a.m. —6 p.m. It will be **takeout only**. The special menu will be posted on Facebook and the website.

# Groups

**Holy Name Sunday** is next Sunday, April 9. Corporate Communion will be at the 8:30 a.m. Mass. There will be no meeting in April.

**Epiphany Ladies** will meet on Tuesday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the church hall.

Ministry Schedule — April 6 — Holy Thursday					
	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server		
7:00 p.m.	P. Fantauzzi	L. Henry	J. Smith L. Assenat B. Rizzuto		
Ministry Schedule — April 7 — Good Friday					
	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server		
1:00 p.m.	S. Stein R. Kozar	A. Punturiero	S. Punturiero C. Blatnik J. Smith M. Smith		

## **Three Days**

The Triduum celebrates the heart of Christian faith, to which all leads and from which all flows: Jesus' redemptive death and resurrection; related to the Church year as Sunday is to each week. It begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper and continues through Good Friday and Holy Saturday culminating with the celebration of the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday. We invite you and your families to be as much a part of this year's celebrations as you are able.

#### Thursday: Chrism Mass 10:00 AM.

At the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg, 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 Last Supper: 7:00 PM

(Followed by Eucharistic Adoration until 10:00 p.m.)

Friday: Celebration of the Lord's Passion: 1:00 P.M. Stations of the Cross: 6:00 PM.

Saturday: Easter Vigil: 8:30 PM.

#### The Mass of the Last Supper

Holy Thursday liturgy marks the institution of the Eucharist. We remember that Jesus gathered with his Disciples for the last time and gave to them as well as to the future church this miraculous gift. It is through the presence of the Body and Blood of Christ that we are able to become "Church." As an example of what it means to be church and celebrate this gift, our **parishioners will "dress" the altar.** Another important gift that Jesus gave to the Church is the example of what it means to serve as well as to be served. Through the symbolism of the washing of the feet, Jesus calls each of us to be of service to one another, as well as to be open to being served. As we commemorate what Jesus did for the Disciples through the washing of the feet, **I am asking people to volunteer to have their feet washed. If you would be interested in being a part of this special liturgy, there is a signup sheet in the back of the Church.** 

#### Adoration after Liturgy

After the Liturgy on Holy Thursday there will be Eucharistic Adoration. The Blessed Sacrament will be in repose on the Blessed Mother side of the altar after mass. As soon as Mass is over the altar will be stripped completely bare. While this is going on, I ask that the people remaining in church maintain a decorum of silence and reverence. You are welcome to come and spend some time in prayer until 10:00 p.m.. Then the Blessed Sacrament will be taken from the altar and the church will be empty.

#### **Blessing of Baskets**

On Holy Saturday at 12:00 PM we will bless Easter Baskets. It is a nice tradition to come and have your "Easter Meal" blessed. Remember this year everyone is "**expected**" to have a story to tell about their traditions!

## **Music for Easter**

**Interested in singing for Holy Week?** 

The choir will be singing for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil Services.

We welcome those choir members who have sung with us before as well as new voices.

There will be a choir practice on Wednesday evening, April 5th at 6:00 p.m. in the church. Hope you can join us!

The office will be closed Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Monday.