

APRIL 9, 2017

Scripture Reflection

Jesus' entry into Jerusalem has all the marks of a royal procession. In this case Jesus is the messianic king. But soon all this will turn upside down. Matthew's Passion story stretches from the plot of Judas to the stone placed before Jesus' tomb, offering a wealth of details in its portrait of Jesus during this crucial sacrificial act. In spite of his human fears, Jesus, the Suffering Servant, is unyielding in his obedience to the Father. We stand in awe and gratitude for the gift of salvation.

Palm Sunday begins with the reading of the jubilant march into Jerusalem with palms held high and hosannas ringing out. But very quickly the Gospel reminds us that this is more properly called Passion Sunday and begins Holy Week. The long form of the Gospel includes several scenes: Judas' deal to hand Jesus over, the Passover supper, the prayer at Gethsemane, the arrest in the garden, the Jewish trial and Peter's denial, Judas' death, the trial before Pilate, the Crucifixion, the burial, and the guarding of the tomb.

Matthew's Passion has several unique aspects, not found in the other Gospels. Only Matthew suggests that greed was Judas' motive for betraying Jesus. Judas' payment of thirty pieces of silver is the same amount as the cost of a slave. Only Matthew recounts that the chief priests and Pharisees requested of Pilate that Jesus' tomb be guarded. The empty tomb will be even more miraculously given the presence of guards and the sealed tomb.

Writing to a community primarily made up of Jewish Christians, Matthew stresses throughout his Passion narrative connections with the Old Testament. "But all this has come to pass that the writings of the prophets may be fulfilled." Psalm 22, for example, is quoted by Jesus from the cross: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Also, Matthew alone mentions the thirty pieces of silver given to Judas, an insulting price, referring to the prophet Zechariah. Matthew alone adds one other important phrase. Jesus says the purpose of the Eucharist is "for the forgiveness of sins".

• **What part of the Passion story leaps out at you this year?**

AT HOME WITH THE WORD 2017. (C) 2016 ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO, LITURGY TRAINING PUBLICATIONS, 3949 South Racine Avenue CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60609. REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION.

Living the Word, Laurie Brink and Frederick Bauerschmidt, World Library Publications, 2013, page 94; *Living the Word*, Ralph Kuehner and Joseph Juknialis, 2007, pages 78-79.

Cathedral Basket Bingo

This annual event is one of our major fund-raisers at the Cathedral. Monies go towards our educational and faith formation programs, supporting Catholic education, religious education sacramental formation, vacation bible school, and adult enrichment opportunities.

Can you help with items to be placed in the baskets for our spring Basket Bingo? Quality gifts for babies, picnics, kitchens, home decor, sports related items, recreational items, car care; really, any theme would be fine. A gift card to a local store would be appreciated along with any monetary donations. These can be dropped off at the Parish Office. Your stewardship is greatly appreciated. If you would like items picked up, call Roberta Burns (515-1614) or Lorraine Beck (942-7774). All items need to be collected by April 15. We are also accepting cartons of soda and bottles of water.

Also, we ask parishioners to please purchase a ticket to play Bingo on this day.

Cathedral Parish's Basket Bingo has become known for its singular prizes; all of them donated; some are more expensive (ex., furniture, recliner); all possess distinctive quality. The profit for the day comes with those who play bingo. This spring fund-raiser replaces our summer festival which was for three days; Basket Bingo is a five hour commitment. Please purchase a ticket and invite a friend to join us on Sunday, May 7, 2017, in Father Kelley Hall. Ticket prices are **\$25 for an Entry Ticket** that includes: 15 games of Basket Bingo, food and beverages. You may also upgrade with an **additional \$30 Value Pack** that includes: 108 Door Prize tickets, 6 Walk-Around Prize tickets, 1 dobber and 5 Special Games. In addition to all the games, there will be plenty of delicious food. We need parishioners to support this event by coming to play bingo. We need a full hall of bingo players to make this a successful fund-raiser for the Cathedral Parish. Tickets are now being sold at the Cathedral Square door after all weekend Masses and at the Cathedral Parish Office during regular business hours Monday through Friday. Thank you.

THE CHURCH OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN
THE CATHEDRAL
OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315
Church Office: 814-944-4603

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:

The process of formation for those seeking God through membership in the Catholic Christian community.

INFANT BAPTISM:

Arrange in advance for pre-baptismal instructions.

CONFIRMATION:

Ninth, tenth and eleventh grade students are invited to participate in the Confirmation Preparation Process.

RECONCILIATION:

Wednesday: 7:00 PM, Saturday: 12:30 PM.
Communal Penance Services: Advent and Lent.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

Communal celebration Easter Season.

MARRIAGE:

Arrange nine months in advance. Couples expected to participate in pre-marriage preparation program.

DEVOTIONS:

Novena of the Miraculous Medal - Monday 7:45 AM.
Rosary - Wednesday 6:00 PM.
Charismatic Prayer - Monday 7:00 PM.
Evening Prayer within Eucharistic Exposition - Advent and Christmas, Lent and Easter Seasons - Sunday 6:30 PM.
Eucharistic Day - Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

September through April: Pre-Kindergarten thru 12.
Sunday morning 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM
Pre-Kindergarten thru 8.
Sunday evening 6:15 PM - 8:30 PM
Grades 9 thru 12.

WEB: WWW.ALTOONACATHEDRAL.ORG

FAX: 814-942-4337

E-MAIL: ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG

EUCCHARIST:

Sunday:	5:00 PM (Vigil) 8:00 AM 10:00 AM 12:00 Noon 5:00 PM	Holyday:	5:30 PM (Vigil) 8:00 AM 12:00 Noon 5:30 PM	Weekday:	6:45 AM 8:00 AM 12:00 Noon
				Saturday:	8:00 AM 12:00 Noon

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA SINCE 1851

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop

Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur, Rector

Reverend Father Dennis M. Kurdziel, Parochial Vicar

CHRISTIAN INITIATION TEAM - 944-4603

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - 944-4603

MAIL MINISTRY TO ELDERLY, HOMEBOUND,
SERIOUSLY SICK, AND GRIEVING - 944-4603

HOLYTRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Web: www.holytrinitycatholic.school

Altoona Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 381-7011

Hollidaysburg Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 695-6112

Middle School Campus (Grades 5 thru 8) - 942-7835

BISHOP GUILFOYLE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Web: www.bishopguilfoyle.org - 944-4014

DIRECTORS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Chris Laraia - Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317

Jean Koury - 9 thru 12 - 949-2777

Religious Education Office: Sundays - 943-7424

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO

Music Ministry Office - 944-2044

E-mail: lthayer@dioceseaj.org

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

APRIL 9, 2017

Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14--27:66

MASS INTENTIONS

HOLY WEEK

April 10, Monday of Holy Week

Readings: Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11

- 6:45 AM Msgr. Thomas Madden (Estate)
- 8:00 AM LeRoy Helfrich, Birthday (Family)
- 11:00 AM Chrism Mass
- 12:00 PM **No Mass**

April 11, Tuesday of Holy Week

Readings: Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

- 6:45 AM Msgr. Paul Panza (M/M Frank McCloskey)
- 8:00 AM Angela Cronin Chadwick (K. & P. Byrne)
- 12:00 PM Lois Riley (Marie Pororok)

April 12, Wednesday of Holy Week

Readings: Is 50:4-9; Mt 26: 14-25

- 6:45 AM David Riley (Carol Riley & Children)
- 8:00 AM Mary Martha Kilcoyne (Jim & Steph)
- 12:00 PM Birthday Inten. of Gloria Hockenberry

THE THREE DAYS

April 13, **Holy Thursday** Mass of the Lord's Supper

Readings: Ex 12:1-8,11-14; 1 Cor11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

7:30 PM For the Poor

April 14, **Good Friday**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

12:00 PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Readings: Is 52:13--53:12; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1--19:42

7:30 PM Tenebrae

April 15, **Holy Saturday**

9:00 AM Office of Readings

8:30 PM Easter Vigil For the People of God

Readings: Gn 22:1-18; Ex 14:15--15:1; Is 54:5-14; Ez 36:16-17,18-28; Is 12:2-3,4,5-6; Mt 28:1-10

April 16, **Easter Sunday**

Readings: Acts 10:34,37-43; Col 3:1-4;

Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:13-35

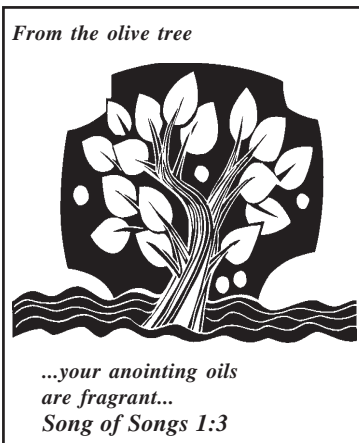
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM (No 5:00 PM Mass)

Second F.I.R.E. CLASS for April Tonight!

April 9 - Class in Cathedral Hall 6:15 PM - 8:30 PM.

Reconciliation

Our last opportunity for scheduled Confession before Easter is Wednesday, April 12 at 7:00 PM.



2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

Liturgical Reflection ...

The Local Church of Altoona-Johnstown will assemble on Monday of Holy Week, April 10, at 11:00 AM in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament for the annual Chrism Mass. Bishop will gather with his college of priests assisted by his deacons with the assembled faithful from throughout the Diocese. Bishop will bless the Oil of the Catechumens, the Oil of the Sick, and Sacred Chrism. These consecrated oils will be used for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders and Anointing of the Sick; also, new altars will be consecrated with Sacred Chrism. Each parish community will take a portion of the three oils back to the parish for use in the appropriate liturgical celebrations. The entire diocesan family is invited to participate in this annual Liturgy.

Mass Schedule Note:

Due to the **Chrism Mass** celebrated at **11:00 AM** on Monday of Holy Week, there will be **no Noon Mass on Monday, April 10**. All are invited to participate in the Chrism Mass.

HOLY THURSDAY DINNER - PLEASE CALL

At the end of Lent and as we enter *The Three Days*, the Parish will gather for **Dinner at 6:00 PM** on **April 13** in the church hall before our 7:30 PM Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper. There will be a basket placed on the serving table to receive donations (if able) for this catered meal.

Part of Parish History

The plaster of Paris image of the Crucified in the arms of his Mother which is presently placed in front of the Blessed Mother Chapel is original to Saint John the Evangelist Cathedral (1901-1926). Bishop McCort (1920-1936) placed the image of Our Lady of Sorrows in both old Saint John the Evangelist Cathedral and the new Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament (in the Mother of Sorrows side chapel). Bishop had been pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish as Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia and possessed a deep devotion to the Virgin under this title. One of the first parishes Bishop established as Bishop of Altoona was Our Mother of Sorrows in Johnstown. This piece of art has been restored to its original beauty. Cathedral Parish is grateful to the generosity of Bobby Martino who commissioned the restoration. The statuary had been painted white and Bobby wanted it returned to its pristine appearance. Mr. John Rita was the Restorer. The Cathedral Parish is truly appreciative to have one of our historical artifacts restored and present among us.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, April 2, 2017 - \$8,251.00

Easter Flower Memorials - If you have not deposited your special envelope in memory of a loved one this weekend (or any envelope marked clearly with your intention), please make these returns to the Parish Office tomorrow, April 10, for publication in the Easter bulletin. Thank you.

FISH LUNCHEON WORKERS THANK YOU!

A special "Thanks" to the following who helped make the Lenten Fish Luncheons a success: Mary Ann Bell, Jim and Ann Dixon, Bobbie Dixon, Tony Eckenrode, John Fischer, Janet Hammond, Ron Helfrich, Jim Kilcoyne, Jean Koury, Danette Lee, Beth Moore, Gail and John Murphy, Donnie Rabine and Dottie Watcher.

Thank you also to all who supported our Fish Luncheons. No Lunch served on Good Friday.

Cathedral Christian Mothers

All ladies of the parish are invited to come to the Seton Suite **Wednesday, April 12** at **6:30 PM** for our Christian Mothers meeting. Bring a friend! Guest speaker will be Jean Johnstone, Director of Catholic Charities.

ORDER OF CELEBRATING MATRIMONY

Liturgical Reflection ...

The nuptial covenant between God and his people Israel had prepared the way for the new and everlasting covenant in which the Son of God is inseparably united to his people. By becoming incarnate, giving his life on the cross, and rising from the dead, Jesus Christ has gifted all mankind with redemption, thus preparing his people for the wedding feast of the Lamb" (Revelation 19:7). Marriage stands as a true sign of our salvation forever sealed by the death and resurrection of the Lord. (Catechism of the Catholic Church Number 1612).

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