



hosanna

he is here

blessed

Palm Sunday

9th April 2017

From the Pastor's Desk



This Sunday, we celebrate Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord that marks the beginning of Holy Week in which we commemorate the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Hailed during Palm Sunday, ridiculed during Good Friday, but exalted on Easter Sunday. All of these events we will unfold this week, especially as we enter into the Triduum. But the question is, how can we make this week holy in order to get into the paschal mystery that Jesus endured for us?

Let me share with you the thoughts of Fr. Jerry Orbos, an SVD priest, who came up with a meaning for every letter of the acronym HOLY WEEK. Hopefully this can be of help to us. He said:

H – Halt! Stop for a while or at least slow down, especially this week.

O – Off with your worldly concerns. Turn off your cellular phones if you have to, so that you can focus on your spiritual life this week. Don't let the world and its cares disturb the tranquility of your mind and soul this week. Let the world go by and let the Lord take care of everything.

L – Listen. If you are in the Off or Silent Mode, then you can really listen, pray and meditate. Take time to listen to God and tell Him what's happening with your life. Allow the Father to wrap His loving arms around your shoulders once again and just listen. Is there something you are missing in your life? Is there something more you need to do in your life?

Y – Yield to God. Let go of your grip on your own life. Be on the lookout for His road signs as you travel on. Listen to His instructions and you will find your way.

W – Warm up your Relationships. Time to allow your loved ones feel that warm-and-sunny spring you, not the cold-and-cloudy-winter you. Reach out to the people you have taken for granted or left out altogether. Time to call a friend or family members. Call, text, write, smile and hug. Use anything that will help you repair, restore and revitalize your relationships.

E – Erase the burdens of guilt and sin with a good, honest and humble confession. Heed God's call: "Come back to me with all your heart. Don't let sin keep us apart. Long have I waited for your coming home to me." In response to God's love, may we also say to God, especially this week: "Create a clean heart in me, O God. Give back to me the joy of your salvation." Time also to erase hurts, resentments, anger and ill feelings. Forgive people who hurt you and ask for forgiveness from people you have hurt, cheated, used or abused in any way.

E – Express your love. Whatever you do, especially this week, like praying, fasting, works of penance and deeds of charity, let them all be expressions of your love and gratitude to God. Let them be done, not out of fear or out of obligation.

K – Kneel down. In humility, kneel down in prayer before God and thank Him for suffering so much, for dying on the cross and for rising again for our salvation. Somebody died for you and me. Let us not allow this week to pass without personally thanking Him.

Have a HOLY WEEK!

Below is our schedule for HOLY WEEK:

Holy Monday - Regional Penance Service here at 7:00 P.M.

Holy Tuesday – Meeting with Ushers and Greeters at 6:30 P.M.

Holy Wednesday – Mass will be at 8:00 A.M.

Holy Thursday – **CHRISM MASS – Blessed Sacrament Cathedral at 10:00 A.M.**

Mass of the Lord's Supper with the Washing of the Feet at 7:00 P.M.

Adoration until 11:00 P.M.

Night Prayer at 11:30 P.M.

Good Friday – Liturgy of the Word/Veneration of the Cross/Communion Service at 1:30 P.M.

Tenebrae at 8:30 P.M.

Holy Saturday – Altar Server Practice at 10:00 A.M.

Blessing of the Easter Food Baskets at 12:00 Noon

Easter Egg Hunt at St. Mary Cemetery (weather permitting) at 1:00 P.M.

Easter Vigil - 8:30 P.M.



PARISH NEWS

CALENDAR of Events

April 10th Lenten Penance Service (Here) - 7:00 P.M.
April 11th Greeters/Ushers Meeting - 6:30 P.M.
April 12th 8:00 A.M. Mass—No Evening Mass
April 13th Parish Office Closed
 7:00 P.M. - Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
 Adoration until 11:00 P.M.
April 14th Parish Office Closed
 Divine Mercy Novena Begins
 1:30 P.M. - The Lord's Passion
 8:30 P.M. - Tenebrae
April 15th 10:00 A.M. - Altar Server Practice
 12:00 Noon - Blessing of the Food Baskets
 1:30 P.M. - Easter Egg Hunt - St. Mary Cemetery
 8:30 P.M. - Easter Vigil Mass
April 16th No Religious Education Classes—Easter Break
 No Choir Practice



The Divine Mercy Novena begins on Good Friday. It is a nine day prayer (Novena), in preparation for the Divine Mercy Feast Day, celebrated on the Sunday after Easter (April 23rd). This Novena and chaplet may be prayed in church or at home. Pamphlets will be available at each entrance of the church. What better way to celebrate the Easter Season than spending fifteen minutes each day asking Our Lord for mercy for ourselves and the entire world.

Please Join Us...

The Donuts and Beverage Social will be held in the Fellowship Hall today, immediately following mass. Please remember to stop in and extend a friendly hello to your fellow parishioners.

DIOCESAN LENTEN APPEAL

Our DLA is in progress and I thank those who have given to this appeal. If you have not yet made your pledge, please prayerfully consider doing so. If you did not receive or have misplaced your DLA letter/pledge card, commitment envelopes are located at all of the church entrances. Please take one of these envelopes home with you, fill them out, and drop in the collection basket next weekend, mail in or drop off at the Administrative Office. If anyone needs help in filling out their envelope, call the parish office at 724-295-2281 or stop by (9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.) and assistance will be provided.

Diocesan Lenten Appeal

Diocesan Target - \$43,279.00
 Parish Target - \$68,279.00
 Pledges to Date - \$57,408.00
 Number of Donors - 181
 Diocesan Target Achieved!!!

Due to the early submission of the April 9th bulletin, there is no update available from last week's totals.

FORMED

We are pleased to give you a free subscription to formed.org. Entertaining movies, enlightening programs, inspiring talks, and a great selection of popular ebooks—all just a click away! It's easy to get started:

Go to: formed.org

Click on Register and create your FREE account by entering your Parish Code and email address.

Your Parish Code is: VNX4G6

Get inFORMED with great content from virtually any device . . . anytime, anywhere.

If you have any questions, please contact Beth Macurdy at: bmacurdy@ufcw.org or call her at 724-295-9411.

Easter Flower Offering Envelopes -

Remember your loved ones this Easter by making a donation for flowers and decorations for the sanctuary during the Easter season. Envelopes were included in your monthly packet. **Deadline is Monday, April 10th, at 12:00 Noon.**

The Teen Ministry will hold their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Holy Saturday, April 15th, at 1:00 P.M., at St. Mary Cemetery (weather permitting). All children, from preschool to 3rd grade, are invited to attend. **Please sign-up your child on the sign-up sheet located at the rear of the church TODAY, to ensure that enough prizes are available for the children.**

Becoming a Member of St. Mary, Mother of God Church

Welcome! It is a great joy to welcome new members to our parish community. Please register as soon as possible in order to participate in our various programs, ministries and activities. Just drop this form in the collection basket and we will send you a detailed registration form. If you are already a member and have changed any of your personal information (address, phone number, name, etc.), please return the changes on the form below. It is important to keep our records up to date.

St. Mary, Mother of God Membership Request / Change

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Number: _____

New Registration Change Address/Phone
 Moving



Are you trying to cut down on the paper you use? Is the check you write to our parish one of the few checks that you write anymore? You can give greener by using Online Banking. You can set up the amount that you would like to give on a schedule that meets your needs and you never have to worry about writing another check, forgetting your envelope, or having cash in your wallet. Keep God at the top of your giving list! *When you sign up, please remember to provide your envelope number.*



Freeport Meals on Wheels is in desperate need of drivers for delivery routes in Freeport, Sarver, Cabot and Saxonburg. Anyone interested in volunteering an hour or two of their time, one or more days a month, should contact Betsy Olsen at 724-353-1424 for details. Meals are delivered on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

St. Mary, Mother of God



Good Friday
April 14th, 2017



Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place called Golgotha.
A non-denominational evening service of Tenebrae will begin at 8:30 P.M. with a Lenten musical presentation beginning at 7:45 P.M. The evening's service will dramatically reflect in meditation and song on the readings from the passion of Jesus Christ, leading into the darkness of the Crucifixion.

We are pleased to have guest vocalist, Jamie Phillips, and guest organist, Susan Myford...

Service is open to the entire community!



"A Community Time of Reflection"

Allegheny Valley
Association of Churches



Volunteer Luncheon

Date: Friday, April 28th, 2017

Time: 11:30

Place: First United Presbyterian Church
913 Lock St.
Tarentum, PA 15084

You are cordially invited to attend our annual celebration for all our volunteers. We welcome volunteers from all programs as well as office and support volunteers. Church volunteers who assist with Hospitality Network are also encouraged to join us.

• Join us for an afternoon of fun, good food, entertainment and enjoyable fellowship!

Please R.S.V.P. by April 17th to the AVAC office

Phone: 724-226-0606
Fax: 724-226-3197
Email: avac@avaoc.org



The Homebound Ministry is available to take the Eucharist to anyone temporarily or permanently home and unable to attend Mass on a weekly basis. To be added to this list, call the Administrative Office at 724-295-2281 or John at 724-294-9486.



Bishop Edward C. Malesic will lead a Divine Mercy Sunday outdoor service and Eucharistic procession on April 23rd at 3:00 P.M., in St. Clair Park, Greensburg. In the event of inclement weather, the service will be moved to Blessed Sacrament Cathedral.

The Melchizedek Project is a discernment group for those 18 or older who are discerning a vocation to the Priesthood. The group meets Sunday night at 6:30 PM at the Rectory, Holy Family Church, Latrobe.

The Upcoming dates are:

April 9 and 23.

Contact gbg vocations.org to register

St. Emma Gift Shop First Communion Items

St. Emma Gift Shop offers the largest selection of First Communion and Confirmation Items in the area.

Choose from:

Communion Books and Sets
Rosaries & Cases
Photo Albums
Picture Frames
Crucifixes, First Communion Crosses
Bibles

An assortment of many gift items.

We also have brand new Communion Dresses for \$50. (Most were priced from \$129 - \$169.00)



1001 Harvey Avenue (Rt. 318)
Next to Hanoverston Golf Course
Greensburg, PA 15601
724-834-1060 x333
Mon. thru Sat. 10:00 - 4:00 p.m.

EASTER FOOD BASKETS

The Allegheny Valley Association of Churches' Food Bank will make an Easter witness this year with specially prepared food baskets. Each basket will contain a variety of food including fresh produce and a voucher with which to purchase meat. There will even be candy for their bunny basket!

AVAC's cost per basket is \$15.00. All donations will support this ministry.

Philanthropist Shawn Alan Feinstein has made a challenge to all non-profit, anti-hunger agencies including AVAC. All funds raised during the months of March and April for the Food Bank are eligible for a matching grant from the Feinstein Foundation. Please consider this in your giving.



Yes, I want to make an Easter witness to the needy.
Enclosed is my check for _____
Payable to the "AVAC Food Bank".
(Please mail your check with this form to:)

Allegheny Valley Association of Churches, Inc.
1913 Freeport Road
Natrona Heights, PA 15065

Name _____
Address _____

All donations will be acknowledged.



Thank you for helping to make someone else's Easter a special one.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Altar Servers	Extraordinary Ministers Of Holy Communion	Lector	Organist	Cantor	Greeters
Holy Thursday - 7:00 P.M.					
All Servers	Andrea Camerlo Betty Lou Nemcek Patty Hughes	Jackie DeFelice	Dave Wesolosky	Choir	All Greeters
Good Friday - 1:30 P.M.					
All Servers	John Nemcek	Tim Fogarty (N) Janice Meola (S)	Dave Wesolosky	Choir	All Greeters
Saturday - Easter Vigil - 8:30 P.M.					
All Servers	Betty Lou Nemcek Dave Brestensky	J. Nemcek; R. Svitek Judy Bergstrom	Dave Wesolosky	Choir	All Greeters
Easter Sunday 8:30 A.M.					
All Servers	F. Walker; L. Boylan K. Holbein; R. Check C. Carson	Laura Huth	Sue Myford	Jamie Phillips	All Greeters
Easter Sunday 11:00 A.M.					
All Servers	A. Volek; D. Rossey L. Isenberg; B. Cogley D. Lucovich	Marushka Steele	Dave Wesolosky	Choir	All Greeters

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

<u>MASSES FOR PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</u>	
SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	April 8th ✦ Judith Polana (Bill & Maryellyn Bale)
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	April 9th ✦ Pat Pflugh (Ron & Linda Gallagher) St. Mary Parishioners
MONDAY: 8:00 A.M.	April 10th ✦ Charles Huth (Ellen Huth & Family)
TUESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	April 11th Mary Kristine (Beth Macurdy)
WEDNESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	April 12th ✦ John Yousko (The Pollicchio's)
THURSDAY: 7:00 P.M.	April 13th—NO MORNING MASS Evening Mass of The Lord's Supper
FRIDAY: 1:30 P.M. 8:30 P.M.	April 14th—NO MORNING MASS The Lord's Passion Tenebrae
<u>MASSES FOR EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD</u>	
SATURDAY: 8:30 P.M.	April 15th St. Mary Parishioners
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	April 16th St. Mary Parishioners St. Mary Parishioners

The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in loving memory of **DANIEL B. HASTINGS**
By **Fred Walker & Forrest, Grey, Kaleb**

In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of **LOVING SISTERS – CAROL & MARILYN**
By **Krumenacker Families (Brothers & Sister)**

Collections

Due to the early deadline for the submission of the April 9th bulletin, the weekly contribution report for April 2nd was not available. This information will be published in next Sunday's bulletin.

THANK YOU!

Saturday, April 15th, 2017

Jeannie Lepkowski and Mary Bertino

Century 21
American Heritage Realty
Sarver, PA 16055
Fax (724) 295-4717 | Cell (724) 448-9645
bridget.fogarty@century21.com

Bridget A. Fogarty, REALTOR®
Office (724) 295-4700



Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated

Lutz & Pawk L.L.P.
Lawrence P. Lutz
Attorney at Law

Butler Office 285-3400
Sarver Office 353-2170

LISA MARIES
SCHOOL OF DANCE

We look forward to welcoming your child to join in the fun!!

Protecting Seniors Nationwide

Medical Alert System


\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly

- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation

Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608



catholicmatch®
Pennsylvania



CatholicMatch.com/myPA



☆ **724-295-3698** ☆

JOHN'S HEATING, AIR CONDITIONING & HARDWARE INC.

603 High Street
Freeport
(724) 295-2950

TOLL FREE **1-877-551-6760**

CAMPBELL CONTRACTING

- BUILDING • REMODELING
- ROOFING • HAULING

Todd Campbell, Owner/Operator

Parishioner
724-335-8317



724-224-7111
FREE DELIVERY

The Medicine Shoppe
Midway Square
2612 Freeport Rd., Natrona Heights
Robert J. Ingoldsbey, R.Ph.

Keddie Chevrolet



Route 56, Vandergriff
724-567-5683

This Space Compliments of:

**Dr. Anne Adam
Dr. Larry Adam**
Full Service Family Dentists
**353-1521
297-3446**

**JAMES R. ANTONIONO, ESQ.
TIMOTHY R. MILLER, ESQ.**
Attorney's at Law
Domestic & Criminal Law
Personal Injury
Wills • Estates
724-845-8339
157 Market St.
Leechburg, PA

Saint Margaret Sunday Missal

An ideal companion for personal prayer.

In Stock & Ready to Order Today.
CALL OR ORDER ONLINE. \$39.95



800-566-6150 • www.wlpmusic.com

FREEPORT BEVERAGE
Your Local Pop/Beer Distributors
724-295-9200
103 Second Street
Freeport, PA 16229



ANKLE AND FOOT CARE
DR. JOHN A. MARTY & ASSOC.
Medical & Surgical Treatment of the Foot & Ankle
Kittanning
(724) 543-3668
AnkleAndFootCareOnline.com

Redmond Funeral Home Inc.
Traditional, Cremation & Preplanning Services
W. Ryan Redmond Supervisor
524 High St. Freeport 724-295-4500
www.redmondfuneralhomeinc.com
Serving St. Mary's Families for over 40 years.

Catholic Cruises and Tours
Brian or Sally, coordinators
860.399.1785
an Official Travel Agency of Apostleship of the Sea-USA
CST 2117990-70
www.CatholicCruisesAndTours.com

The Gilded Pear
Antiques & Collectibles
David & Cleatus Burk, Proprietors
225 West Main Street Saxenburg, PA 16056
724-524-1717

300 Winfield Road Cabot, PA 16023
724-822-3491



Rosebrook

A Beautiful New Residence That You Will Be Proud Of And A Price You Can Live With
295-4300
723 Rt. 356
(1/2 Mi. N. of Rt. 28)
www.rosebrookadultliving.com
rosebrook@zoominternet.net

VALLEY VETERINARY ASSOCIATES

WELLNESS CARE • VACCINATIONS • DENTISTRY
LABORATORY • ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY • PHARMACY
WEIGHT MANAGEMENT • BEHAVIORAL COUNSELING
MICROCHIPPING • RETAIL SHOP & MORE

853 Falcon Park Road • Lower Burrell
www.vvapets.com 724.339.1525

Kennihan
PLUMBING • HEATING AIR CONDITIONING

Experience the **Kennihan Comfort** difference!
\$38 off Furnace Check!!!
www.Kennihans.com
888.333.1819



Please Cut Out This "Thank You Ad" and Present It The Next Time You Patronize One of Our Advertisers

Thank YOU

Thank you for advertising in our church bulletin. I am patronizing your business because of it!

"Better Built Memorials" See Our Large Display
FREEPORT MONUMENTAL WORKS
P. POFI AND SONS
Established 1921
344 Second St. 295-2320

ONE PARISH
An App For Catholics
GROW YOUR FAITH
ONEPARISH.COM
Parish Info • Donate • Daily Faith

Download TODAY
Available on the App Store
GET IT ON Google play



HOLBEIN INC.

A Versatile, Family Operated Business, Serving the Pittsburgh Area for Over 30 Years
EXCAVATING • ASPHALT & TAR & CHIP PAVING
UTILITIES • CONCRETE WORK • CONSULTING
SHALE, STONE AND TOPSOIL
www.holbeininc.com • 724.353.2635

