

St. Cletus Faith Formation Newsletter

Friday, March 31, 2023



On Sunday, we celebrate Palm Sunday, also called Passion Sunday, which marks the beginning of Holy Week. During this week, we prepare ourselves for Easter by prayerful reflection upon the events of Jesus' passion and death. During this week, your family might display a crucifix in a prominent place as reminder of salvation that Christ won for us. This can also serve as the focal point for family prayer during Holy Week.

In the simplest of terms, Palm Sunday is an opportunity to reflect upon the final week of Jesus' life. Jesus denied the image that the crowd expected -- the fulfillment of the hopes of Israel that He would be their earthly king, destroying the Roman government. Instead, Jesus humbly entered Jerusalem to give His life on a cross, saving mankind from sin and death. Palm Sunday serves as a preparation of one's heart for the agony of His Passion and the joy of His Resurrection.

Easter Triduum

The Easter Triduum begins Thursday evening, Holy Thursday, with the Mass of the Lord's Supper. It is continued through Good Friday with the celebration of the passion of the Lord and on Holy Saturday, reaches its high point at the Easter vigil, and concludes with evening prayer on Easter Sunday. These three days are the most important time of the Church year.

Mass of the Lord's Supper

On, Holy Thursday we remember the Last Supper and that Jesus gave himself in the Eucharist. We recall that Jesus chose his apostles to serve and lead the Church. Remembering that Jesus washed their feet at the Last Supper, the priest washes the feet of members of the congregation. Holy Thursday is a special day for all priests since it is the day Jesus instituted the sacrament of Holy Orders.

The evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday is a beautiful and joyful celebration. During the singing of the Gloria, the church bells are rung and then remain silent until the Easter Vigil of Holy Saturday night. Because Holy Thursday is a feast day of the Blessed Sacrament, there is a procession of the Eucharist after the Mass to an altar of repose set up for the occasion. The main altar is stripped bare. **The Mass of the Lord's Supper will be a bilingual service at 7:00 p.m. on Holy Thursday.**

Good Friday

On Good Friday we remember the death of Jesus. According to an ancient custom, Mass is not celebrated on this day or before the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. The celebration of the Lord's passion and death takes place in the afternoon. There are three parts to the liturgy of the day: the Liturgy of the Word; the Veneration of the Cross; and Holy Communion with Hosts consecrated on Holy Thursday.

On Good Friday, Living Stations of the Cross will be in Spanish at 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Center; The Passion of the Lord will be celebrated in English at 3:00 p.m.; and La Passion del Senor at 7:00 p.m. in Spanish.

Holy Saturday

The Blessing of Food Baskets is at 10:00 a.m.

On Holy Saturday the Church meditates on the suffering and death of Jesus. Then the Church gathers to celebrate the Easter Vigil. The celebration of the Easter Vigil by tradition should take place at night, beginning after nightfall or ending before the dawn of Sunday.

The *Easter Vigil in the Holy Night*, has four parts: The Service of Light; the Liturgy of the Word; the Liturgy of Baptism; and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

The Easter Virgil in the Holy Night will be a bilingual service celebrated at 7:30 p.m.

We encourage our Faith Formation Families to attend the Easter Triduum Services.

The Mass schedule on Easter Sunday is: 7:15, 8:45, 10:30, and 12:30 p.m. in Spanish.

Calendar

Classes will not be in session this Sunday, April 2, Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday, April 9.

Our next class will be in session on Sunday, April 16 and Monday, April 17.

CCW Bake Sale

Be sure to stop by the CCW Bake Sale on Sunday, April 2nd 7:30am-2:00pm in the Gallagher room to take home some delicious bakery.

Thank You

We wish to thank everyone who participated in the Parish Survey. The results will be very important to our parish as we plan for our future.

If you have not yet completed the survey, THIS WEEKEND IS YOUR LAST CHANCE. Click the link below to participate.

[Take Survey](#)

St. Cletus Food Pantry: BIG NEWS!

Beginning in April, we will be expanding our food pantry distribution hours. Our new hours will be 4:00-8:00pm. Therefore, **we need more volunteers! We are adding a new volunteer session every Thursday from 3:15-5:15pm.** This is perfect for students' right after school, but we definitely need adults during this shift, as well! Volunteers must be 6th grade and up. This will double our Thursday night volunteer opportunities, we hope you can join us. Sign up is now available at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-stcletus#/>

For Our Kids!

To view click the link: [Palm Sunday for Kids - The Triumphal Entry](#)

Fun Activities for Children

[Gospel Today](#)

[Gospel Coloring page](#)

[Gospel Word Search](#)

Catholic Kids Media: What is Holy Week? Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter! Click below to find out.

[What is Holy Week](#)

Following is a special devotion of the Way of the Cross for children. Click on the link below to view.

[Way of the Cross Devotion for Children](#)

Something To Think About

This past week I had the opportunity to attend a talk by Joe Paprocki. Dr. Paprocki is a consultant and author with Loyola Press, he has written a number of books and this talk was about his newest book – *8 Steps to Energize Your Faith*.

A chapter in the book and a point he made in his talk is BEING STILL! Funny that you can energize your faith by being still. In the book of Psalm's, we hear God telling us; "*Be still, and know that I am God.*" (Psalm 46:10).

We all need to be reminded that God is God and we are not. And stillness helps us to recognize this truth. In fact, being still is a necessary part of our spiritual renewal.

Our lives are busy and we tend to emphasize *doing* as the most important measure of our productivity. While it is important for us to be productive, we must recognize that our productivity is not limitless. Like a battery that needs to be recharged, we need to plug into divine energy for renewal. One way to do this is to find time for quiet prayer or finding a place in our homes or possibly at Church where we can be alone and take sometime to just listen to what God may be telling us. For me, I find taking time to visit an Adoration Chapel or just sitting in the Church by the Tabernacle as a way to Be Still and listen for what our Savior and God may be telling me.

During this last week of Lent, as we enter the Triduum, the most holy time of the year for us as Catholics, I hope you are able to find some time to BE STILL with God. Following is a one of Loyola Presses Three Minute Retreat's. I hope you find it helpful.

To listen to the retreat, please click on the link: [One With God.](#)

Have A Great Week!

God Bless,

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