

April 5, 2020  
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



# ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH

301 SPRUCE STREET, HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648

Parish Website: [www.stmichael-hldg-pa.org](http://www.stmichael-hldg-pa.org)



## PARISH STAFF

**Very Rev. Alan E. Thomas, VG, Pastor** .....695-0912  
**Janet Klingbeil, Administrative Assistant**.....695-0912 or 207-1479  
**Sue Teske, Director of Religious Education**.....695-0912 or 934-2180  
**Tim Baranik, Youth Group Director**.....207-7008  
**Tom Kunkle, Music Coordinator**.....312-3897

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Rectory/Church Office**.....(814) 695-0912  
**Office Fax Number**.....(814) 693-9820  
**Parish Email**.....[stmichaelhburg@dioceseaj.org](mailto:stmichaelhburg@dioceseaj.org)  
**Parish Website**.....[www.stmichael-hldg-pa.org](http://www.stmichael-hldg-pa.org)  
**Holy Trinity Catholic School - Hollidaysburg**.....(814) 695-6112  
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**Greenlawn Cemetery**.....call Tom at (814) 695-2546

## MISSION STATEMENT OF THE ST. MICHAEL FAITH COMMUNITY

Extending a rich parish heritage built upon the pioneering traditions of the first settlers of the Southern Allegheny mountains, St. Michael the Archangel Parish embraces as its mission the use of all available resources, both spiritual and temporal, to minister to the needs of the people of Hollidaysburg and its surrounding areas. We do this in a fashion which reflects the teachings and example of Jesus Christ, while promoting a tradition of liturgical excellence, strong support for Catholic education in all its varieties, and enlightened social outreach to the community at large, in union with both the Diocesan and Universal Church.

## MASSES

**No Public Masses at this time.**

**Please see inside the Bulletin for ways to view Mass online or on TV.**

## CONFESSIONS

Please call the parish office

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Closed: Weekends, Holy Days and Holidays

## MARRIAGES & BAPTISMS

Call the church office to schedule an appointment.  
Nine month advance notice is normally required for marriage.

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

The deadline to have information considered for publication in the bulletin is 4:00 p.m. Tuesday prior to the weekend of the announcement. Mail or email the information to the church office.

## PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

If you would like to join the parish, please contact the rectory/ church office. Please remember to notify us if you move or will be moving out of the parish. Registration, the practice of stewardship, and regular participation in the Sacraments indicate that a person is an active member of the parish and is eligible to act as a godparent or sponsor. As a Church community seeking to be faith-filled disciples and good stewards, the sacrifice of our time, talent and treasure is essential for the common good.

## CHRISTIAN INITIATION

Interested in becoming a member of the Catholic faith? Please contact the parish office. Classes generally begin each Fall.

## INTRODUCTION FOR TODAY'S READINGS

### PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

**Isaiah 50: 4-7 Chapters 40 – 55** of the Book of Isaiah contain the message of a prophet who spoke to God's people during their exile in Babylon. Several times the prophet speaks about a servant who will one day deliver God's people. Because the servant is portrayed as suffering, Christians have traditionally identified Jesus with this suffering servant.

**Philippians 2: 6-11** In the years following Christ's death and resurrection, Christians began to develop the prayers and hymns that would become part of their rituals. In today's passage from the letter to the Philippians, Paul appears to be quoting an early Christian hymn celebrating the dying and rising of Christ.

**Holy Thursday Readings: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14 and 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Gospel: John 13: 1-15**

**Good Friday Readings: Isaiah 52:13-53:12 and Hebrews 4:14 –16; 5:7-9; Gospel: John 18:1-19:42**

**Easter Sunday's Readings: Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43 and Colossians 3: 1-4; Gospel: John 20:1-9**

# Mass Intentions this week for St. Mary & St. Michael Parishes

**April 4 - 12**

Fr. Alan will be saying Mass privately each day for the following Mass intentions.  
Please remember them in your prayers as well.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested by</u>
Saturday, 4/4	+ Bob & Bo Domino	by Bruno & JoAn Felus
	+ Vince Wolf	by Ambrose Aquadro
Sunday, 4/5	+ Bernie Mikesic	by the Knights of Columbus Star of the Sea Council #4245
	+ Dorothy Werner	by Robin & Jerry Kurland
	+ Bob Stanek	by Richard & Shirley Books
	+ Fr. Anthony Legarski	by the St Michael Men's Club
	<b>For the people of St. Mary &amp; St. Michael Parishes</b>	
Monday, 4/6	+ Robert "Jim" Gildea, Jr.	by Cathy & Wayne Madden
Tuesday, 4/7	+ Leona George	by her family
Wednesday, 4/8	Lori Irwin- Kozlowski	by her parents; Bob & Louise
Holy Thursday, 4/9	+ Deceased Pastors of St. Mary & St. Michael Parish	
Friday, 4/10	<b>Good Friday</b>	
Easter Vigil - Sat., 4/11	+ For the people of St. Mary & St. Michael Parishes	
Easter Sunday, 4/12	+ For Deceased Parishioners	
	For Our Children, Teenagers & Young Adults	
	For Parishioners, Friends and Benefactors	
	+ For Our Beloved Dead	

Proclaim! will continue to air every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. on WATM ABC 23. The show will continue to be posted on the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Facebook and Twitter social media platforms as well.

**Bishop Mark will celebrate Sunday Masses, which will air every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. on WATM ABC 23 and at 9:00 p.m. on Atlantic Broadband Channel 9. The Masses will also be posted on the diocesan website and Facebook and Twitter social media platforms.**

Audio of the Liturgies will air Sundays at 10:00 a.m. on WFBG AM 1290. Also during this time, daily Mass, celebrated by Father Matthew Baum at Prince of Peace Parish in Northern Cambria, will be streamed on their parish website and the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Facebook page.

**Our Parish Website: <https://stmichael-hldg-pa.org/> will continue to be updated regularly. You will find the current bulletin and audio recordings of Fr. Alan reading the Gospel and his homily every day.**

As per Bishop Mark's directive, the church building is close at this time.

**Practice SOCIAL distancing, NOT SPIRITUAL distancing.**

## MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Please remember in your prayers those who have recently died.

**William C. Drass Jr. (3/18)**  
**P. Joseph Lehman, Sr. (3/26)**  
**Monsignor Arnold L. Gaus (3/27)**

Our condolences to the family and friends of parishioner **P. Joseph Lehman, Sr. (3/26)**. He will be missed by many in our parish, community and especially by his family. Please remember in your prayers his wife Annette, daughter Susan, son Joe and Betsy, and his grandchildren: Lauren & Joey. A memorial Mass for Joe will be celebrated at a later date.

May God grant Bill, Msgr. Gaus and Joe  
eternal rest and bring comfort to all who mourn.

## PEACE & JUSTICE VETERANS COLLECTION

The Peace & Justice Committee wish to thank everyone who donated new clothing items, cash and gift cards for the Veterans Lenten Collection. Since we know many wanted to be involved but were unable to purchase items, and because we are unable to deliver items to the home at this point, we will be extending the collection to a later date. Thank you for your support.

**If you, or if you know of a parishioner  
who needs some help or assistance, PLEASE contact the parish office  
so we can figure out a way to best help them.**

**Currently there are no public Masses here at St. Michael.**

**Masses will continue to be celebrated privately every day by Fr. Alan.**

*Audio recordings of the daily & weekend Gospel and Fr. Alan's Homilies are on our parish website.*

**Distribution of Palms: We apologize that we are unable to distribute palms at this time.**

## ≈≈≈ OUR GIFTS TO GOD ≈≈≈

*Thank you for your generosity!*

**Sunday Offering (3/29/2020): \$5,478.00**

Sunday Envelopes:	\$4,823.00
Sunday Loose Collection:	\$0
Sunday On-line Giving:	\$655.00

**Thank you for your weekly support to our parish, our mission collections and the Annual Catholic Appeal. Your financial support is vital and continues to be so especially during the COVID-19 crisis. You may continue to mail in your weekly offering, bring it to the parish office, or donate through on-line giving.**

The diocese has recently set-up a parish on-line giving account for every parish in the diocese. If you would like to give this way just visit: <https://www.dioceseaj.org/giving/> to setup an account. Our parish will receive a report on all donations and money collected will be forwarded to us. The diocese will not be recording the gift or donor information in their database. We and the diocese just want to be able to give you options for your giving. Just look for "St. Michael, Hollidaysburg (054)" under the "Select a parish to receive your gift." Contact the parish office if you have any questions.

# Palm Sunday - Year A (2020)

## FR. ALAN'S REMOTE HOMILY

Below is Fr. Alan's Homily for this weekend. You may also hear an audio recording of it on our parish website... <https://stmichael-hldg-pa.org/>

Above the corpus, the body, on practically every crucifix, we will find the letters, INRI. These are the first letters of four Latin words: *Jesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum*. These words translate the Greek of John's gospel regarding the placard that was hung on the cross above Jesus' head: *Jesus of Nazareth, king of the Jews*.

Each of the gospels relates this story about a placard of the charges against Jesus being hung on the cross. What is interesting to me is that not one of the gospels has the charge worded the same way. Mark, the shortest of all the gospels, has the shortest statement, "The king of the Jews." Luke adds a single word, "this." "This is the king of the Jews." Matthew and John have longer statements. For Matthew, the charge against Jesus is "This is Jesus the King of the Jews."

What Matthew describes is the revolutionary act that the Romans feared: there were to be no rivals to Caesar, the emperor of Rome. There could be only one king. The whole crucifixion scene screams, "This is what we will do with those who oppose us."

Matthew, however, may be operating on some other levels as well. We Christians believe that what the placard, described by Matthew, proclaims is, ironically, really true: This *is* the king of the Jews and of everyone else as well. In the last parable Jesus tells in Matthew's gospel, he says that when he, the Son of Man, comes again, he will come as a king. On Palm Sunday we join the crowd of Jesus' disciples in Jerusalem in welcoming him as the King who is to come. But he is a king like no other. He comes riding a donkey of peace rather than a horse of war. As David had been a shepherd-king, Jesus too is a shepherd-king, but he infinitely exceeds David. He gives his life for his people.

By inserting the name "Jesus" into the wording of the placard, Matthew tells us still more. It is Matthew who, at the beginning of his gospel describes the plight of the expectant Virgin Mary and the inner turmoil of Joseph, her just and faithful husband. When the angel of the Lord reveals the plan of God to Joseph, he is told that he will name the child to be born Jesus because "he will save his people from their sins." In fact, the name Jesus is a Greek name which comes from a shortened version of the name Joshua and means, "God saves." This is just what Jesus, the King, is doing on the cross.

As we acclaim the One who comes triumphantly into Jerusalem let us identify him by name: Jesus. He comes to complete the plan that his very name signifies. He comes as God to save his people, including us, from our sins.

### PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

St Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Be our protection against

the wickedness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him we humbly pray;

and do Thou O Prince of the Heavenly Host,

by the power of God, cast into hell,

Satan and all the evil spirits,

who prowl through the world,

seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

### PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present  
in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment

receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there

and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



## ST. MICHAEL PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION

Any questions call our D.R.E., Sue Teske  
at 695-0912 or 934-2180 email: [Steske@dioceseaj.org](mailto:Steske@dioceseaj.org)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

PLEASE CHECK OUR PARISH WEBSITE FOR UPDATES

### FAMILY IDEAS TO CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK

- Today is Palm Sunday. Dress up for Sunday Mass, and watch Mass on tv or on the computer while actively participating, read the Passion of the Lord (Matthew 26:14-27:66) together as a family. Although we are unable to distribute palms, have your family gather green leaves and hang them on your front door.

- Make cards, color pictures or write a letter to the residents at our local nursing homes. While we are able to take walks around the neighborhood, nursing home residents are unable to do so, or even have family and friends visit them. Parents may contact the parish office for specific names, or simply address it to "a resident" and the home will give it to someone who would enjoy it.

- Take a family walk, see God's beauty in nature. Experience the smells, and colors around you. Share your feelings.

- Pray the rosary every day. Take turns leading the decades.

#### Looking for some great online resources? Try these:

<https://holyweek.pastoral.center/>

Watch the movie "Full of Grace"  
now free on several streaming sites

Watch Skitguys.com

Download a free Holy Week and Easter Resource Kit from:  
<https://go.sadlier.com/religion/holy-week-easter-resource-kit>

Older kids would enjoy Fr. Mike Schmitz (Youtube & Ascension Press). He posts videos that cover a variety of topics. Watch them together and discuss them.

Need more ideas, or have questions? Contact Sue.

#### VISIT OUR WEBPAGE

[www.stmichael-hldg-pa.org](http://www.stmichael-hldg-pa.org)

#### FIND US ON FACEBOOK

"St. Michael the Archangel Church Hollidaysburg"

#### DAILY & SUNDAY READINGS

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>

### FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL

**Mt 26:14-27:66** The cruel death of Jesus tells us bad things can and do happen to very good people. It also tells us God is present during the suffering. Bad things happen but God does not abandon us.

### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

Palm Sunday - The two disciples in today's Gospel added to Jesus' request for two animals by contributing their own cloaks. Imagine how you can help fulfill His mission with the gifts you possess.



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 Misplaced your bulletin?  
 On vacation? Don't miss what's  
 going on here at St. Michael!  
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