

*Welcome to the Holy Family Parishes of*  
**Our Lady of the Holy Rosary**  
**Sacred Heart**  
**Ss Philip & James**

Mission Statement

A family of God constituted  
by the Holy Eucharist and  
strengthened by the Holy  
Spirit to make God known,  
loved and served.

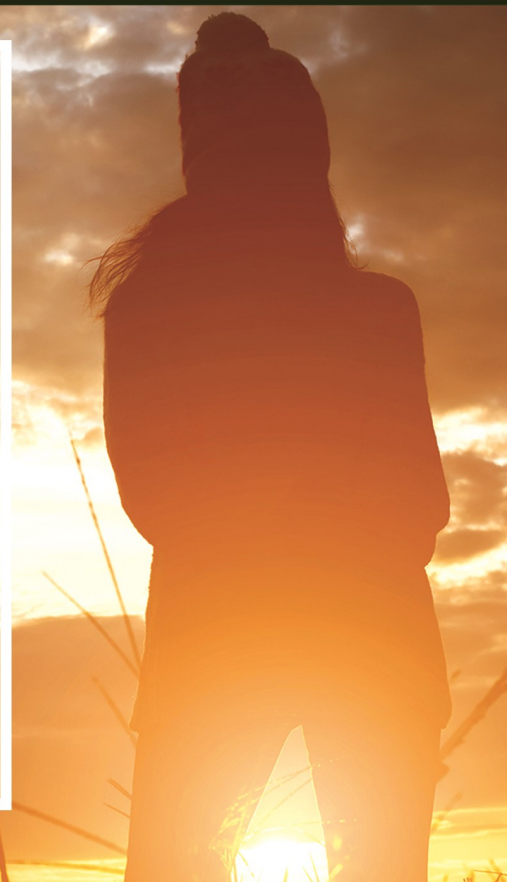
**PALM SUNDAY APRIL 5, 2020**

**PALM SUNDAY**

**JESUS**

And when he entered Jerusalem  
the whole city was shaken and  
asked, "Who is this?" And the  
crowds replied, "This is Jesus the  
prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee."

—Mt 21:10-11



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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**SS Philip & James Church**

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Grand Mound, IA 52751

**Our Lady of the Holy Rosary**

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**Sacred Heart Church**

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Web www.sacredheartoj.org

**Cluster Office Hours**

Monday: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Tuesday: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Telephone: 563-847-2271

Bulletin Deadline

Tuesday 12:00 noon

(unless otherwise noted).

- Sacrament of Baptism: Please call the cluster office for arrangements.
- Sacrament of Matrimony: Please contact Pastor 9 to 12 months prior to wedding date.

# ***Palm Sunday: Journeying Along With Jesus***

This week is Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem to undergo his passion, death and resurrection. This year's holy week is one that we will never forget. It is also one that we probably can relate to giving all that we are going through in our world today. Palm Sunday invites us to journey along. Our scripture readings today shed light on the redemptive sufferings of Jesus. We are invited to offer our own sufferings to him, hold our palms (a symbol of victory) and follow in Jesus' footsteps to eternal victory.

Jesus' journey was triumphal because his sufferings became the means of his victory. It's a victory he shares with us. Jesus' sufferings in his passion may be categorized into three: There is the mental, physical and spiritual aspects to what he suffered.

## **The mental suffering**

He endured would be those silent torture of the mind. St. Luke describes his sweating like clots of blood that falls to the ground (Luke 22:44). This is how it feels when a closest friend betrays you, companions flee from you, you are condemned falsely, the anguish of an impending uncertainty. It could be the uncertainty you feel when you are living under a pandemic lockdown. By

his mental suffering Jesus reaches out to all those who suffer like him.

## **Jesus also suffered physically**

He was tortured, beaten and battered. He fell down several times and was dragged along. Jesus revealed the depths of his suffering to Blessed Mary of Agreda. By his suffering, he has become the source of strength for all those who traverse this path (and there are so many of people).

## **The spiritual suffering**

The spiritual suffering he bore was the worst part. I am thinking of that point when he cried, "My God, my God why have you abandoned me". That moment when he felt abandoned by his divinity and disowned by his humanity. The anguish of the soul which suffering imposes on us in our weakness. There are several people who experiencing this kind of suffering on a daily basis seem to think that God has abandoned them. Jesus draws near to us and reaches out his hand to anyone who has to go through this path.

May we enter this week wholeheartedly, wielding our palm branches, symbol of victory and follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Today, let us examine our life's vision;

what are we pursuing? On Holy Thursday, let us rededicate ourselves to the Holy Eucharist; it is the Lord's body and blood. It is the meal of the new and everlasting covenant. On Good Friday, let us die with him. Let us accept his love for us and on Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday, let us rise from the tombs of our sins, and pains and fears to a new life of holiness, glory and grace.

## **Any Celebrations in our Cluster?**

As at the time we were compiling this there was no sign that the lockdown and social distancing was ending soon. If things change, we will let you know. In the meantime, please link up with some online worship and participate from a distance. God loves you!

## **Do I have any obligations towards my Church?**

As God blesses you remember to continue to support your Church financially for God blesses a cheerful giver.

I wish you God's blessings this holy week.

Blessings,

Father Francis Odoom

# **The Blessing of Unanswered Prayers**

For most of us life is no longer normal. Our regular routines have changed, and we have learned to create new routines for ourselves. Never would we have imagined that this would be our situation in the world today. Here we are about to celebrate the holiest time in the Catholic Church, Holy Week, and we are going to have to experience it virtually on our TVs, computers, and phone screens. Easter this year will definitely not be normal.

However, we cannot sit around worrying about the future. We must live in the present. This is the time to remember what Lent is truly all about. It is about preparing ourselves for Easter, for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. We have the opportunity during these coming days to deepen our spiritual life. Though our regular spiritual life may not be possible during this pandemic, we have the opportunity to increase our spirituality because we have more time available to us each day.

Time is God's great gift to us, and now more than ever we must give some of our own time back to God each day. Deepening our spiritual life through prayer and spiritual readings will give us strength and courage during this time of uncharted waters. Years ago Renolda Burnett, a long time member of Sacred Heart in Lost Nation and my Confirmation sponsor, gave me this prayer, and I share it with you now as a source of comfort during these difficult times.

## **The Blessing of Unanswered Prayers**

I asked God for strength that I might achieve;

I was made weak that I might learn humbly to obey.

I asked God for health that I might do greater things;

I was given infirmity that I might do better things.

I asked God for riches that I might be happy;  
I was given poverty that I might be wise.

I asked God for power that I might have the praise of men;  
I was given weakness that I might feel the need of God.

I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life;  
I was given life that I might enjoy all things.

I got nothing that I asked for,  
but everything I hoped for.

Almost despite myself my unspoken prayers were answered;  
I am, among all men, most richly blessed.

Colleen Burke  
Evangelization Team

# PALM SUNDAY



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## 10 Holy Week Activities for Families

- ☐ 1. Follow directions to fold your palms from Palm Sunday into a cross or another decorative shape. <http://www.catholicicing.com/how-to-fold-a-palm-cross-in-10-easy-steps/>
- ☐ 2. Attend at least one weekday or special church service or activity during Holy Week.
- ☐ 3. Attend Stations of the Cross or do a Stations of the Cross reflection or drawing project at home. Stations of the Cross for Children: <https://www.reallifeathome.com/printable-stations-of-the-cross-for-children/> Stations of the Cross Draw and Write Activity: <https://www.reallifeathome.com/stations-of-the-cross-activity/>
- ☐ 4. Pray for people in your church and around the world who are preparing for Easter, especially people living in parts of the world where it can be dangerous to be a Christian.
- ☐ 5. Make your own set of Resurrection Eggs to help children with the story of death and resurrection of Jesus. <http://www.catholicicing.com/catholic-resurrection-eggs/>
- ☐ 6. Maundy Thursday's focus on cleansing is a reason that families often used to thoroughly clean their homes right before Easter. Pick some areas of your home (or your whole home) for your family to clean during Holy Week to be fresh and ready for Easter.
- ☐ 7. On Maundy Thursday, do a foot washing with your family. Talk about ways each family member can serve others in the way that Jesus calls us to do.
- ☐ 8. Make hot cross buns together with your family. Find ways to have everyone join in on making them, even if it's just by adding in some ingredients or helping to add the icing crosses.
- ☐ 9. Spend time on Good Friday (particularly between noon and 3 pm) in prayer or reflection. Consider making it a time with no television or Internet.
- ☐ 10. Make these special Easter Story Cookies on Holy Saturday to enjoy on Easter. <http://www.catholicicing.com/how-to-make-easter-story-cookies-with-a-printable-recipe/> If you prefer, you can try these Empty Tomb Rolls: <https://lovelylittlekitchen.com/empty-tomb-rolls/>

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Office hours are suspended until we are not required to practice social distancing. The office email is checked each day several times. Also, the cluster answering machine is checked daily.

One more reminder to send your address, phone number and email address to the cluster email or the office PO Box.

### Prayer to Face the Pandemic

God, Our Father: Since you are with us, nothing that has happened, nothing still to come, can rob us of our hope in Christ. Sustain us, we beg you, during this time of uncertainty. Bless all the emergency and medical personnel who are caring for the sick and working to contain the outbreak. Grant swift recovery to those who are affected and comfort to their families and loved ones. Encourage those who are afraid. Bind us now, more than ever, to you and to each other, so that we may triumph by the power of him who loves us, our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen

### Notes from Cluster Parishioners-

HAPPY sunny day! Have been much more prayerful & am watching various inspirational shows on line. I've been listening to a great song "I Will Rise" on YouTube. Our choir had just begun learning it to sing on Easter before the chaos hit! I hope we can sing it in celebration after we can meet again. I've been thinking more about people in general & how they're coping. I've been walking in the neighborhood with 4 other gals about my age, of course keeping our distance & solving many of the world's problems!! I didn't realize how much I miss our church family & Fr. I didn't realize how much I miss our family--we're going to do a Zoom get together tomorrow. We're trying very hard to get settled in our new condo in Clarence, & I'm working on trying to get rid of more stuff! – Karen Bachman, OJ

Hello fellow parishioners, I don't have much down time being a full time nurse at Genesis Health System in Davenport IA , prayers would be great for our staff members and for our patients , really prayers are needed for our whole planet. I work on a 32 bed unit called the 6 th floor towers = The Medical / Pulmonary Unit , it has been designated to take care of all the Coronavirus/ COVID-19 patients , some test positive, some test negative . I thought it would be nice if parishioners and their families could make cards for Genesis Health System some examples would be for our ER , ICU , Medical/ Pulmonary Unit Medics , even for our local fire fighters , grocery store personnel etc. Times are hard right now but never give up on a HOPE , be SAFE and PRAY for BRIGHTER DAYS ahead Blessings from Joyce Barnes, GM

"I had an eye-opening moment.... I was told last week that I couldn't go to church. I woke up this morning and am not running around trying to get everyone dressed, teeth brushed, and shoes on to get out the door on time. My heart hurts, because I have never been told we couldn't go to church. I know that it is for the safety of all of our parishioners and that it will be broadcasted on Facebook somewhere, but it gave me the smallest inkling of what it is like to be told you can't worship God the way you want. This happens regularly in other countries with persecution, hatred and fear toward Christians. I sympathize with them on such a minute scale and woke up praying for all Christians in the world to stay strong and love God with all your heart, mind, and soul! The church is not a building, but today I miss it!" Lindsey Tague





### **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

Those who are unable to share in the Eucharist may make an act of spiritual communion, expressing their desire for the Sacrament.

As Pope St. John Paul II reminded us, using the words of St. Teresa of Jesus: “When you do not receive communion and you do attend Mass, you can make a spiritual communion, which is a most beneficial practice; by it the love of God will be greatly impressed on you.”

The following prayer, by St. Alphonsus Liguori, may be used to make an act of spiritual communion:

My Jesus,  
I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I long for You in my soul.  
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
As though You have already come,  
I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;  
never permit me to be separated from You.  
Amen.

### **Cluster Parish Prayer List**

#### **1. Our Shepherds:**

Bishop Thomas Zinkula, Archbishop  
Michael Jackels, Fr. Francis Odoom,  
Deacon Mike Shiel

#### **2. The Aged & Infirm:**

- Dick Nodurft, Melvin Duwa, Natalie Regan, Elmer & Dorothy Hasenmiller, Gloria Kagemann, Grace Kinney, & Carolyn Schwien.
- Betty Anderson, Rich Kleineck, Dennis Koppes, Wendy Larive, Jerica Christensen, Marilyn Stevenson, Rhonda Murphy, Leonard Lasack.

### **Pope Francis Prayer Intention For April**

We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

### **ONLINE MASS OPTIONS**

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Vatican News Live Stream of Pope Francis’ Masses— [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)

Catholic TV Mass—  
<https://www.watchthemass.com/>

EWTN Daily Mass—  
<https://www.ewtn.com/tv/schedule>

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception— <https://www.ewtn.com/tv/schedule>

Daily Mass on YouTube - [Catholic Mass Today](#)

Archbishop Jackels online for Mass each Sunday morning at 9:00 am until public Masses resume: [www.dbqarch.org/live-broadcasts](http://www.dbqarch.org/live-broadcasts)

St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church on Facebook— Mass, family rosary, praying together, etc.—Follow the page to join.

St. Joseph Catholic Church on Facebook— Mass—Follow the page to join.

#### **DAILY READINGS**

- Sunday:** Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-  
[2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14—27:66 or 27:11-54
- Monday:** Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14 [1a]/Jn 12:1-11
- Tuesday:** Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
- Wednesday:** Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34 [14c]/Mt 26:14-25
- Thursday:** **Chrism Mass:** Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21  
**Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:** Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 [cf. 1 Cor 10:16]/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15
- Friday:** Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 [Lk 23:46]/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42
- Saturday:** **Vigil:** Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 [30] or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 [5b]/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Ex 14:15—15:1/Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 [1b]/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [3]/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 [42:2] or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3] or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 [12a]/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mt 28:1-10
- Next Sunday:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10