

March 24th, 2024: Palm Sunday

Background on the Gospel Reading

This Sunday, called Palm or Passion Sunday, is the first day of Holy Week. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday are called the *Triduum*—three days that are the highlight of the Church year. There are two Gospels proclaimed at today's Mass. The first Gospel, proclaimed before the procession with palms, tells of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Riding on a borrowed colt, Jesus was hailed by the crowds as they blessed God and shouted "Hosanna!" This event is reported in each of the four Gospels.

When Jesus was arrested and brought before the Sanhedrin—the council of Jewish priests, scribes, and elders—he was charged with blasphemy, citing his threat to the Temple. When he was brought before Pilate, however, the religious authorities presented his crime as a political one, charging that Jesus claimed to be king of the Jews. In continuity with a theme of Mark's Gospel, the messianic claim of Jesus is widely misunderstood.

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus' disciples are rarely models of faith and do little to invoke confidence in their capacity to continue his ministry after his death. They fare no better in Mark's narrative of Jesus' passion and death. At the Last Supper, the disciples insisted that none among them would betray Jesus. When Jesus predicted that their faith would be shaken in the events ahead, Peter and the other disciples protested vehemently. Yet in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus returned three times to find them sleeping. Jesus prayed in agony over his impending fate while his disciples slumbered through the night. Just as Jesus predicted, Peter denied Jesus, and the disciples were absent during Jesus' passion and death. Only the women who had been followers of Jesus in Galilee are said to have been present at the Crucifixion, but they remained at a distance.

Throughout this Gospel, Mark challenges the reader to consider the claim with which the Gospel begins: Jesus is the Son of God. When we read Mark's account of the passion, we begin to comprehend the deeper theological statement being made about Jesus' death. In Mark's telling of the passion narrative, Jesus understood his death to have been preordained, and he accepted this death in obedience to God's will. Jewish Scripture is quoted only once, but there are several references to the fulfillment of the Scriptures. Jesus understood his anointing in Bethany as an anticipation of his burial, and he announced that this story would be told together with the Gospel throughout the world. Jesus predicted his betrayal by Judas as well as Peter's denial. At his arrest, Jesus acknowledged that the preordained time had arrived. Jesus was both confident and silent before his accusers. After he was sentenced to death, Jesus did not speak again until his final cry from the cross. The bystanders misunderstood and believed that he was calling for Elijah. The Roman centurion, however, affirmed what Mark has presented throughout this Gospel: Jesus is the Son of God. Nowhere was this revealed more fully than in his death on the cross.

During Holy Week, we prayerfully remember the events of Jesus' passion and death. As we meditate on the cross, we ask again and anew what it means to make the statement of faith that Jesus, in his obedient suffering and dying, revealed himself to us as God's Son.

www.loyolapress.com

**March 24, 2024
Palm Sunday**

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ



Parish Information

Pastor: **Fr. Lee Lainey**

Office Administrator: **Roseann Janes**

Office Hours: **Monday to Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

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sacredheartrcparish@hotmail.com
Password "Church"
Note: include your envelope #
www.sacredheartrcparish.ca

Diocesan website: rcchurch.com

Weekend Masses:

Weekday Mass:

See schedule in bulletin for Holy Week Thursday to Sunday
March 26 & 27th, 10a.m. - Tuesday, Wednesday,

Daily mass is cancelled any day schools are closed due to bad weather.

Lohnes Complex*

First Friday of each month - 2 pm at the Lohnes Complex.

***Note: No mass at the church on this day.**

Bible Study:

No study on March 28th. Later date to be determined.

Holy Hour of Adoration:

Postponed until further notice.

Reconciliation:

By request.

Marriages:

Six months' notice required. A year's notice is recommended.

Baptisms:

Please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation session.

Family Connections:

At www.rcchurch.com you will find a link to family connections.

St. Vincent de Paul:

To assist those in need. Call 709-638-9010.

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

March 16 & 17, 2024

Regular Sunday	1542.25
Loose Offering	154.25
Envelop Cost Contributions	10.00
Building Fund	20.00
Lenten Folders	265.00
Mass Stipends	30.00
Development & Peace	530.00
St. Vincent de Paul	60.00
Living with Christ	51.25

MASS INTENTIONS March 26-31

Tue. 10am	Parish Community
Wed. 10am	Parish Community
Thur. 7am	Late Michael Mullins
Fri.	No Mass this day
Sat. 9 pm	Late Christopher Pomroy
Sun. 11 am	Late James Wells

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

March 30	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Lynette Taylor	Eileen Moore
March 31	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Marie Pennell	Brian Sparkes
Communion to the sick – John Carroll	

OFFICE HOURS: Note that the office is closed on Good Friday, March 29th, 2024.

REHERSALS FOR HOLY WEEK:

Thursday March 28th at 10a.m.
 Friday March 29th at 10.a.m
 Saturday March 30th at 10a.m.

MASS SCHEDULE – Holy Week

Holy Thursday – March 28th, 2024
 – **Mass of the Lord’s Last Supper**
 4:30 p.m. – Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish
 7:00 p.m. – Sacred Heart Parish

Good Friday – March 29th, 2024
 – **Celebration of the Lord’s Passion**
 3:00 p.m. – Sacred Heart Parish
 5:00 p.m. – Our Lady Star of the Sea
 7:30 p.m. – Stations of the Cross
 – Sacred Heart Parish

Holy Saturday – March 30th, 2024
 – **Easter Vigil – The Lord’s Resurrection**
 9:00 p.m. – Sacred Heart Parish

Easter Sunday – March 31st, 2024
 – **The Lord’s Resurrection**
 9:30 a.m. – Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish
 11:00 a.m. – Sacred Heart Parish

READERS FOR HOLY WEEK:

Holy Thursday – March 28th, 2024
 Reader: Lynette Taylor

Good Friday – March 29th, 2024
 Reader: Joan Penney
 The Passion: Jacqueline Neville
 Mike Leonard

Holy Saturday – March 30th, 2024
 1st Reading: Art Hall
 3rd Reading: Mike Leonard
 5th Reading: Victor Murphy
 7th Reading: Calvin Gillis
 Epistle: Eileen Moore

THANK YOU & IN MEMORY:

Thank you to Dennis Blackwood for donating his time and talent in creating the beautiful window catchers/tree ornaments. Also, thank you to Father Jim Robertson’s family who purchased 25 ornaments and graciously donated \$375 extra to this fundraiser in his memory for a total of \$1175. Thank you to Joan Penney for selling all of these ornaments. Special thank you to all of our parishioners for supporting this fundraiser, God Bless you all. The ornaments are still available to buy through Joan Penney at 709-785-7465 or blackwood156@hotmail.com

MARCH BINGO:

The Sacred Heart Ladies Group would like to thank the following for their donation to the March Bingo, Bake sale table and Easter Baskets: Donna Beales, Loretta Bennett, Eileen Buckle, Liz Carew, Debbie Dolomount, Jeanie Brown, B.A.Dunphy, Madonne Elford, Madonna English, Sheila George, Linda Greene, Barbara Hayes, Veronica Hickey, Janet Jackson, Clara Joyce, Eddie Joyce, Judy Joyce, Eli Kelloway, Elaine Lynch, Helen McCarthy, Eileen Moore, Kay Musseau, Lisa Myles, Barbara Neville, Jackie Neville, Jennifer Noseworthy, Daniel O'Connor, Valerie O'Connor, Jim Park, Patsy Payne, Margie Pennell, Marie Pennell, Bridget Penney, Joan Penney, Mary Jo Perrett, Tara Quilty, Annette Rowsell, Bernice Rowsell, Rita Pye, Ann Marie Seaward, Carol Snow, Brian Sparkes, Mona Specker Maxine Staples, Bernice Stone, Veronica Stone, Dern Traverse, Rita Woodman, and Peggy Young. All donations that came in late will be posted in the near future. The winner for March was Jim Park. Next month, names beginning with A to E are asked to donate.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:

Poor Box Collection will be held during the Easter Weekend masses. Our society would not exist without your ongoing support, and we are very appreciative and grateful. God Bless!

NEEDS OF THE CHURCH IN THE HOLY LAND:

Special collection for the Needs of the Church in the Holy Land will be on Good Friday, March 29, 2024.

APRIL MONTH: The Church will be closed from April 1st to the 5th as Father Lainey will be away at this time and no mass will be held on these days. Mass will still be held at the Lohnes Complex on Friday April 5th at 2pm.

LIVING WITH CHRIST: We are now ordering our own books and they are available for sale in the back of the church. The first issue has arrived for April. The Triduum is also available.

Reflection Death of the Good Shepherd

Jesus said: “I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.”

Jesus did not have to suffer and die.
 He had a choice.

He chose to suffer and die because he cared about the flock God had entrusted to him.

What Jesus wants from us in not our suffering, but a life of love and service.

Such a life will inevitably bring suffering. But Jesus supports all those who follow him down the road of faithful love and generous service.

Flor McCarthy, New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies – Year B, Dominican Publications, Dublin (Ireland), 1999, p.98