

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION
April 13, 2014

Homily Next Week:
Father John D. Whitney, S.J.

Readings for April 20, 2014
FIRST READING: ACTS 10:34A, 37-43
SECOND READING: COLOSSIANS 3:1-4
GOSPEL: JOHN 20:1-9

Weekend Mass Schedule
Saturday - 5 pm
Sunday - 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:30 pm

Weekday Mass Schedule
Monday - Friday, 7 am, Parish Center

Reconciliation
Saturday - 3:30-4:15 pm in the Church
or by appointment

Parish Center Hours
Monday-Thursday - 8 am - 4:30 pm
Saturday - 9 am - 1 pm
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St. Joseph School

Main Office x210
Patrick Fennessy, Principal x218
Rick Boyle, Academic VP x215
Kris Brown, Vice Principal x216



Lent at St. Joseph

Let us ask ourselves about the state of our own heart? Do I have an open heart or a closed heart? It is opened or closed to God? Open or closed to my neighbour? We are always closed to some degree which comes from original sin, from mistakes, from errors. We need not be afraid! Let us open ourselves to the light of the Lord, he awaits us always in order to enable us to see better, to give us more light, to forgive us. Let us not forget this!

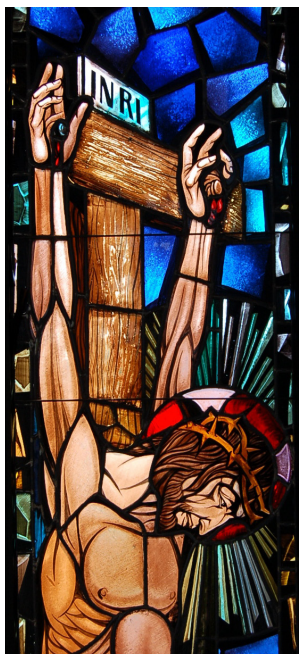
~Pope Francis

The Paschal Triduum

Holy Thursday ~ April 17th
4 to 6 pm ~ Reconciliation
7:00 pm ~ Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday ~ April 18th
Noon to 2 pm ~ Reconciliation
2:15 pm ~ Stations of the Cross
7:00 pm ~ Good Friday Liturgy

Holy Saturday ~ April 19th
8:00 pm ~ Easter Vigil



Easter Sunday ~ April 20th Masses
7:00 am & 9:00 am & 11:00 am

(Easter egg hunt for small children following the 9:00 am mass)

Please note, there is no daily 7 am Mass on April 17th & 18th & 19th

The Way of the Cross

*And touching our Society, be it known to you that we
have made a league—
all the Jesuits in the world—cheerfully to carry the cross
you shall lay upon us,
and never to despair your recovery, while we have a man
left to enjoy your Tyburn,
or to be racked with your torments, or consumed with
your prisons.
The expense is reckoned, the enterprise is begun; it is of
God, it cannot be withstood.*

-Edmund Campion, from "Campion's Brag"-

On Monday, seeking a bit of time off the hill and away from the church, I went to a coffee shop in Ballard, to read the last pages Evelyn Waugh's Edmund Campion. The book tells the story of the 16th century English Jesuit, martyred for his faith during the reign of Elizabeth. Campion was a scholar, a writer, an orator, a teacher, who was on a fast-track to prestige and power at Protestant Oxford, when he was drawn towards the faith of his ancestors and ended up fleeing England for the Catholic refuges of continental Europe. There he met the Jesuits, entering the Society in the Austrian Province and beginning a career as a teacher in Prague. Yet, within a few years, Campion was called upon to return to England, to serve those suffering there. Missioned to work in secret, he brought the Sacraments and proclaimed the gospel to a Catholic community in hiding. After more than year on the run, he was caught and imprisoned by the forces of the English government; yet, Campion stood fast in his faith through torture and repeated attempts at bribery; remained constant to his call and mission until he was finally executed—hung, drawn, and quartered—at the field called Tyburn on 1 December 1581.

It makes a wonderful an inspiring story, especially when read on a sunny morning in a safe and comfortable corner of the world.

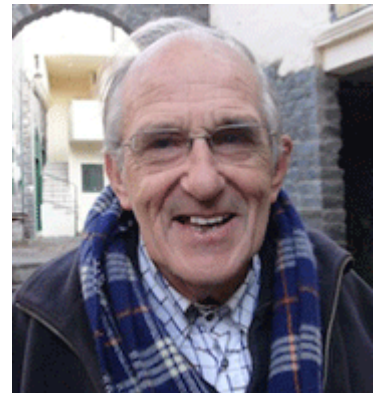
Yet, as I finished the book, and turned on my computer to check the news of the day, I was stunned to read of the assassination of a 75 year-old Jesuit, Fr. Frans van der Lugt, whose only crime was the love and care he gave to the people of God. On Monday morning, a masked gunman entered the monastery in Homs, Syria, where the priest lived. Taking him outside, the gunman executed the Jesuit with two gunshots to the head. Fr. van der Lugt, a Dutch native, had refused to leave this besieged city, in the center of Syria, to which he had been sent on mission in the mid-1960's. There, regardless of the political structures or religious division, he had served the poor and powerless, both Christians and Muslims, and loved them, as the image of Christ. A psychotherapist by training and prophet of

inter-religious dialogue, in the last months of his life, van der Lugt had become a voice to the world for the forgotten people of Homs, as they suffered the ravages of war and poverty. Like the shepherd who would not abandon his sheep, this good priest stood fast to a faith that does justice, and to a God made flesh in the poor and suffering of our world.

Suddenly, sitting in that bright coffee shop, in the safe confines of Ballard, I recalled again that the blood of Christ, spilled on Calvary, continues to be spilled in streets and prisons, on hillsides and plains, among the youth of Central Africa and the elderly of the Middle East. The sacrifice of Christ—given once and for all, for the salvation of humanity—echoes through the centuries: in the martyrdom of Perpetua and Felicity, and in the murder of Becket and More; on the scaffolds of Tyburn, and at the garden of the UCA in El Salvador; beneath the machetes of Rwanda, and the drones that fall upon Pakistan. The body of Christ, alive in each person for whom Jesus bore his cross, continues to be wounded and scourged, to be bloodied and even killed—but it is never overcome. This is the great mystery to which the martyrs gave witness, the great truth to which Campion and van der Lugt testified with their blood. For Christ has conquered the power of death, and no torturer nor gunman, no kidnapper nor suicide bomber, no cancer nor calamity can wrest from us the love that has been poured into our hearts for the salvation of the world.

This week, as the Church enters with Christ into the Holy City, Jerusalem, let us fix our eyes upon the Cross, and give our hearts to the One who suffers and dies for love of us. The love of Jesus Christ is our inheritance, and our mission. Let us become martyrs—witnesses—to this love and to the One who paid such a price that it might be ours. In the name of Jesus, let us love one another fearlessly and faithfully—as Campion did, as van der Lugt did—until death comes for us, and is, at last, swallowed up in Resurrection.

John





Lent at St. Joseph

Holy Week Reconciliation Schedule

Holy Thursday - April 17th - 2:00 to 4:00 pm

Good Friday - April 18th - 12:00 to 2:00 pm

*Please note there is no reconciliation on
Saturday, April 19th*

Celebration Of Penance

HOMILY OF POPE FRANCIS

**Vatican Basilica
Friday, 28 March 2014**

During the time of Lent, the Church, in the name of God, renews her appeal to repentance. It is the call to change one's life. Conversion is not the question of a moment or a time of the year, it is an undertaking that lasts one's entire lifetime. Who among us can presume not to be a sinner? No one. We are all sinners. The Apostle John writes: "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 Jn 1:8-9). And that is what is happening during this celebration and throughout this day of penance. The Word of God that we heard introduces us to two essential elements of Christian life.

The first: *putting on the new nature*. The new man, "created after the likeness of God" (Eph 4:24), is born in Baptism, when one receives the very life of God, which renders us his children and incorporates us into Christ and his Church. This new life permits us to look at reality with different eyes, without being distracted by things that don't matter and cannot last long, from things that perish with time. For this we are called to abandon the behaviour of sin and fix our gaze on what is essential. "A man is more precious for what he is than for what he has" (*Gaudium et spes*, n. 35). This is the difference between life deformed by sin and life illumined by grace. From the heart of the person renewed in the likeness of God comes good behaviour: to speak always the truth and avoid all deceit; not to steal, but rather to share all you have with others, especially those in need; not to give in to anger, resentment and revenge, but to be meek, magnanimous and ready to forgive; not to gossip

which ruins the good name of people, but to look more at the good side of everyone. It is a matter of clothing oneself in the new man, with these new attitudes.

The second element: *abiding in love*. The love of Jesus Christ lasts forever, it has no end because it is the very life of God. This love conquers sin and gives the strength to rise and begin again, for through forgiveness the heart is renewed and rejuvenated. We all know it: our Father never tires of loving and his eyes never grow weary of watching the road to his home to see if the son who left and was lost is returning. We can speak of God's hope: our Father expects us always, he doesn't just leave the door open to us, but he awaits us. He is engaged in the waiting for his children. And this Father also does not tire of loving the other son who, though staying at home with him the whole time, does not share in his mercy, in his compassion. God is not only at the origin of love, but in Jesus Christ he calls us to imitate his own way of loving: "as I have loved you, that you also love one another" (Jn 13:34). To the extent to which Christians live this love, they become credible disciples of Christ to the world. Love cannot bear being locked up in itself. By its nature it is open, it spreads and bears fruit, it always kindles new love.

Dear brothers and sisters, after this celebration, many of you will be made missionaries to offer to others the experience of reconciliation with God. "24 hours for the Lord" is an initiative to which many dioceses have adhered in every part of the world. To the many you will meet, you can communicate the joy of receiving the forgiveness of the Father and of rediscovering full friendship with him. And you will tell them that our Father expects us, our Father forgives us, and furthermore that he rejoices. If you go to him with your whole life, even with the many sins, instead of reproaching you, he will rejoice: this is our Father. This you must say, say it to many people, today. Whoever experiences divine mercy, is impelled to be an architect of mercy among the least and the poor. In these "littlest brothers" Jesus awaits us (cf. Mt 25:40); let us receive mercy and let us give mercy! Let us go to the encounter and let us celebrate Easter in the joy of God!





Prayer

The Order Of Malta



St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: For all of those who are suffering, may they know Our Lord is with them on their journeys . . . Gratitude for the Passion Play performance by our St. Joseph 8th graders under the guidance of their teachers and Mr. Rick Boyle.



***"Out of the depths, Lord, I call you
Let me feel you even in this darkness. . ."***

~ Psalm 130

If you have petitions you would like included in the prayer tree, including birth announcements, illnesses and deaths, please call the parish office at 206-324-2522 ext 100 or email rleet@stjosephparish.org

The Order of Malta, a service organization within the Church, has, as one of its principal purposes, the care of the sick and the poor, and are especially connected to the Grotto in Lourdes, where Mary appeared to St. Bernadette. In May, the Seattle Chapter of the Order of Malta will be going on Pilgrimage to Lourdes, to care for the sick and to serve at the waters of the Grotto.

Mr. Nick Waltner, a member of the Order of Malta, invites St. Joseph parishioners to send their intentions with the delegation. Petitions will be available in the vestibule of the church from April 5 thru Easter Sunday. They will then be hand delivered to the Grotto in Lourdes. You may fill out a prayer or intention and mail it to the address on the front of the petition.

After the Pilgrimage, bottles of the Lourdes water will be available at the Parish.

This is a rare opportunity for our community to ask the intercession of the Blessed Mother upon those who are ill or in need. If you have any questions, please contact Nick Waltner at Nicholas.Waltner@MadisonParkCP.com



Sacred Silence

A time for silent prayer and peace

The Sacred Silence prayer group gathers on Monday nights at 7 pm in the Church for an hour of silent prayer. Newcomers always welcome. Open to all types of prayer practice. People are encouraged to use whatever silent prayer practice works best for them

whether it is centering prayer, Ignatian imagination or another prayer. Time is spent both sitting and walking in silence.

For information on Sacred Silence and silent prayer contact Jim Hoover at jhoover3law@questoffice.net or 206-286-0313.

Prayer Opportunity

From now through the summer, the south doors of the church will remain open until 7:30 pm each day for personal prayer. Come in and sit and pray for a while!

For Those Who Cannot Eat Gluten, An Invitation to Eucharist

If you have celiac disease or a severe gluten allergy, you may receive the Eucharist in a gluten-free form from the Presider, who will have the consecrated host in a pyx. Please tell him that you need a gluten-free host, and he will allow you to remove it from the pyx in a safe manner. Remember: this pyx will only be with the Presider, so go to him.



Community

St. Joseph Men's Retreat

May 30 - June 1
God's Invitation and my Response

Please join us for a weekend retreat at Dumas Bay Center. The cost is \$160.00 per person. For questions or to register, please contact Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646 or stevev@stjosephparish.org

St. Joseph's Easter Egg Hunt For Children

Easter Sunday, April 20th after the 9 am Mass on the Front Lawn.

Please bring: a dozen pre-filled plastic Easter Eggs (per child) in advance to the Parish office by noon on Friday, April 18th

Office Hours: M-F 8-11:30 am; 12:30-4:30pm

Good Friday, April 18th closed at Noon

Meet the Easter Bunny & enjoy
coffee & donut hospitality.

To help or for questions, please call or email Dottie
Farewell at: dfarewell@stjosephparish.org
or 206-965-1652

Endowment for St. Joseph School Golf Tournament

Thursday, May 15, 2014
Newcastle Golf Club

St. Joseph families, friends and alumni are invited to attend. You can register as an individual and be matched up to play with people from the parish, parents from the same grade or a ladies group.

Registration for golfers and sponsorship opportunities are available here:
<http://www.stjosephsea.org/golf-tournament>.

For more information please contact Najat Cola at (206) 992-9125 or najat@colamg.com

Oso Relief

*We must speak to them with our hands by giving,
before we try to speak to them with our lips.*

St. Peter Claver, SJ

Over and over, members of this community open their hearts to share with those in need and we can't thank you enough. During Masses last weekend, we collected a stunning **\$23,821.33 of donations to benefit those impacted by the Oso Mudslide**. Thank you to everyone who has donated so far...

Please know that two-thirds of Oso donations will be sent to a special fund held by Catholic Community Services for Rev. Timothy J. Sauer, Pastor at St. John Vianney Church (Darrington) and Immaculate Conception Church (Arlington). These parishes are reaching out to and assisting people in the Oso community in a variety of ways, including helping to defray funeral and burial costs for loved ones. The parishes have opened their facilities to be used by Mental Health Counselors. In addition, Fr. Sauer has also responded to a request by the Snohomish County Human Services Department to place community 'navigators' at the parishes. These are representatives from various community-based agencies who will be able to assist those impacted to receive the services they need.

The remaining one-third will be sent to St. Vincent de Paul North Sound Council to assist in preventing evictions, keeping power and heat turned on, providing food for families, arranging doctor visits, providing assistance with childcare, and more. Members of the local St. Vincent de Paul conference make personal in-home visits to help people with survival and self-sufficiency support.

Thank you again and again for your generosity to those affected by the Oso disaster!





Community

Sacramental Preparation Volunteers Needed

We need your help for our First Communion Weekend! Volunteers needed to help with receptions after the First Communion masses and preparation before the event, on the weekend of May 10th & 11th. Please call or email Dottie Farewell if you are available to help: dfarewell@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1652. (Volunteer hours will count towards your school volunteer time).

Prayer Shawl Ministry



Please join us for an evening of prayer, knitting, and fellowship. ALL levels of knitting ability are welcome. The St. Joe's Prayer Shawl Ministry is going strong with many beautiful shawls completed. They have been blessed and will go to people in need

of comfort and healing. Please mark your calendars for the following meeting dates and join us for any of the dates that work for your schedule. (Shawls can always be worked on at home in between meetings.)

Meetings will be in the Parish Center from 7 to 9 in the evening.

Thursday, May 1st
Thursday, June 5th

Yarn is available if desired. We welcome yarn donations from the parish. Worsted and bulky weight yarns are best. Please leave donations in the parish center office. If you have any questions or need help getting started, please contact Jennifer Rothmeyer at jennifer-rothmeyer@hotmail.com

Seniors On The Go

- **Friday, April 25th** - Join us in attending the Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival at the Seattle Center. Meet at St. Joseph's at 10:00 am. Please bring your own lunch. To register contact Renee at 324-2522 or rleet@stjosephparish.org
- **Friday, May 2nd** - Healing Mass at 11:30 am followed by Seniors Luncheon in the Parish Center.
- **Thursday, May 15th** - SENIORS Potluck Dinner at 6:00 pm in the Parish Social Hall.
- **Thursday, May 22nd** - Tour Of St James Cathedral followed by lunch at the Frye Museum. Meet at Parish Center at 10:30 am.
- **Friday, June 6th** - Healing Mass at 11:30 am followed by Seniors Luncheon in the Parish Center. Join us for a barbeque with Father Jack O'Leary.

We Are St. Joseph Service Days & Celebration Dinner

MAY 16 & 17 2014

If you would like to help plan both our service days as well as our celebration dinner please contact Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

St. Joseph MOM'S Group

Growing Your Spiritual Garden
Wednesday Morning, April 16

9:30-11 am, coffee & check-in begins at 9 am

St. Joseph Parish Center - Main Floor

Childcare available (advanced notice required)

Cost: \$25 or \$30 including childcare (scholarships available)

Come deepen your Lenten experience through this series using gardening as a metaphor for the unfolding of the Pascal Mystery. Our mornings will include prayers, quiet reflection and group sharing.

To reserve your place, please contact Lori Schwebel at laschwebel@aol.com or 206.948.7804.



Community

Discernment in Daily Life

5 Thursday evenings, April 24 - May 22, 2014 |
6:30 - 9:00 pm | St. Joseph Parish Center, Seattle

Are you looking for guidance in making a prayerful life decision, such as discerning your calling, staying in a relationship, determining what to do in retirement, or another life question? Or are you searching for tools for making your choices in daily life with prayerful intentionality? If so, join a group of people with similar questions. Through prayer, presentations and small group reflection, you will learn a process to integrate listening for God's presence in your life decisions, prayerfully consider guidelines for discernment taught by St. Ignatius, and experience meaningful group reflection.

For more info or to register, contact Andrea Fontana at andrea@ignatiancenter.org or 206.329.4824. www.ignatiancenter.org

Cabrini Ministry Training

Save the date and plan to join us.

Join Brian DesRoches, PhD as he expands our awareness of the power that a deep listening presence has in all of our relationships.

May 2 (6 – 9 pm)
7th Annual Have A Heart Dinner
St. Joseph – 732 18th Ave E Seattle

Cabrini Ministry Training forms Christians in the Catholic Tradition for compassionate pastoral service in our community to bring Christ's healing presence to God's people. For more information visit, www.cabriniministry.org Patt Reade – Executive Director (206) 760-0583.



Catholic Schools Robotics Extravaganza

Saturday, May 3rd, 9 am-11 am
Seattle Prep Gym
Free!!! All ages welcome.

The Robots are coming—let the craziness begin!!

This year's Extravaganza is just exploding with fun! Get this -- we'll have lava bombs, slingshots, catapults, and more! A 2 foot long Kraken monster, dueling 18" robots, and two giant ball flinging competition bots at 120lbs each! The bomb disposal robot, a programming station, and special surprises, one after another. They'll be tossing, launching, flipping, popping, and throwing things all over the place!!!

Plus, it's free!!!

If you have kids of any age who are interested in crazy applications of science, this is the place to be! It will be a morning of wild science, robots, and things that fly through the air.... Hardhats and safety goggles optional.

Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH

Internationally renowned speaker, author and spiritual leader Father Richard Rohr, OFM, will be presenting a meditation on the resurrection from his book, *Immortal Diamond-The Search for the True Self* on Holy Saturday morning, 9:00-12:00 Noon at Our Lady of Guadalupe's Parish Life Center/Gym. Doors open at 8:30 am. Event is free but donations will be gratefully accepted.

Dinner & Dialogue

April 22nd
Vincent Sekhar, S.J. at 5:30-7:00 pm in STCN 160
(LeRoux Room) at Seattle University.

The theme is "Neighborliness: Seeds, Challenges and the Practice of Interreligious Dialogue in India." Fr. Vincent Sekhar attended the University of Madras, and is one of the few Christians to receive a doctorate in Jain religion and philosophy. He has served as the Secretary for Interreligious Dialogue for the Jesuit Conference of South Asia. The event is free and open to the public. Please RSVP at ICTC@seattleu.edu.



Liturgy & Music

This Week On the Willis...

You might have wondered since the beginning of Lent, “Where has the organ gone?” For most of the year I usually play a prelude 5 minutes before the start of each Mass and accompany the exit procession of the priest and ministers at the end of Mass. But Lent is a very different season in the church. It is a season of not only repentance but also restraint. Instrumental music is one way that the liturgy shows restraint during this season. The liturgical norms of Lent discourage solo instrumental music, asking that all instruments only accompany assembly singing when needed. Now that we are entering Holy Week and are about to celebrate the holiest of days in the church calendar with the Paschal Triduum, the organ will come back to life, and with much fervor. This will be a time of celebration and exultation, and you can expect to hear some jubilant and exciting music throughout the weeks of Easter. Below is a list of what I will be playing on the organ in the coming weeks. I hope that you will enjoy all of the music as we move into this new, happiest of seasons.

John Stuntebeck, Organist/Pianist

<u>4.17.2014</u>	Holy Thursday	
Prelude	Grave from <i>Concerto in G-Major</i> , BWV 592	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
<u>4.20.2014</u>	Easter Sunday	
Prelude	Praeludium in G-Major, BWV 541	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
Procession	Trumpet Voluntary in D	Jeremiah Clarke (c. 1673-1707)
<u>4.27.2014</u>	Easter II – A	
Prelude	Chorale	William Mathias (1934-1992)
Procession	Processional	William Mathias
<u>5.11.2014</u>	Easter IV – A (1 st Communion)	
Prelude	Mvt. I from <i>Concerto in G-Major</i> , BWV 592	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
Procession	Presto from <i>Concerto in G-Major</i> , BWV 592	J.S. Bach
<u>5.18.2014</u>	Easter V – A	
Prelude	Andante, BWV 527	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
Procession	Vivace, BWV 527	J.S. Bach
<u>5.25.2014</u>	Easter VI – A (Memorial Day Weekend)	
Prelude	Aria from <i>Goldberg Variations</i> , BWV 988	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
Procession	Ciacona in e-minor, BuxWV 160	Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)
<u>6.1.2014</u>	Ascension	
Prelude	Adagio, Sonata I	Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
Procession	Allegro moderato e serioso	Felix Mendelssohn
<u>6.8.2014</u>	Pentecost	
Prelude	Komm, Heiliger Geist, Herr Gott, BuxWV 200	Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)
Procession	Allegro assai vivace, Sonata I	Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

All repertoire is subject to change without notice.



Social Ministry

Puget Sound Blood Center

Monday, April 14th
Blood Drive @ St Joseph's Parish Center
1:00 pm to 7:00 pm | Closed 3:00-4:00

Appointments available in the Parish Center lobby

Blood donation is a manifestation of love and compassion. The mandate to "love your neighbor" was stated by Jesus (Matthew 5:43), Paul (Romans 13:9), and James (James 2:8), but it can actually be traced all the way back to Leviticus 19:18. From the earliest days in the Old Testament, God's people were commanded to demonstrate a love for God as well as for their neighbors. Being willing to donate blood from our own bodies would be a perfect example of selfless sacrifice for another.

We have the utmost example of this in the sacrifice that Jesus Christ made as He gave up His body for all of humanity. John summed up the command well when he wrote, "Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another" (1 John 4:11). As Jesus was trying to convey this message of unconditional love for others, He spoke of caring for the hungry, thirsty, homeless, naked, sick, and imprisoned (Matthew 25:35-46). He went on to clarify: "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40). Jesus also used the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) to teach that we, as Christians, are to be kind and to show love toward everyone.

Showing love is sharing our health- and summoning up courage and bravery to take less than an hour to donate blood to save the life of another human being. Not just one life, but three!

But you too, help one another: help one another always. One another. In this way, by helping one another, we will do some good.

~Pope Francis



Please bring your Rice Bowl Collection to Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper or drop it off at the Parish office this week.

Rice Bowl

Palm Sunday

CRS Rice Bowl Reflection: Assisting our Neighbors

25% of contributions to CRS Rice Bowl remain in our diocese, helping to support local poverty and hunger alleviation programs. This week, we pray for people in our own community who struggle with poverty and hunger. Give to your Rice Bowl to support programs that help the poor in our own community, as well as in communities around the world.

Entering the Holy City

Gospel readings: Matthew 26:14-27:66

"Let this cup pass from me; yet, not as I will, but as you will."

Imagine Jesus, a man who had been praying and fasting for forty days in the desert; a man who had been driving away demons, raising the dead, curing the sick and the blind. Now he enters into the Holy City, not on a stallion or in a chariot as you would expect a king to enter, but on the back of a lowly donkey that his disciples find tied to a tree!

"Meek" is the word the Gospel uses to refer to this King, and we understand why as we examine his life – from his birth in a stable, to his entrance into the Holy City, to his death of crucifixion, a method reserved for slaves and criminals.

As we examine these details of Jesus' life, we see that Jesus was not a king of this world. Although he could have asked God to take away his suffering – to ask him for help – he does not. Jesus asks, "Do you think that I cannot call upon my Father and he will not provide me at this moment with more than twelve legions of angels? But then how would the Scriptures be fulfilled which say that it must come to pass in this way?" Jesus has entirely surrendered to God's will up until the end of his life!

In our prayer this week, we ask for this humbleness. And we ask to see Jesus in those who may not appear, to our eyes, to be worthy of our praise, attention, or gifts. Who are our present-day kings in disguise?

“Let us become bearers of hope!” Pope Francis

Rice Bowl Collection - Holy Thursday

Each year during Lent, our parishioners rely on the CRS Rice Bowl program as an inspiration for prayer, fasting, and giving, helping us to focus our resolve to follow Jesus' call to live in solidarity with the poorest and most vulnerable. On Holy Thursday, please bring your Rice Bowls to Mass. We will collect your gifts and send to Catholic Relief Services. Our entire collection that day will also be sent to CRS for the Rice Bowl program. Know that 25% of Rice Bowl contributions remain in this archdiocese for grants to organizations such as St. Martin de Porres, Sacred Heart Shelter, the Food Bank at St. Marys, and hundreds of other organizations. 75% of contributions help fund development projects in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America to produce more food, increase income, and address poverty.

Collection for the Holy Land – Good Friday

Join with fellow parishioners and support Christians in the Holy Land. For 800 years the Holy See has entrusted to the Franciscans the care of the Holy Places for the benefit of Christians who live there and all who come as pilgrims from around the world. With help from Catholics all around the world, the Franciscans of the Holy Cross of the Holy Land ensure staffing and maintenance of existing Holy Places, care of the 29 Holy Land parishes, assistance to poor and vulnerable residents, support for 10,000 school children, among other works. Our entire collection on Good Friday will be sent to support this important ministry of the worldwide Church.

