

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

TODAY'S MESSAGE

PASSION

The contrast between the processional reading in today's liturgy and the proclamation of the Passion is striking. We are given a glimpse of how profoundly the word of God is fulfilled in Jesus.

First he must be hailed as the Messiah, the One Who Is to Come. He must be acknowledged by all, though they do not know what they are saying. They think he is the promised king, a worldly king of the Jews who will free them from the Roman occupation. They do not yet understand, even the disciples, exactly where this triumphal procession is leading. In our lives, we too do not know where we are going. It is in faith that we can follow Christ wherever he may lead us, trusting that death is not the end, nor evil the victor.



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MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, April 5:

Readings: *Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16* (procession); *Is 50:4-7; Ps 22; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1-15:47 [15:1-39]*

Monday, April 6:

Readings: *Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11*

Tuesday, April 7:

12:15 pm Thomas Rauseo †
Readings: *Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38*

Wednesday, April 8:

8:30 am Mary McNulty †
12:15 pm Thomas Rauseo †
Readings: *Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25*

Thursday, April 9:

Readings: *Chrim Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9; Ps 89; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21*
Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

Friday, April 10:

Readings: *Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42*

Saturday, April 11:

Readings: a) *Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; c) Ex 14:15 — 15:1; d) Is 54:5-14; e) Is 55:1-11; f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Mk 16:1-7*

Second Collection this Friday:

..... Good Friday

Second Collection next weekend:

..... Easter Sunday

2009 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

We sincerely thank all of those who have so generously supported our parish and our local Church through the 2009 Annual Diocesan Appeal. A gift on behalf of our diocesan family benefits not only the least of our brothers and sisters but also ourselves. To date, 312 pledges from our parishioners have contributed \$103,314 or 88.7% towards our goal of \$116,250. We are very grateful for the support of all our parishioners who have been so generous. This is our once-a-year opportunity to show the Diocese our support—and we have done just that. Thank you for your help in this most important parish-wide endeavor by faithfully walking with Christ and listening to His call to share our gifts with others.



Please Pray

FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND — Nancy Condon, Nicholas Humy, Chet Maksim, Devin Wakefield, Cypress Winters, Fr. Charlie Macedo, Carole Stuart, Mary Harvey, Rita McAlester, Sherry Kruep, Carson Enghardt, John Martin, Joseph Seebach, Bill Belcher, Tony Artero, Maria de Jesus Gutierrez

FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED — Brian Franklin, Alan McPherson, Lena DeFrenza, Fr. Charles Dougherty, Fr. Barry Freyne, Frances Kral, Kirk Martin, Elaine Doyle, Jack Morrisroe

Pray For Lists guidelines: • Have permission from the person to be listed. • Go through the Pastoral Home Ministry to list the names. • Names will be on the list for 3 months and then be removed. • Can request names to be continued after 3 months. Contact the Pastoral Home Ministry 650-494-2496 x22 or fongmt@hotmail.com

PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday April 11 & 12, 2009

St. Albert the Great
Sat 8:00 pm **Easter Vigil** Fr. Aranha & Fr. Gutiérrez
Sun 9:00 am Fr. Aranha

St. Thomas Aquinas
Sun 7:30 am Fr. Hester
Sun 8:45 am Msgr. Boyle
Sun 10:30 am Fr. Gutiérrez
Sun 12 noon Fr. Nahoe

Our Lady of the Rosary
Sun 9:00 am (español) .. Fr. Gutiérrez
Sun 10:30 am Fr. Aranha

Please note our email address:
bulletin@paloaltocatholic.org

BULLETIN ARTICLE DUE
Apr 19 **Thu** Apr 9 noon
Apr 26 ... **Thu** Apr 16 noon



Our Weekly Offering

March 15 \$ 9,830.00
St. Elizabeth Seton School \$ 4,085.00
thank you for your continued generosity

Year To Date

Actual YTD .. \$ 434,481.63
Budget YTD .. \$ 457,852.35
Variance - 5.10 %

April 5, 2009

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, April 5: Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

9:15 am Rel. Ed. Sac. Prep. (OLR)

10:15 am Rel. Ed. Sac. Prep. (SAG)

Monday, April 6: Monday of Holy Week

7:30 pm Medjugorje Group (KC)

Tuesday, March 7: Tuesday of Holy Week; World Health Day

9:00 am Theatre Play (OLRH)

6:30 pm Sedar Meal (OLRH)

7:00 pm Centering Prayer (PC)

Wednesday, April 8: Wednesday of Holy Week; Passover begins at sunset

Thursday, April 9: Holy Thursday; Paschal Triduum begins; Paschal full moon

11:00 am Seton Dev. (SAGC)

7:00 pm First Communion (PC)

7:00 pm Thomas Merton (SAGC)

Friday, April 10: Good Friday of the Lord's Passion; Fast and Abstinence;

Pastoral Center Closed

7:00 pm Young Adult (OLRH)

Saturday, April 11: Holy Saturday; Vigil of Easter

Second Collection this Friday:

..... *Good Friday*

Second Collection next weekend:

..... *Easter Sunday*

FUNERAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE

The funeral reception committee has an urgent need for volunteers to co-chair this important and rewarding ministry. We provide refreshments and a welcoming environment for parishioners families and friends after a funeral or memorial service. There are many willing hands to help (we can always use more). To volunteer and for more information call Winnie McGannon at 493-6823 and leave a message or e-mail to jwinnie@pacbell.net

UPCOMING PARISH & DIOCESE EVENTS

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK APRIL 7TH – SEDER DINNER 6:30pm you're invited to the parish Seder Dinner at Our Lady of the Rosary Hall. Enjoy a traditional lamb dinner with readings and an explanation of the Seder Dinner traditions. The dinner cost is \$10 and any additional donations will be sent to Father Jack Donald who grew up in our parish and ministers in Honduras. Call Laurie at 494-3572 or email Jeanne at jeanne@ramos.be to reserve a place for dinner.

The Seder supper is traditionally the meal Jews share to celebrate when Jewish firstborn were "passed-over" by the Angel of Death and Jews were liberated from slavery in Egypt. Passover is traditionally thought of as a redemptive, liberating Holy Day. It is believed that Jesus' Last Supper was a Seder meal.

St. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH HOLY WEEK 2009

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

April 4 & April 5, 2009

Spanish Mass at OLR begins at 8:30 am

All other Masses and Church sites are the same as regular weekends

Procession with Palms – Dry weather, starts outside; wet weather, starts in vestibule

PARISH COMMUNAL SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday April 6, 2009

7:30 pm Our Lady of the Rosary (Bi-lingual)

CELEBRATION OF THE SEDER MEAL

Tuesday April 7, 2009

6:30 pm Our Lady of the Rosary Hall

TENEBRAE SERVICE

Wednesday April 8, 2009

8:00 pm St. Anne's Chapel, with the Gregorian Choir

HOLY THURSDAY

April 9, 2009

Morning Prayer 7:15 am St. Thomas Aquinas

8:30 am Our Lady of the Rosary

All Parish Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

7:30 pm Our Lady of the Rosary (Multi-lingual)

Chapel stays open until 10:00 pm for quiet personal prayer

GOOD FRIDAY

April 10, 2009

Morning Prayer 7:15 am St. Thomas Aquinas

8:30 am Our Lady of the Rosary
Celebration of the Lord's Passion, Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion

From 12 noon to 3:00 pm St. Thomas Aquinas

5:30 pm St. Thomas Aquinas (Gregorian)

7:30 pm Our Lady of the Rosary (Spanish)

Stations of the Cross

3:00 pm Our Lady of the Rosary

7:30 pm St. Albert the Great

THE EASTER VIGIL

Saturday April 11, 2009

8:00 pm St. Albert the Great (Multi-lingual)

Reception follows in St. Albert Hospitality Center

The Easter Vigil continues at

St. Thomas Aquinas Church 11:00 pm (Gregorian)

EASTER SUNDAY

April 12, 2009

Regular Sunday schedule

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Gospel Summary : Read Sunday's gospel, Mark 14:1-15:47

The Passion reading in Mark's gospel is the shortest of all gospel accounts and is known for its swift impact and drama. It begins with an unnamed woman pouring expensive perfume on Jesus' head and continues through the Last Supper, Jesus and his disciples praying in Gethsemane, the arrest of Jesus, his trial, crucifixion, death and burial. Of course the disciples scattered and made no claim to Jesus. He was left alone to die a degrading death. Some women stood and watched at a distance and a Jewish man, Joseph of Arimathea, gave him a tomb.

Reflection for Families : It's human nature, even the nature of our own children, to cry out when an injustice has taken place. I didn't do it, or It's not my fault, are phrases that wear us thin dealing with infractions in our children's lives day after day. But don't we marvel at how much Jesus suffered without a word. He didn't argue with Pilate. He didn't even express sadness at the desertion of his disciples. In fact, he knew that Judas would betray him and Peter would deny him. Like Jesus, we hope for the best of strength and courage from our children, but things will happen in their lives where they fail. The most important lesson we can learn from Jesus is that of the unconditional love he had for his disciples. Even after they denied and deserted him, he still came to them in love and reconciliation.

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family : Throughout the Passion of Jesus, we see much suffering and disappointment. People accuse Jesus, desert him, betray him and in the end, execute him. There is very little joy in this long account of Jesus' final days on this earth. But as Jesus promised, there was joy and that is truly good news for us. Where are the places in this world, in our community, or even in your family where all you can see is unhappiness and gloom. Take another look at these situations and see where is the hand of God, the Good News, the hope. Look hard and help one another find the joy. Share what you see.

Children Candidates & Elect : Please keep in your prayers the children preparing for their final initiation into the church on Easter Vigil. Let us all share in their excitement and joy. Elect: Natalie Snyder. Candidates: Peter and Patricia Valbuena, Noah Marriott, Emma Villarreal.

Mark Your Calendars:

April 5th Reg. Classes – All Parent Mtg. Including Sac. Prep Parents

April 12th No Classes – Easter! Rejoice!

April 19th Reg. Classes at OLR Site

*** April 19th First Communion at SAG Site

*** April 26th Reg. Classes at SAG Site

*** April 26th First Communion at OLR Site

For information on any of the items listed, please contact Susan Clingingsmith, Dir. of Rel. Ed. at youth@paloaltocatholic.org or 650-494-2496 x25.

WIDOWS & WIDOWERS

THURSDAY, APRIL 9TH – TULIP TIME AT FILOLI Widows and widowers are welcome to join the group on April 9 for a springtime visit to Filoli when the tulips should be in full bloom. We will meet in the main building near the restaurant at 11 a.m. for lunch. After lunch we will walk around the grounds and enjoy all the spring blooms. The restored house will also be open for those that are interested. The address for Filoli is: 86 Canada Road, Woodside, California.

THANK YOU

The Human Concerns Committee wishes to say a BIG thank you to all those who have supported their Fair Trade Gift Sale over the weekend of Mar 21-22 and Mar 28. We are especially impressed by the fact that many in our parish are already buying fair trade products whenever they can. Local businesses that sell an increasingly wider variety of fairly traded products include JJ&F, Molly Stone's, Country Sun, Draeger's, Trader Joe's and Piazza's. It is really gratifying to know that both the individuals and businesses in our community are so responsive to this commitment to building solidarity with our brothers and sisters in the third world and to achieve a more just and equitable global economy. We can keep up the efforts by doing one or more of the following: a) getting supermarkets, grocers and cafe to carry more Fair Trade certified products, esp. coffee, tea and chocolate; b) write to the Chocolate Manufacturers' Assoc. (8320 Old Courthouse Road, Ste 300, Vienna, VA 22182) urging them to ensure that cocoa imported in the U.S. is not harvested by enslaved children; and c) tell the Ivory Coast Government (c/o Ambassador Koffi Moise at the Embassy of Cote de'Ivoire, 3421 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20007) that you expect responsible actions from them, which include finding and prosecuting adult traffickers, monitoring the farms for labor abuses, reporting on findings to the public, and programs to prevent the use of child labor in cocoa harvesting.

"We truly believe that successful marketing of fairly traded goods ultimately helps producers get away from acute poverty in less developed countries such as Nepal." - Mahaguthi: Crafts with a Conscience, Nepal