

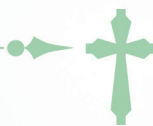
---

# PALM SUNDAY

SUNDAY APRIL 5, 2020

---

# HOSANNA



“Hosanna to the Son of  
David / blessed is he  
who comes in the name  
of the Lord.”

MATTHEW 21:9

# READINGS FOR PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

## PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL:

“Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest.” (Mt 21:9b)

## FIRST READING:

The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced. (Is 50:7a)

## PSALM:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22)

## SECOND READING:

He humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (Phil 2:8)

## GOSPEL:

But Jesus cried out again in a loud voice, and gave up his spirit. And behold, the veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. (Mt 27:11-50-51)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 5, 2020

Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord  
Wednesday: Administrative Professionals' Day  
Thursday: Holy Thursday  
Friday: Good Friday  
Saturday: Holy Saturday  
Next Sunday: Easter Sunday



## REFLECT

### FIRST READING

The prophet Isaiah speaks of his commitment to his calling regardless of the consequences he suffers. Who do you see today modeling this depth of faith?

### SECOND READING

This Christological hymn in Philippians is one of the earliest attempts by believers to define who Jesus is. What do you find interesting or provocative about how Jesus is defined here?

### GOSPEL READING

Matthew's passion narrative has a number of unique details, including the report of "the saints" rising from their tombs and appearing to "many" after Jesus' resurrection. What do you think Matthew was teaching us with the inclusion of this episode?

## THE 6 CHARACTERISTICS OF AN EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP FOR LENT – ACCOUNTABLE

Easter is only a week away, and churches everywhere in the West are beginning the holiest of weeks. For a moment, even the secular world will bow to religious observances: closings on Good Friday, Easter baskets filled with treats, and television specials featuring Biblical figures. You and I will be reflecting on the meaning of Lent and how we have died and risen with Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Either we have prepared well for this Holy Week observance, or we are left lamenting that maybe next year will be when we get back on track.

The question before us is: “To whom are we accountable?” Did our Lenten observance only have to do with us? Does it matter to anyone if we really took this time seriously or not?

Both faith and community are gifts from God to us. The Church exists so we may live out that faith and respond to God’s call, being strengthened by the grace imparted through the sacraments and the community in which we find ourselves. If we are accountable to no one, then the community is simply an option on a Sunday morning, much like golf or household chores. If we are not accountable to God, then our faith is simply something we look to periodically when we are sad or frightened.

However, if we are accountable to each other and to Jesus Christ, then we must answer for our stewardship gifts of faith and community. The Body of Christ is counting on us. Without a strong sense of accountability, we think our actions only affect us. In the end, we are connected to each other through Christ in such a manner that no one ever stands alone.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## WHY DO CATHOLICS MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS?

The sign of the cross is a devotional practice that dates back to the first Apostles. When making the sign of the cross, we remember Jesus Christ who died for us and also bear witness to the fact that we belong to him and are called to share the Good News to all the world. At our Baptism, we were signed with a cross and marked for Christ. That mark remains on us throughout the entirety of our lives. We remind ourselves of that mark every time we make the same gesture over our bodies. We also remind ourselves that to be a Christian means we are to “put on Christ” and be Christ for a world that needs to know him. In a way, this devotional gesture covers us with Christ so that others may see him in us.



APRIL 5, 2020

# LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Listen carefully to the passion of Christ as it unlocks the door that brings us to the true meaning of human life. Holding what seems like opposite polarities of human existence, it weaves us through the highest of triumphs and the darkest of tragedies. As we witness and meditate upon Jesus's last days on earth, we see most vividly that God is present in and through it all. God is not only the glue that holds all of life's seemingly opposing experiences together, but He is the One who offers incredible promise and hope on our road to fulfillment and eternal life. It was only through experiencing the burning agony of suffering's loneliness and heart-wrenching pain that Jesus experienced the joyful exultation of his resurrected self. There are profound lessons here for all of us to learn.

PEACE  
IN HEAVEN  
AND GLORY IN  
THE HIGHEST.

LK 19:38

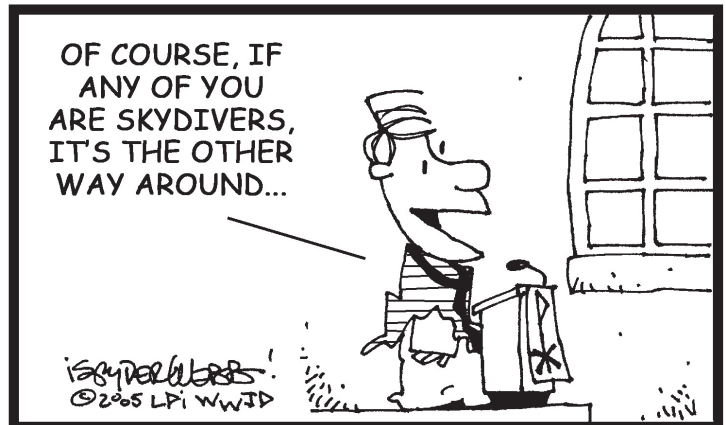
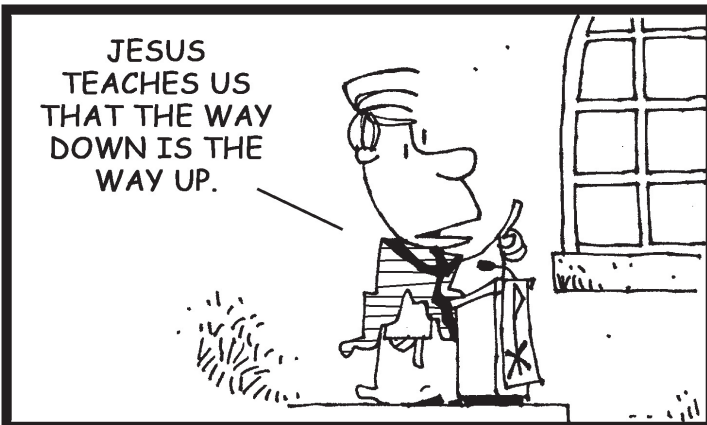
©LPI

## PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time. Thank you!



## PALM SUNDAY



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

## GOSPEL MEDITATION PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Human beings are united in their suffering. When we find ourselves in a painful moment, our first reaction is “why me?” as if we are the only person on earth who ever encountered this challenge. Going through life with a “why me” attitude only finds us wallowing in the mire of self-pity and never seizing opportunities or graces. We walk in solidarity with every human being in the experience of suffering. Believing that the goal of life is the elimination or avoidance of suffering is simply an illusion that keeps us entrenched in a collective myth. This myth distorts us and limits us.

There are living witnesses among us showing how courage and determination can overcome any degree of hardship, pain, loss, or tragedy. Folks finding the normalcy of their lives suddenly torn asunder are faced with options: opportunity or despair, stay or leave. Jesus stands before us as the prime example of endurance and perseverance. He is the One who showed humility through both the triumphs of life (by learning to be humble) and the tragedies

and injustices (by learning how to be obedient). To secular ears, this may be perceived as nonsense. But to those with the eyes of faith, they are pearls of great price.

True humility tempers the temptation we have to become complacent and prevents an excessive relishing of life’s successes and affirmations. Learning obedience keeps us faithful to our relationship with God so that we can find the courage to endure any depth of hardship, disappointment, betrayal, or agony. While we may want our cup of suffering to be taken away, it simply cannot be. Somehow and somewhere in the seemingly opposing experiences life can deal us, God is present with His reassuring, compassionate, empowering, and persevering

love. To be true to who we are and who God is, we must take up the cross of suffering, even when it’s the hardest and most apparently senseless thing to do.

Only our soul can understand these things, but our minds cannot, so they continue to run to secular ideas and solutions to pain and hardship. It goes without saying that we need to do all we can to eliminate as much senseless, unjust suffering as possible. Hunger, violence, abuse, exploitation, rejection, prejudice, homelessness, disrespect for life, and a whole host of other sins all result in suffering that is within our control. Then, when we face the uncontrollable kind of suffering or find ourselves the victim of injustice, what do we do?



©LPI

*Say to daughter Zion,  
“Behold, your king comes to you,  
meek and riding on an ass,  
and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.”  
- Mt 21:5*

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

### SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Local businesses and sponsors that advertise on bulletins need you now more than ever before. Please encourage and remind others to show their support during this time.

**APRIL 5, 2020**

# 3 EASY STEPS

## TO KEEPING YOURSELF & OTHERS HEALTHY!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.



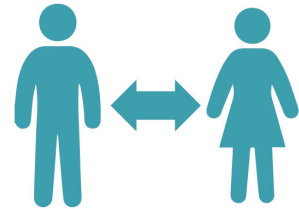
### WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.



### DON'T TOUCH YOUR FACE

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.



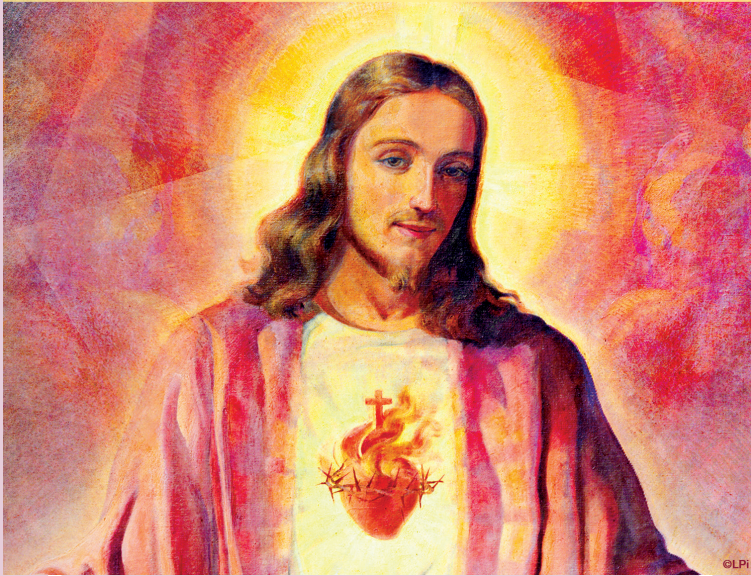
### KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.



*Remember in Your Prayers*

**ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE CORONAVIRUS  
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**



*Compassionate and Loving Father,  
In the face of confusion and concern  
impart to us the calm of Your presence.  
In You allow us to find hope and healing.  
Be with those who serve the sick and  
give them Your caring hands.  
Be with those who lead and give them  
Your spirit of wisdom.  
Be with those who have fallen ill and  
give them Your comforting heart.  
Wrap Your arms around our world  
and hold us in Your love.  
Allow us at this time of trial to then  
serve as instruments of that love  
to all we meet.*

*We ask this in Your Name.  
Amen*

**I WILL  
BUILD  
MY LIFE  
UPON  
HIS  
LOVE**

*Blessed  
are you who  
believed  
that what  
was spoken  
to you by  
the Lord  
would be  
fulfilled.*

Luke 1:45