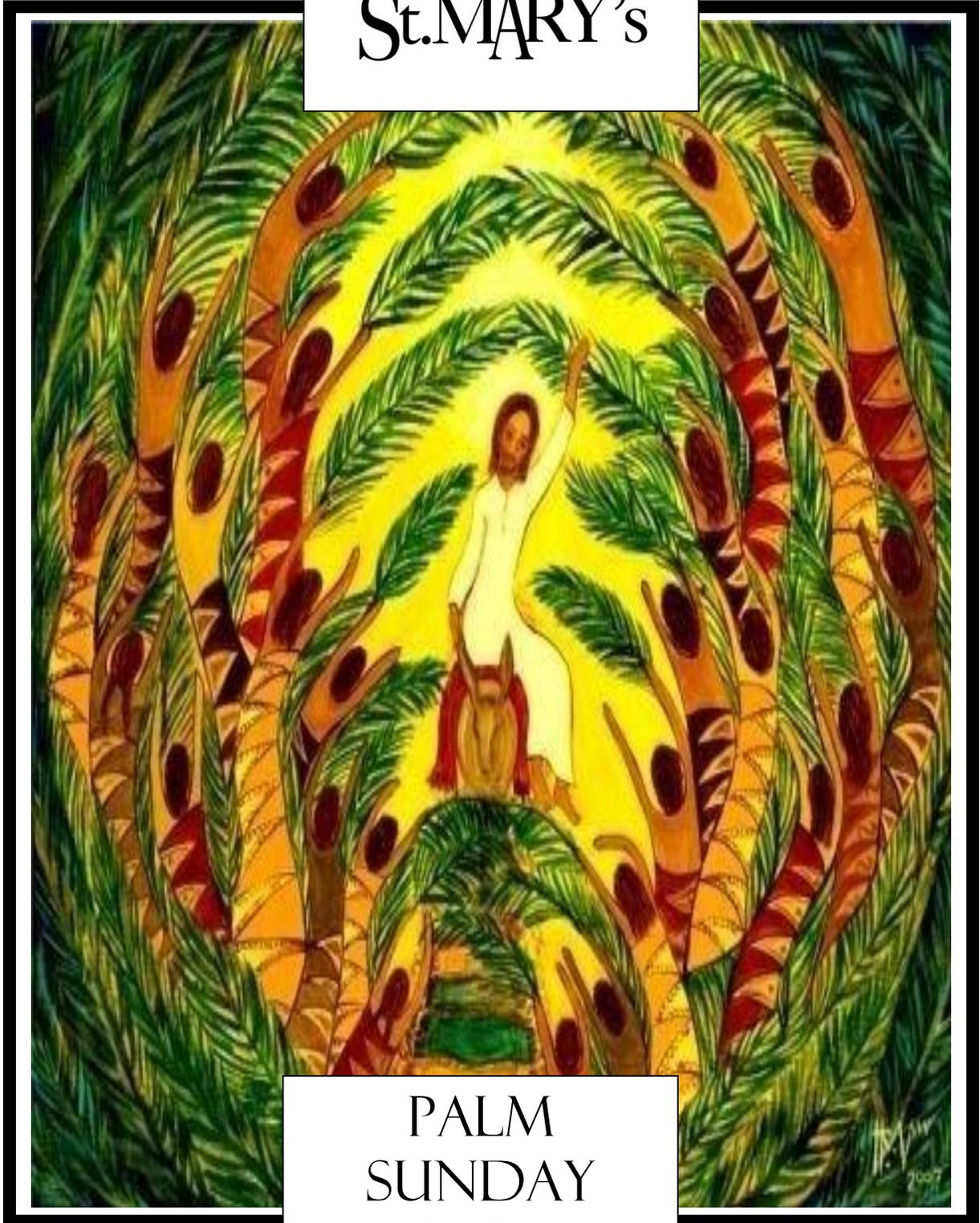


St. MARY'S



PALM
SUNDAY
2026

The Liturgy of the Palms

For those who wish or are able we will gather in the parish St. Mary's Hall and then process from the Hall to the church, You may go to your places upon entering the church. Those who are already in the church will receive their palm branches from those entering.

Celebrant: Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

*All: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.***

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Lesson: **Matthew 21:1-11**

When Jesus and his disciples had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

"Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!

"

The Celebrant then says the following blessing while all hold their palm branches aloft.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right to praise you, almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way.

Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*



The Procession to the church

Priest: Let us go forth in peace.

People: **In the name of Christ. Amen**

During the procession, all hold branches in their hands, and sing the following hymn:#154

refrain All glory, laud and honor

To thee, Redeemer King!

To whom the lips of children

Made glad hosannas ring.

- 1. Thou art the king of Israel,
Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest,
The King and Blessed One**

**refrain All glory, laud and honor
To thee, Redeemer King!
To whom the lips of children
Made glad hosannas ring.**

**2. The company of angels
Is praising thee on high;
And we with all creation
In chorus make reply**

**refrain All glory, laud and honor
To thee, Redeemer King!
To whom the lips of children
Made glad hosannas ring.**

**3. The people of the Hebrews
With palms before thee went
Our praise and prayers and
anthems**

**refrain All glory, laud and honor
To thee, Redeemer King!
To whom the lips of children
Made glad hosannas ring.**

**4. To thee before thy passion
They sang their hymns of praise
To Thee now high exalted
Our melody we raise.**

**refrain All glory, laud and honor
To thee, Redeemer King!
To whom the lips of children
Made glad hosannas ring.**

**5. Thou didst accept their praises
Accept the prayers we bring
Who in all good delightest
Thou good and gracious King!**

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Then the Entrance Procession, with ministers resumes and all sing the following hymn: #156

**Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
Hark all the tribes hosanna cry;
Thy humble beast pursues his road
With palms and scattered garments strowed.**

**Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die
O Christ thy triumphs now begin
O'er captive death and conquered sin**

**Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
The angel armies of the sky
Look down with sad and wond'ring eyes
To see th'approaching sacrifice**

**Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh
The Father on his sapphire throne
Expects his own anointed Son**

**Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die
Bow thy meek head to mortal pain
Then take, O God, thy power and reign. Amen.**

When the ministers reach the Sanctuary, the celebrant will pray the following Opening Collect for the Liturgy of the Passion:

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility:

Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens-- wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

A Psalm Responsory (words from Psalm 118)

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

ALL: Let Israel say: "His love endures forever."

The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;

ALL: The LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day the LORD has made;

ALL: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.

ALL: From the house of the LORD we bless you

(Cont.)

The LORD is God and he has made his light shine upon us.

ALL: With branches in hand, join in the festal procession up to the altar.

You are my God, and I will give you thanks you are my God, and I will exalt you.

ALL: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



THE PASSION GOSPEL

The congregation remains seated until the mention of "As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross"

The Passion Gospel is read in parts, led by a narrator who begins by saying: [SEP]

NARRATOR The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew.

Narrator: Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him,

Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?

Narrator: Jesus said,

Jesus: You say so.

Narrator: But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

Pilate: Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?

Narrator: But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?

Narrator: For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him,

Pilate's wife: Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.

Narrator: Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them,

Pilate: Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

Narrator: And they said,

Crowd: Barabbas.

Narrator: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?

Narrator: All of them said,

Crowd: Let him be crucified!

Narrator: Then he asked,

Pilate: Why, what evil has he done?

Narrator: But they shouted all the more,

Crowd: Let him be crucified!

Narrator: So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying,

Pilate: I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.

Narrator: Then the people as a whole answered,

Crowd: His blood be on us and on our children!

Narrator: So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying,

Soldiers: Hail, King of the Jews!

Narrator: They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene

named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

Crowd: You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.

Narrator: In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

Crowd: He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'

Narrator: The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice,

Jesus: Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?

Narrator: that is,

Jesus: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Narrator: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

Crowd: This man is calling for Elijah.

Narrator: At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said,

Crowd: Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.

Narrator: Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said,

Centurion: Truly this man was God's Son!

Sermon

Prayers of the People

Strengthened by the word and example of Jesus, let us pray to God that the pain and death of Christ may bear fruit in us and in all.

A. Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." In the name of Jesus, we pray:

C. Lord, help us to take up our cross and follow you.

A. You stood before Pilate, your life condemned, your word rejected, your innocence ignored:

C. Keep us from rejecting your word of truth and salvation.

A. You carried your cross on the wounded stripes of your back, for love of us and for all the world.

C. Help us to bear our cross, for love of you and for love of others.

A. The weight of your cross was the weight of our sins which make us stumble and fall.

C. In our weakness, we turn to you for strength.

A. Although you suffered, you still reached out to care for your mother.

C. May our cross-bearing never keep us from caring for our families.

A. As you struggled to bear your cross to Calvary, a passerby was drafted to help you.

C. Make us as willing as Simon to bear the burdens of those in need.

A. Others also took risks to comfort you.

C. Strengthen our faith to take loving risks for our needy brothers and sisters.

A. Sin weighed heavily upon you as you stumbled along the way.

C. Forgive us, Lord, for the sins which make us fall.

A. Your suffering under the cross caused the women of Jerusalem to weep.

C. Make our suffering in life a share in your suffering.

A. The full burden of our sin crushed you mightily to the earth.

C. Do not forsake us in our falling, but bring us to repentance and faith.

A. Stripped and jeered, you endured humiliation without complaint.

C. Humble us in our work and daily lives.

A. Nailed to the cross, you took your place among the condemned.

C. Take your place beside us sinners, and bring us through faith to the Paradise of God.

A. When your sacrifice was complete, you handed your life to the Father, and he did not forsake you.

C. Keep us close to your cross and death, now and at the hour of our death.

A. Faithful friends and loving women took loving care of your lifeless body.

C. Turn the darkness of death into the brightness of day for those we love.

A. In the tomb you were laid, but from the tomb you arose.

C. Be the Lord of the resurrection for us and for all the baptized.

A. For all of us, that the coming days of Holy Week may be a time of grace for us and bring us closer to the Lord, let us pray:

C. Have mercy on your people, Lord.

A. Please share any prayers you have with the community gathered here this morning.....Pause.....

For all of these: **R/ Have mercy on your people, Lord.**

Priest: God our Father,
in the passion and death of Jesus, your Son, you have made us aware of how deeply you love us.

Make us also conscious of how we have wandered from your path and dispose us to keep believing in your love when we have to bear the cross of suffering. For after the cross follows the resurrection, for Jesus and for us. Give us this firm faith through Jesus Christ our Lord. **R/ Amen.**



The Confession God shows his love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Let us then show our love for him by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

. *Silence may be kept.*

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

Once we were far off,,but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace.
Ephesians 2.13,14

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

THE LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION

Hymn for the Preparation of the Table and Gifts

**Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow
Praise God all Creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost Amen**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you **And also with you**
Lift up your hearts **We lift them up to the Lord**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our **God**
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

It is indeed right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.

The power of the life-giving cross
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world
and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more,
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,
for ever praising you and *saying*:

**Sanctus and Benedictus Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and
might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us
for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become
subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus
Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human
nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the
God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself,
in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole
world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**

And now, as our Savior

Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,
All: **Our Father...**

Priest: O Lamb of God, who takes the sins of the world, **have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, who takes the sins of the world, **have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, who takes the sins of the world, **grant us your peace**

Gifts of God.....

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Communion Hymn: #168

- 1 O sacred head, sore wounded,
defiled and put to scorn;
O kingly head, surrounded
with mocking crown of thorn:
what sorrow mars thy grandeur?
Can death thy bloom deflower?
O countenance whose splendor
the hosts of heaven adore!**
- 2 Thy beauty, long-desired,
hath vanished from our sight;
thy power is all expired,
and quenched the light of light.
Ah me! for whom thou diest,
hide not so far thy grace:
show me, O Love most highest,
the brightness of thy face.**
- 3 In thy most bitter passion
my heart to share doth cry,
with thee for my salvation
upon the cross to die.
Ah, keep my heart thus movèd**

**to stand thy cross beneath,
to mourn thee, well-belovèd,
yet thank thee for thy death.**

- 4 What language shall I borrow
to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow,
thy pity without end?
Oh, make me thine forever!
and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never,
outlive my love for thee.**

Post Communion Prayer

**Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

In Lent & Holy Week, in place of a seasonal blessing, a solemn Prayer over the People is used, as follows:

From Palm Sunday through Maundy Thursday:

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

Closing Recessional Hymn # 436

**Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
behold the King of glory waits!
The King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here.**

- 2 O blest the land, the city blest,
where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes
to whom this King of triumph comes!**
- 3 Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.**
- 4 Redeemer, come! I open wide
my heart to thee: here, Lord, abide!
Let me thy inner presence feel: thy grace and love in me reveal.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude



We Pray for the Healing & Support:

We pray for the repose of the soul of Gayle Gurney, we pray for the Labrozzi family and their recovery from the fire

We pray for Judy Hoffman who has been diagnosed with advanced abdominal cancer.

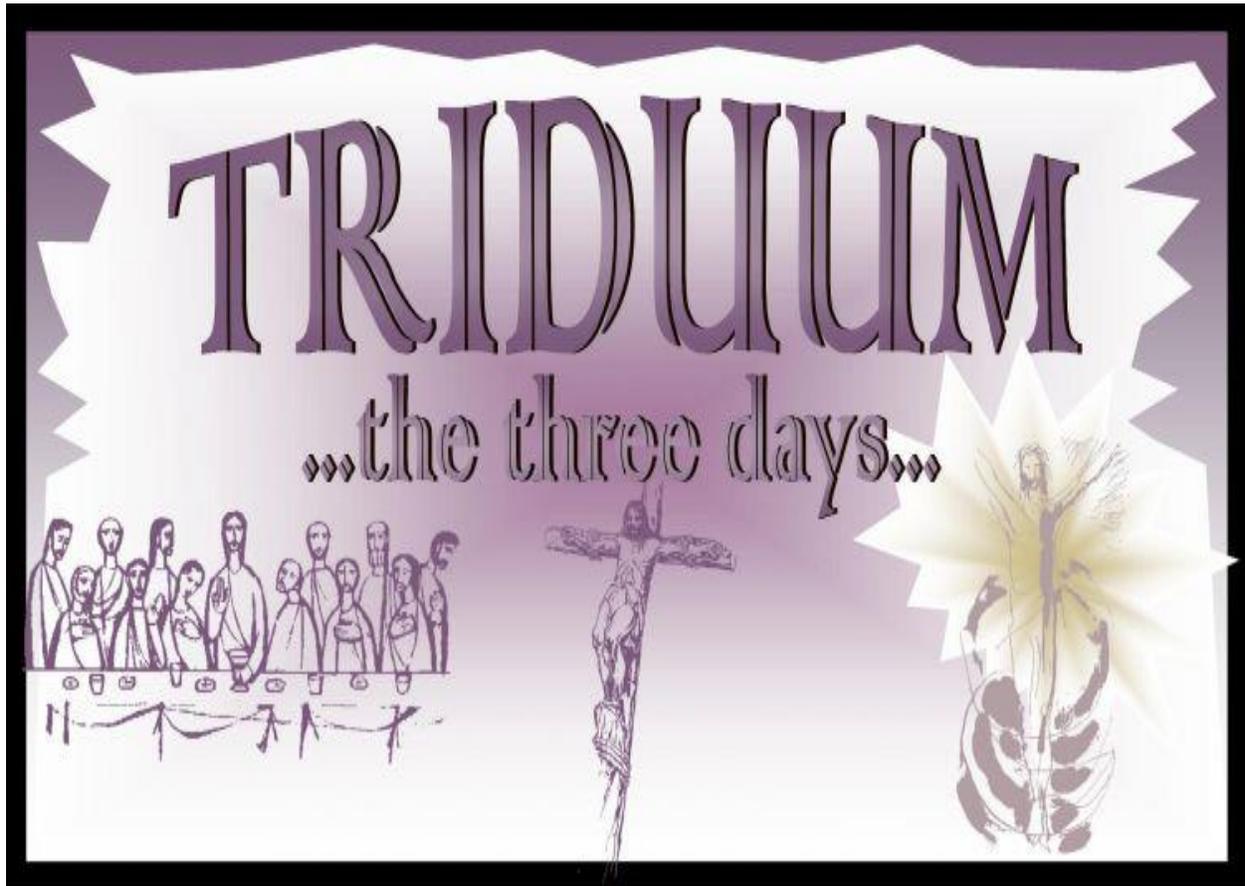
For the continuing recovery of Mary Ann Blados, Andy Visconti, Gail Gurney, Margaret MacLean, Joanne Calabro, Joe Canning, John Stadenraus, Walter Brigham, Steve Giannitelli, Betianne Morritt, Mark Capellino's Parents, Cindy Belt's mother, Lois Corbett, Barbara Brigham for continued recovery, for Bob Fisher, Sharon Gibbs, Barbara Allen Lieblein Kathryn James, Peter Gulluscio, Bob and Virginia Springsteen, Ethan Pae, Valerie Capon, Louie Cicero, Linda Armbruster, Andrew Kuhn, Sr. Joy Wright

We pray for, Ukraine, the Sudan, Syria and the countries of the Middle East for peace and for safety. For all those suffering from extreme weather in our country and around the world.

**We pray for peace and the end of divisions in our own country
For those grieving loved ones, especially those interred in our cemetery, for those who are ill, for all those who serve the sick, the needy and those in prison, for those who are anxious or fearful. For all those in the midst of war or natural disasters.**

For all our parishioners living with cancer, known or undetected & for all those who participate in a 12 step group here at St. Mary, and those who have visited our Prayer Wall.

Email any requests or corrections to FrMcCarron@aol.com



Triduum Services

- Thursday, April 2, 6 PM, Maundy Thursday
- Friday, April 3 12 noon Prayer
7 PM, The Liturgy of Good Friday
- Saturday, April 4, 5:00 PM, The Great Vigil of Easter, Sag Harbor
- Sunday, April 5, 10 AM, Easter Sunday Morning Eucharist



Getting Involved

Those who, in the biblical phrase, would save their lives—that is, those who want to get along, who don't want commitments, who don't want to get into problems, who want to stay outside of a situation that demands the involvement of all of us — they will lose their lives. What a terrible thing to have lived quite comfortably, with no suffering, not getting involved in problems, quite tranquil, quite settled, with good connections politically, economically, socially — lacking nothing, having everything. To what good? They will lose their lives.

-Oscar Romero 1917-1980