SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2020

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." - Mt 21:9


ST. ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH
2536 Hoffmeyer Road, Florence, SC  29501
843-662-5674
WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
MON 4/06  Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 23, 3, 13-14 [1a]/Jn 12:1-11
TUE 4/07  Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
WED 4/08  Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34 [14c]/Mt 26:14-25
SUN 4/12  Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 05, 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

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.

SUNDAY, APRIL 05, 2020 | PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Triduum Streaming Schedule - April 9-12 St. Anthony FaceBook Page or anytime at www.saintanthony.com
Holy Thursday The Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 7 pm
Good Friday Stations of the Cross held outside at noon – no streaming
Celebration of the Lord’s Passion and Veneration of the Cross at 3 pm
Holy Saturday Easter Vigil begins at 5:00 pm
Easter Sunday of the Lord’s Resurrection Holy Mass at 11 am
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)

PEACE IN HEAVEN AND GLORY IN THE HIGHEST.
LK 19:38

WORSHIP & MEDITATION

The Empowering Love of God

GOSPEL MEDITATION
Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

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 grace.

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?
EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP
Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

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

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING
Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!

SUNDAY, APRIL 05, 2020  |  PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
HEALTH & WELLNESS

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.

SHOP LOCAL.
EAT LOCAL.
ENJOY LOCAL.

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 05, 2020 | PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

To contact Andrea Foyle, Secretary, please temporarily use this email address:
updates@saintanthony.com