

# Sacred Heart Church



260 High Street, Mount Holly, NJ 08060-1404

Telephone: 609-267-0209 • FAX: 609-267-9293 • Website: [www.parishofsacredheart.org](http://www.parishofsacredheart.org)

Office Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9:00am - 5:00pm (Closed for Lunch 12:00pm-1:00pm)

Evening Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 6:00pm - 9:00pm • Sunday 8:30am - 1:00pm

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday: 4:30pm (Vigil)**

**Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am & 7:00pm**

Weekday: Mon.-Fri. 7:00am & 8:30am

Saturday: 8:30am

## Confessions

**Saturday: 3:30pm - 4:00pm**

(Reconciliation Rooms are to the right of the Eucharistic Chapel)

## Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. John P. Czahur ext. 308

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Roberto Padilla

Residence: Christ The Redeemer Church  
113 South Avenue, Mt. Holly  
(609) 261-0181

Deacons: Deacon Jim Casa  
[fisherking13@comcast.net](mailto:fisherking13@comcast.net)  
Deacon John Hoefling  
Deacon Stan Orkis  
Deacon William Rowley

Parish Secretary: Mrs. Michele O'Toole ext. 301

[secretary@parishofsacredheart.org](mailto:secretary@parishofsacredheart.org)

Business Manager: Mrs. Deneen Thomas ext. 303

[accountant@parishofsacredheart.org](mailto:accountant@parishofsacredheart.org)

Cemetery Manager: Mrs. Paula Powell ext. 304

[cemeterymgr@parishofsacredheart.org](mailto:cemeterymgr@parishofsacredheart.org)

Coord. of Ministries: Ms. Merry Marcellino ext. 305

[ministry@parishofsacredheart.org](mailto:ministry@parishofsacredheart.org)

Parish Maintenance Mr. Jason D'Entremont ext. 319

[jasonmd@parishofsacredheart.org](mailto:jasonmd@parishofsacredheart.org)

## Sacred Heart School

250 High Street, Mount Holly, NJ 08060

Telephone: 609-267-1728

Email: [schooloffice@sacred-heart-school.org](mailto:schooloffice@sacred-heart-school.org)

Website: [www.sacred-heart-school.org](http://www.sacred-heart-school.org)

Principal: Ms. Kathryn Besheer ext. 340

Admin. Assist. Margo Lihvarcik ext. 316

## Sacred Heart Religious Education

Telephone: 609-267-6319

Email: [rel.ed@parishofsacredheart.org](mailto:rel.ed@parishofsacredheart.org)

Director of Rel. Ed: Mrs. Jessica Donohue ext.307

Admin. Assistant: ext. 324

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs. 9:00am – 2:00pm

### **Fall Program Class Times**

Grades 1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Tuesday: 5:30pm to 6:45pm

Grades 1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Wednesday: 5:30pm to 6:45pm

**March 24 – March 25, 2018**  
**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

### **Parish Registration**

Our Parish family warmly welcomes new members. Please register at your earliest convenience by stopping by the Parish House during the office hours.

### **The Sacrament of Baptism**

We welcome new life into the Church through the sacramental sign of Baptism which is celebrated **every Sunday of the month at 1:00pm** with the exception of Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. We encourage parents who wish to have their child baptized to call the Parish Secretary, Michele O'Toole, at 609-702-1848 ext. 301 or stop in and pick up a Baptism packet.

Once the Baptismal Preparation class is attended, the form completed and the Godparent Eligibility Certificates are turned in then a date for your child's Baptism will be set.

### **Baptismal Preparation**

Catholic Godparents are required to complete an Eligibility Certificate and have the certificates signed by the pastor of the parish where they are currently registered and practicing their faith.

We offer a Baptismal Prep Class for parents as a way of preparing them for their child's journey of faith. Classes are scheduled for the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm. Please contact the Parish Secretary to register.

### **Sacramental Sponsorship Letter**

This is a form required to be a Godparent or Sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation. To receive this form the following requirements must be met:

- If married, be in a valid marriage according to the laws of the Catholic Church.
- Be at least 16 years of age.
- Completed the Sacraments of Initiation; Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation
- Be a registered, active participant of a Parish.

### **The Sacrament of Marriage**

Couples wishing to celebrate and consecrate their love in the Sacrament of Marriage are asked to call the Parish Secretary, Michele O'Toole at 609-702-1848 ext. 301.

**Arrangements are to be made with the Pastor a year in advance of the requested date.** At least one person should be a registered member of the parish. All couples are required to attend preparation sessions.

### **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick**

Any Catholic who is seriously ill, advanced in age, or who feels the need for the comforting presence of the Church's sacramental prayer life may be anointed. Please contact the Parish Office at 609-702-1848 ext. 301 during office hours. In the case of an emergency, please call and follow the instructions listed on our telephone message.

### **Funerals**

In all cases, the family of the deceased parishioner should contact the funeral home directly. They will contact the Church to make further arrangements. For information regarding our Parish Cemetery, please call the Cemetery Office at 609-702-1848 ext 304

### **Care of the Sick, Homebound and Elderly:**

The sick, the homebound and the elderly are valued members of our parish. Please call the Parish House at 609-267-0209 ext. 305 for a visit.

### **Bulletin Articles**

Articles for the Bulletin need to be submitted **No Later than Friday** to appear the next weekend (**9 days prior**). Articles can be emailed to

[bulletins@parishofsacredheart.org](mailto:bulletins@parishofsacredheart.org)

March 24 – March 25, 2018  
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**  
March 26<sup>th</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>

**MONDAY**

7:00am **Frank & Irene Kwoka** Req. By The Redder Family

8:30am **Raymond Costello Sr.** Req. By Caroline Costello & Family

**TUESDAY**

7:00am **Maria Trojak** Req. By Jim & Dottie Westlake & Family

8:30am **Edna Newton** Req. By Joan Carvin

**WEDNESDAY**

7:00am **Virginia Capri** Req. By Her Family

8:30am **David Eldridge** Req. By His Parents & Family

**HOLY THURSDAY**

8:30am **Morning Prayer**

7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

**Margaret Brock** Req. By Wilma Peterson

**GOOD FRIDAY**

8:30am Morning Prayer

3:00pm The Lord's Passion – Veneration of the Cross and distribution of Holy Communion

7:00pm **Stations of the Cross**

**HOLY SATURDAY**

8:30AM Morning Prayer

11:00AM Blessing of Easter Food

8:00PM Solemn Easter Vigil

**Charles & Ursula Walter** Req. By Their Family

**EASTER SUNDAY**

7:30am **Francisco Antig** Req. By Pepita Mercado

9:30am Church **Anna Fox** Req. By Tom & Barbara Fox & Family

9:30am Auditorium **Penney Diaz** Req. By Tom & Barbara Fox & Family

11:30am Church **The People of the Parish**

11:30am Auditorium **Pat Daley** Req. By John & Sandra Brown

**There is No Evening Mass on Easter**

*The Devotional Candle in the Chapel of the Two Hearts*



*Will Burn in Loving Memory of:  
Dolores Ciletti and Jane Ciletti*



**Eucharistic Adoration** – Come and spend time in the quiet with Our Lord in the Chapel of the Two Hearts located next to the Parish House.

Our Chapel is open for you and Jesus to spend some time during the following hours:

Monday through Friday 9:00am to 8:30pm

Saturday 9:00am to noon.

**Readings for the Week**

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

**Tuesday:** Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

**Wednesday:** Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25

**Thursday:** Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21

Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

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

**Saturday:** Gn 1:1 — 2:2

Ex 14:15 — 15:1;

Is 55:1-11;

Rom 6:3-11;

Mk 16:1-7

**Sunday:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or Lk 24:13-35

**SUNDAY OFFERING**

**Weekly 3/17– 3/18 \$ 14, 133.93**

**Easter Flowers \$ 741.00**

*Thank you for the faithful and generous support that you continue to give to our Church.*

March 24 – March 25, 2018  
**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

Dear Parishioners,

The liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday Night are the most important of the entire year. Through these services we celebrate our own dying and rising in the Lord. Please refer to the schedule below and make plans to gather with us in worship and prayer, as we commemorate the great mystery of our redemption.

Father John

**HOLY WEEK CONFESSIONS**

Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> **3:00pm – 3:30pm**  
 Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup> **5:00pm– 5:30pm**  
 Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> **9:00am – 9:30am**  
 Holy Thursday March 29<sup>th</sup> **12:00pm–12:30pm**  
 Note that confessions will *not* be available Good Friday or Holy Saturday:  
*The dates & times above will be the last opportunity for confessions before Easter.*

**HOLY WEEK**



**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**The Sacred Triduum**

**HOLY THURSDAY (March 29th)**

8:30am Morning Prayer  
 7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper  
 Following Mass – The Garden Experience  
 Eucharistic Adoration until midnight (Night Prayer at 11:45pm)

**GOOD FRIDAY (March 30th)**

8:30am Morning Prayer  
 11:00am Stations of the Cross (Sacred Heart Cemetery)  
 12:00PM Ecumenical Service  
 3:00pm The Lord's Passion – Veneration of the Cross and distribution of Holy Communion  
 7:00pm Stations of the Cross

**HOLY SATURDAY (March 31<sup>st</sup>)**

8:30am Morning Prayer  
 11:00am Blessing of Easter food  
 8:00pm Solemn Easter Vigil

**No confessions or 4:30pm Mass**



**EASTER SUNDAY (April 1<sup>st</sup>)**

7:30am MASS - Church  
 9:30am MASS – Church & Auditorium  
 11:30am MASS – Church & Auditorium  
 (NO EVENING MASS)



**The Parish Office will be closed on Good Friday March 30<sup>th</sup>, and will reopen on Easter Tuesday April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**There will be no Eucharistic Adoration Holy Thursday through Easter Monday. The Chapel of the Two Hearts will reopen on Tuesday April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**March 24 – March 25, 2018**  
**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

**Please remember in your prayers:**

Connie Vazquez, Vinnie Vazquez-Garcia, Anne Marie Whelan, Josephine Dowches, Michael Fitzpatrick, Donald McGhee, Jenise Labron, Vickie Robles, Richard Dow, Clarence Pugh, III, Margaret & Gaylord Jeffers, Joel Rivera, Fred Hammer, Stephanie James, Eric Wall, Caellie Boyd, Nicholas Gonzalez, Dawn Vota, Betty Doviak, Ed Ciletti, Michael Dow, Marie Chirico, Karen McDonald, Melissa Currie, Janice Staff, Christine Taintor, Pat Adornetto, Nadia Nieves, Trey Nieves, Talia Rosko, Bobby Sumanga, Garrett Schwab, Frank Anton, Christopher Pierce, Renate Conners, Freddie J. Faber, III, Arleen Bishop, Maria Wolfe, Matthew Ottenwess, Tracy & Erica Schwab, Matthew McDonald, Kristal Faber, Alice Farkas, Justin Beckett, Robert Lally, Tonya DeMaio, Olga Aponte, McKenzie Hunter, Gail Reilly, Alva Marino, Wayne Potts, Stephanie Martin, Corey Kaiser, Stella Grundahl, Daniel DeMaio, Doris Gallo, Matthew Wernoch, Kay Weiss, Casey Davitt, Fredrick Naphys, Clara Hynes, Herbert Cucuini, Daniel Toussaint, Zoey Reed, Mason Damico, David McCoy, Lois Pedrick, John Rubino, George Sampson, Evan Martinez, Sabrina Kaiser, Camila Doris Perez, Celeste Bunn, Jenny Hand, Annabelle Ochipinti, Arthur Netti, Loretta Minakee, Christine, Patricia Parker, Wilma Peterson, Morgan Ackerman, Raymond Bishop, Dylan Crespo, Patricia O'Connor, Sharon Carroll, George Schneider, Marie Donahue, Peggy Stewart, Don & Mary Hartman, Michelle Schafle Reed

As a parish family we remember all who are struggling or suffering in mind, body, or spirit, especially those who have requested our prayers.

**Please pray for the men and women now serving in the military, especially the loved ones of our parishioners who are serving overseas:**

TSgt. Paul J. Stoshak U.S.A.F.  
 Capt. Robert J. Boccio, U.S.A.F.  
 Douglas Schwenck, Army Reserve  
 Richard DeLorge U.S.M.C.  
 Peter Liedman, Dorinia Dibuono  
 Capt. James Rankin U.S.M.C.  
 SSgt Daniel E. Naro, Sgt. Alison Lyport  
 Sgt. Stephanie Robertson, U.S. Army  
 Sgt. Russell Norton, NG Army  
 Sgt. Marshall Norton, U.S.M.C.  
 Corporal Maxwell Hughes, U.S.M.C.  
 Lt. Matthew Carr, U.S.M.C.  
 Lt. Victoria Carr, U.S.M.C.  
 Capt. Anthony D'Errico II, U.S.A.F.



**The Garden Experience**

Share in the experience of prayer in the Garden with Jesus. On Holy Thursday following the Mass of the Lord's Supper we will present the Garden Experience. "Watch and Pray" with Jesus. Listen as we hear the stories of Mary, Joseph, the woman with the hemorrhage and more tell of their relationship with Him. The Garden Experience is a beautiful way to prayerfully end the Holy Thursday Liturgy followed by Adoration and Night Prayer until Midnight. If you would be interested in reading a part for the Garden Experience, please call Merry Marcellino at 702-1848 extension 305. There are 11 parts that need to be filled. (3 male, and 8 either male or female)



**The Feast of the Divine Mercy;  
 April 8, 2018**

We are celebrating the Feast of the Divine Mercy here at Sacred Heart Parish with a novena devotion praying the chaplet of the Divine Mercy starting Good Friday through the 1st Sunday of Easter. Everyone is invited to join in this novena.

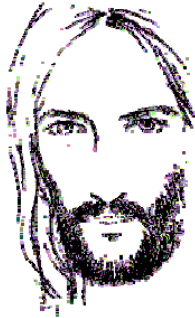
**Divine Mercy Week**  
 March 30<sup>th</sup> – April 8<sup>th</sup>

**NOVENA SCHEDULE:**

March 30 – After the 3:00PM Good Friday Service, we will gather in the Chapel  
 March 31 – After 8:30 Morning Prayer -Chapel  
 April 1 - After 11:30 Mass in the Church  
 April 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, - After the 8:30 Mass /Church  
 April 8 - Divine Mercy Sunday at 3:00 PM in the Church. Benediction follows ending novena.  
 Please come and join us in celebrating the Feast of the Divine Mercy. For questions please call Deacon William Rowley c/o Merry Marcellino 609-702-1848 ext. 305

March 24 – March 25, 2018  
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

**SERRA VOCATION PRAYER CHALICE**



***Prayer for Vocations***

Father in heaven, you sent us your only Son to redeem us and to build your kingdom on earth. Please give us the wisdom and strength we need to follow His call. Grant to the faithful a spirit of generosity, that Church vocations may flourish. Bless our Priests with holiness and courage, that they may lead your people to Christ. Help all Religious Sisters and Brothers to fulfill their sacred promises and so be effective signs of your kingdom. Lord, invite more men and women to your service. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Thank you  
for praying for vocations.***

To learn more about the Vocation Prayer Chalice, please call Ann (609)-267-5836

**“Carie Cares” Fundraiser**

“Carie Cares” will have a fundraiser on April 19, 2018 at DiPaolos Red Lion Inn for the benefit of Dorna M. Saunders Foundation for Breast Cancer and Education. The event is from 3pm until closing. At 6pm you will be entertained with ballads, rock, pop and rock’n’roll music from the 80s and 90s. Please come out and have a lovely dinner, listen to music and support this worthy cause.



**Hosanna in the Highest-  
The Suffering Servant**

Saint Mark’s account of the Passion of Our Lord clearly presents Jesus as the Suffering Servant portrayed and cruelly mistreated in the prophecy of Isaiah. The unjust condemnation is clear as the leaders resort to treachery. The more serious the charge against Him, the more silent Jesus becomes. His refusal of the wine drugged with myrrh to lessen the pain of the crucifixion and His cry of abandonment further establish Him as the suffering servant. Jesus is the willing victim choosing obedience freely-even unto death.

With palms in our hands, we begin the journey of Holy Week with Jesus. Our souls have been purified by penance, prayer and almsgiving. If we quiet our hearts and minds and listen carefully, at the reading of the Passion, the eternal love of God will be revealed to each of us.

**The SVDP Pantry is in need of the  
following:**

**CANNED SOUPS**, Cereal, Mac & Cheese, meal in a can, baked beans, toilet tissue, bar soap.

If you would like to make a monetary donation please make checks payable to:

**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL  
Thank you!**

**OUR PROMISE TO PROTECT**

The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishops’ Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan Abuse Hotline: 1-888-296-2965 or via e-mail at [abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org) The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.

March 24 – March 25, 2018  
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



**SACRED HEART**  
SCHOOL

NOW ENROLLING PreK-8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Schedule your tour today!  
609-267-1728  
www.sacred-heart-school.org  
Mount Holly, NJ

*Catholic Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

**Sacred Heart School PTA  
4th Annual Golf Classic  
Tuesday May 22, 2018**

Registration: 11:30 am  
Shot Gun Start: 1 pm  
Award Reception Dinner: 6 pm  
Rancocas Country Club  
12 Club Ridge Lane, Willingboro, NJ 08046

The Golfer Package includes 18 hole round of golf, shared riding cart, and unlimited driving range. PLUS a full buffet with NY strip steak, boneless chicken breasts, sautéed mushrooms and onions, parsley buttered potatoes, macaroni salad, garden salad, rolls, dessert, and condiments with unlimited beverage (soda). Including 2 beers in the cart per golfer. Cash Bar for Dinner. Beer Tickets can be bought at Registration and used on the course in designated Tee areas.  
Foursome Cost - \$400  
Individual Golfer Cost - \$100

The dinner ONLY package features A full buffet with NY strip steak, boneless chicken breasts, sautéed mushrooms and onions, parsley buttered potatoes, macaroni salad, garden salad, rolls, dessert, and condiments with unlimited beverage (soda). Due to alcohol being consumed, this is a 21 year or older dinner. No one under 21 allowed.  
Dinner Only - \$25

For more info and to download the form, click on this link <http://www.sacred-heart-school.org/4th-annual-golf-classic>

**SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**PARISH  
CHICKEN DINNER**

Saturday, April 7th at 6pm  
In the Sacred Heart Auditorium



Dinner includes: salad, baked and fried chicken, green beans, potatoes, rolls, beverage and dessert.

Price is \$11 per person, children under 6 are free

If you are attending, please call the Parish House at 609-702-1848 ext. 488 or by email [brianjcurtis45@gmail.com](mailto:brianjcurtis45@gmail.com) Please give us your name, the number of people in your party, and the number of children under the age of 6. We need volunteers. If you are able to help, please use the contact information above. This is a social event and not a fundraiser.

**EASTER FLOWERS**



There is a special collection envelope for those who wish to make a donation towards the Easter Flowers which will decorate our church. Please place your envelope marked "Easter Flowers" in the basket at the usual collection time. Donations will be accepted throughout the Lenten Season.

On the back of the envelope is a space for names "in Loving honor/memory of". These envelopes will be placed in the Eucharistic Chapel at Easter.

**March 24 – March 25, 2018**  
**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

Dear Parishioners,

I am writing to communicate some bittersweet news to you regarding some changes to the Religious Education Office. Mrs. Amy Raimondi, who has been our Administrative Assistant for the past three years, resigned her position effective March 2nd. Amy started in her position when I took over as DRE; simply put, I could not have gotten through that transition without her! The gifts she brought to our parish, the breadth and depth of her experience in working for the Church, and her incredible background and talents in youth ministry are just a few of the reasons Amy has been a true blessing to Sacred Heart. Amy brought youth ministry to our church, something from which so many of our children and families have benefitted. We also have Amy to thank for 'Advent By Candlelight,' which has become such a popular women's event here, as well as the amazing Confirmation retreat we have been able to offer our children for the past two years. Amy will be with us for our upcoming sacramental celebrations and related events, and will also continue to be involved with upcoming youth ministry events. Amy has been not only a colleague but a friend, and I am going to miss her presence in our office, although I am happy to say that we will still see her here at Sacred Heart!

I am also very happy to inform you that Barbara Kane, one of our long-time, very faithful catechists, will be joining us on the parish staff as the Administrative Assistant in the Religious Education Office! Barb's deep faith, her obvious joy in everything she does, her great commitment to service both in our community and in our parish all speak to the gifts that she brings and will continue to bring to the Religious Education Program here at Sacred Heart. Barb holds a B.S. in Natural Resource Management

from Cook College at Rutgers University, and has an extensive background in environmental education through her work with the Rancocas Nature Center, Kateri Environmental Center, and Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association. Barb has also volunteered not only here for several years at Sacred Heart through her ministry as a catechist and her work with the St. Vincent DePaul Society, but she has also held leadership positions with the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, as well as volunteered with her children's schools. Barb and I actually first met when our now-17-year-old sons were in preschool together; I am as impressed now as I was then by her kindness, creativity, generous and genuine heart for service to God and to others, and her very sunny disposition! I am very much looking forward to working with Barb, and am grateful for the blessing she is and will continue to be to our parish and to our program. I know that Barb will receive a very warm welcome from our parish and staff as she begins her new role at Sacred Heart!

I am deeply grateful for everything Amy has done for our parish, and for all Barb will bring to Sacred Heart in her new position. As we move through this time of transition in the Religious Education Office, I ask for your prayers for our staff and our program. We are truly blessed in our parish by all of those who work in this ministry, and we look forward to continuing to grow in faith with the children and families of Sacred Heart!

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Mrs. Jessica Donohue

Director of Religious Education



**March 24 – March 25, 2018**  
**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

**Living the Good News Today**

*"The Lord God is my help; therefore, I am not disgraced."*

This weekend, the Church begins Holy Week with the celebration of Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion. As we gather as a faith community, we hear two very different Gospel readings: the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem with cries of "Hosanna!" and then the long passion narrative of Jesus' arrest, torture, and execution. The passion of Christ helps us to appreciate the words of the Prophet Isaiah: "The Lord God is my help; therefore, I am not disgraced." In His great love for all humanity, Jesus embraced the humiliation and suffering of crucifixion, trusting in the Father's mercy.

Several years ago, my husband Jeff and I made a two-week pilgrimage to the Holy Land. While we were in Jerusalem for five days, we had the opportunity to visit many of the sacred places where Jesus walked, prayed, and taught. On the Friday of our stay, we walked the *Via Dolorosa*, following the ancient pilgrim stations of the cross which ultimately led us to Calvary and the place of Christ's burial. I will never forget that experience as we slowly and solemnly walked along cobblestoned narrow streets and saw crowds of people all around us as we paused to read the Scripture passages and to pray.

Holy Week brings us to the conclusion of our 40-day Lenten journey of fasting, praying, and almsgiving, drawing us ever closer to God and to the Kingdom that Jesus proclaimed is at hand. Perhaps along this journey, we have taken the time to meditate on the Stations of the Cross. This prayer draws us intimately into our relationship with Christ, knowing that He asked His disciples to take up our crosses and to follow Him, no matter what the cost.

In 2001, my oldest daughter and I took my mother on a trip to Poland. It was her first visit to the country of her birth since she was forcibly deported in 1940 to Siberia. During our visit, we made it a priority to go to the shrine of Our Lady of Częstochowa (Jasna Góra), where the famous icon of the Black Madonna is preserved. It was truly a privilege to be there in the year that the shrine had unveiled a work that the Pauline Fathers had commissioned called the *Golgotha of Jasna Góra*.

In a series of 18 paintings, the local Polish artist Jerzy Duda Gracz captured the passion of Jesus Christ not only with His image, but also with images of the suffering that has taken place throughout the world. The paintings included characters from Poland's Solidarity movement (martyred Fr. Popieluszko), St. John Paul II, and poignant scenes of great distress—sufferings that Jesus knew and embraced so well on Calvary for all of us. As we looked at those stark images, I could see my mother crying silently, because she had found her own experience

captured in that Golgotha way with Christ. I wondered how many other pilgrims would pass through this shrine and share her heartfelt experience.

For Good Friday in 1991, St. John Paul II led new Stations of the Cross in Rome using Scripture readings from Christ's passion. In her book *The New Stations of the Cross* (c. 2003), scripture scholar Dr. Megan McKenna reflected on how the Holy Father had introduced these new Stations of the Cross for the world to aid in our imitation of Christ:

*"Our history tells us of those who walked this way, struggling as Jesus did, seeking life in the face of death. Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote in one of his journals while he was in prison: 'Once Jesus bids you come and follow Him, He bids you come and die.'"*

In his epistle to the Philippians, St. Paul offered that Gentile community the essence of Christ's self-emptying love on the Cross: dying to self (kenosis). The Polish artist Gracz's modern Stations of the Cross remind us that the imitation of Christ is not easy, especially when it comes to letting go of secular attachments. That is why Holy Week begins with Christ's passion. In his 1991 Lenten message, St. John Paul II reminded the Church:

*"As we look at Jesus Christ, the Good Samaritan, we cannot forget that from the poverty of the manger to the total abandonment of the Cross, He chose to become one with the "least." Christ teaches us detachment from riches, trust in God and readiness to share. He urges us to look at our brothers and sisters who are poor and suffering from the point of view of one who – in poverty – knows what it is to be totally dependent upon God and to stand in absolute need of Him. The way we live will thus be the true and authentic measure of our love of Him who is the source of life and love, as well as the sign of our faithfulness to the Gospel which He preached."*

No matter what we have done and contemplated so far in our Lenten journey, let us begin this Holy Week with a new awareness of how to be more dependent upon God, especially in situations that appear to be hopeless or overwhelming. To remind ourselves of what is at stake, we need only remember the cross and how Jesus obediently accepted a violent and shameful death without protest.

- Are we prepared to die unto self?
- What separates us from having this kind of deep love of God and one another?
- Where are the opportunities for us to encounter the poor and the least, changing the way that we live our lives for God alone?

When we celebrate Easter's true triumph next Sunday, then will we fully understand these words of St. Paul:

*"He [Christ] humbled Himself... God greatly exalted Him."*

Teresa S. Redder, OFS

**March 24 – March 25, 2018**  
**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

**WEEKLY PLANNER**

**PALM SUNDAY March 25<sup>th</sup>**  
*Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*



**MONDAY March 26<sup>th</sup>**  
 Religious Ed. Summer Program 5 pm - 6 pm  
 Cub Scouts 5:00pm – 8:00pm PHMR  
 Confessions 5:00pm – 5:30pm  
 Rel. Ed. Summer Parent's Mtg. 5pm AUD

**TUESDAY March 27<sup>th</sup>**  
 Confessions 9:00am – 9:30am  
 Religious Ed. Fall Program 5:30pm - 6:45pm  
 Legion of Mary 7:00pm PHCR  
 SVDP 7:00pm Center

**WEDNESDAY March 28<sup>th</sup>**  
 Religious Ed. Fall Program 5:30pm - 6:45pm  
 OLPH 7:15pm Chapel  
 Columbiettes 7:30pm LIB

**HOLY THURSDAY March 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:30am** Morning Prayer  
 Confessions **12:00pm–12:30pm**  
**7:30pm** Mass of the Lord's Supper  
 Following Mass – The Garden Experience  
 Eucharistic Adoration until midnight  
 (Night Prayer at 11:45pm)

**GOOD FRIDAY March 30<sup>th</sup>**



**Parish Office, Chapel and School Closed**  
**8:30am** Morning Prayer  
**11:00am** Stations of the Cross  
 (Sacred Heart Cemetery)  
**3:00pm** The Lord's Passion – Veneration of  
 the Cross and distribution of Holy Communion  
**7:00pm** Stations of the Cross

**HOLY SATURDAY March 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**8:30am** Morning Prayer  
**11:00am** Blessing of Easter food  
**8:00pm** Solemn Easter Vigil

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**EASTER SUNDAY April 1<sup>st</sup>**  
*Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord*  
**7:30am Mass**  
**9:30am Mass Church & Auditorium**  
**11:30am Mass Church & Auditorium**  
**Parish Office Closed**  
 Divine Mercy Chaplet after 11:30 Mass in the Church  
**No 7pm Mass**

**EASTER MONDAY April 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Parish Office, Chapel and School Closed**  
 Divine Mercy after the 8:30 Mass in the Church

**TUESDAY April 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
 School Closed  
 Divine Mercy after the 8:30 Mass in the Church  
 No Religious Ed. Classes  
 SVDP Meeting 7:00pm SVDP Center  
 Legion of Mary 7:00pm PHCR  
 High School Youth Group 7:00pm AUD

**WEDNESDAY April 4<sup>th</sup>**  
 School Closed  
 Divine Mercy after the 8:30 Mass in the Church  
 No Religious Ed. Classes  
 Daisy Troop 6:00pm PHMR  
 OLPH 7:15pm Chapel  
 Baptism Prep. Class 7:30pm Church

**THURSDAY April 5<sup>th</sup>**  
 School Closed  
 Divine Mercy after the 8:30 Mass in the Church  
 Mass Music Practice 6:00pm Church  
 Boy Scouts 7:00pm PHMR  
 Adult Choir 7:30pm Church

**FRIDAY April 6<sup>th</sup>**  
 School Closed  
 Divine Mercy after the 8:30 Mass in the Church  
 Healing Mass 7:00pm Church

**SATURDAY April 7<sup>th</sup>**  
 Divine Mercy after the 8:30 Mass in the Church  
 Mass Music Practice 3:30pm Church  
 Chicken Dinner 6:00pm AUD