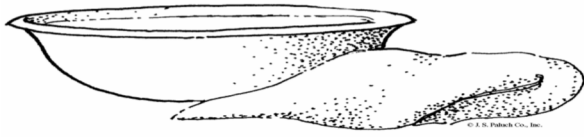


# Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

March 29, 2015



*Christ Jesus humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.  
-Philippians 2:8*

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>MON.,</b>	<b>Mar 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Monday of Holy Week</b>
7:00	A.M.	Mary Wade r/o Arnold Family
<b>TUES.,</b>	<b>Mar 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Tuesday of Holy Week</b>
12:00	P.M.	Mary Alice & Leslie Howard Bennett r/o Anthony Bennett
<b>WED.,</b>	<b>April 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Wednesday of Holy Week</b>
7:00	A.M.	Bill Petix Special Intentions r/o Susan Ragucci
<b>THURS.,</b>	<b>April 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Holy Thursday</b>
9:00	A.M.	Morning Prayer
7:00	P.M.	Mass of the Lord's Supper
<b>FRI.,</b>	<b>April 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Good Friday</b>
9:00	A.M.	Morning Prayer
3:00	P.M.	The Lord's Passion
7:00	P.M.	Living Stations
<b>SAT.,</b>	<b>April 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Holy Saturday</b>
9:00	A.M.	Morning Prayer
12:00	P.M.	Blessing of the Easter Food
8:00	P.M.	Great Easter Vigil
<b>SUN.,</b>	<b>April 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord</b>
8:00	A.M.	Elizabeth Ann Archer r/o Tony & Fran Archer, Children & Grandchildren
10:00	A.M.	Frank Zakashefski r/o Wife, Dolores, Children & Grandchildren
12:00	P.M.	John B. Maggio r/o Alison & Rachel Maggio
1:30	P.M.	Por las familias

### Memorials

Week of March 29—April 4



### Altar Candles

Frank DeRosa Family & Consentino Family r/o Mary DeRosa & Son

### Sanctuary Candles

Mary Gross r/o In honor of her 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

### Altar Bread & Wine

Diana Carmona r/o Fr. Pat & Dorothy Zmigrodski & The Department of Religious Education

## TODAY'S READINGS:

**Gospel at the Procession with Palms**—Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (John 12:12-16)

**First Reading** — In spite of my sufferings I am not disgraced. I am not put to shame (Isaiah 50:4-7)


**Psalm** — My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Psalm 22)

**Second Reading** — Christ emptied himself, and God filled this emptiness with exaltation (Philippians 2:6-11)

**Gospel** — The account of Christ's passion according to Mark (Mark 14:1—15:47)

**OUR LENTEN NOVENA WILL CONCLUDE ON MONDAY, MARCH 30, 7:00 P.M.**

**BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS**- Our monthly Baptism Preparation Class will be held **Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 P.M. at Petra House.** Please call the Parish Office to register. Baptism dates may be selected after completing this one evening of preparation.

**EASTER FLOWER** donations for your special intentions are still being accepted. These will be placed next to the  tabernacle during the Easter services.

## SAVE THE DATE AND LEARN ABOUT YOUR PARISH:

### **OLMV PARISH MINISTRY FAIR—2015...**

offers all of us a joyful and exciting opportunity to share our gifts and talents, and to learn about the goals and activities of each ministry group in our parish. Be sure to participate by visiting the Parish Center Gym after Masses on **Saturday/Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.** Our **PARISH MINISTRY FAIR** is a great way to share food and fellowship while learning how OLMV Parish lives out Christ's command:



**THAT ALL BE ONE. We hope to see you there!**

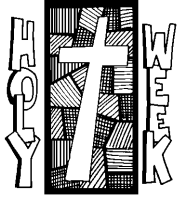
**PRAY FOR THE SICK...**In your charity please pray for the sick of our parish, the sick who remain in our intentions and those whose names are kept on our prayer list in the sacristy.



## NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINTING

March 21—22.....	
Hispanic Mass.....	
Major Renovations.....	
Weekly Parish Expenses.....	\$19,246.00

**Rice Bowl returns can be brought to the church on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Baskets for the Rice Bowl returns can be found in the Blessed Mother chapel. On Holy Thursday at the Mass of the Lord's Supper, any returns that have been brought over will be carried to the altar during the Offertory Procession. Thank you to everyone who participated in the Rice Bowl program.**



**GOOD FRIDAY** is a day of fast & abstinence

**FASTING**- to limit yourself to one full meal during the day so as to experience hunger- applies to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59.

**ABSTINENCE**- to abstain from meat and all meat products- applies to all Catholics 14 and over.

Easter is already upon us.  
Why not bring a friend or relative  
with you on Easter Sunday,  
What a beautiful gift to God!

**CHRISM MASS:** Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> 7:30 P.M.  
St. Francis Cathedral, Metuchen

**MORNING PRAYER**  
Thursday, Friday & Saturday  
9:00 A.M.

**MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER:** *Holy Thursday*  
April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 P.M.  
Closing Prayer at 11:45 P.M.

**PASSION OF OUR LORD:** *Good Friday*  
April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 P.M.

**THE LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
Friday at 7:00 P.M.

**BLESSING OF THE FOOD:** *Holy Saturday* 11:00 A.M.

**EASTER VIGIL MASS:** *Holy Saturday* 8:00 P.M.

**EASTER SUNDAY:** 8:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M., 12:00 P.M.  
1:30 P.M. Misa en Español

**Opportunities for the  
Sacrament of Penance**

EACH SATURDAY: 3:30-4:15 P.M.  
(NO CONFESSIONS ON APRIL 4<sup>th</sup>)

**REMINDER**

The front doors of the church will be closed on Holy Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> due to the Repository being placed in the vestibule. Entrance to the church will be available through all the other doors.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED THIS THURSDAY AND FRIDAY,  
APRIL 2<sup>nd</sup> AND APRIL 3<sup>rd</sup> IN OBSERVANCE OF HOLY  
THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION CANCELLED ON APRIL  
3<sup>rd</sup> (GOOD FRIDAY).

**SPECIAL WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE  
for Monday, April 6 – Friday, April 10**

There will be only one Mass celebrated each day:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday & Thursday at 12:00 NOON.

Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday.



**My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

Our Lenten journey is nearly at an end. Or is it? Today as we listen to the first Reading of the Passion during Holy Week, we are invited to consider where we are--really--on our journey with Jesus Christ. We are asked to meditate upon the degree in which our hearts have become open to the Lord during the days of Lent that are now in our past.

And Jesus asks us to be honest now! Are we at the point that we can wave palm branches as Jesus rides into Jerusalem--only to give ourselves over to the crowd mentality of Good Friday--no longer shouting "Hosanna." Like the crowd, are our hearts still so darkened by the stain of sin that we can change our cry so easily to "Crucify him!"

As we come to these final days of Lent and prepare to enter into the incredible experience of the Triduum, we really need to enter into the depths of our hearts and souls and examine where we have journeyed since Ash Wednesday--and, more to the point, where we still need to go. We need to honestly look to how we have prayed, how we have fasted, how we have responded with generosity to the needs of others. And we need to honestly admit those places and areas where we have fallen short of our own expectations. If Lent is a time when we "Change our Lives," we must freely and humbly admit where we still have much to do.

Ideally our Lenten journey prepares us so we can enter into deeper and more dynamic relationship with Jesus. We are now, hopefully, ready to enter into the most sacred of days as we prepare for Easter. Each of us must be able to enter into the same dynamic relationship as the Apostles as Jesus offers the bread and wine which will become his presence in Eucharist. Like the Apostles we must be open to the Lord as he reaches out to us with the words: "Do this in memory of me!" Our dynamic relationship with Jesus continues as we watch with horror the arrest of Jesus as he prays in the Garden. We continue to experience horror as we walk the path through the streets of Jerusalem leading to the Place of the Skull and share in the experience of Crucifixion as Jesus dies on the Cross. We are finally called to rejoice as we enter the empty tomb with Peter and the beloved disciple on Easter Sunday. Like the apostles before us, we are energized by the words of the angel: "He has risen, he is not here!"

Today we wave palm branches and we must ask ourselves if we are truly ready to experience the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. We need to examine those hidden places in our hearts and souls, and consider where we still need to "peel away" the darkness of sin and shame as we prepare to greet Jesus on Easter Morning.

While time is short, there is still time. We must be watchful, we must pray, we must be honest, and we must prepare humbly for the coming of the Lord in Resurrection!

A blessed Palm Sunday to all!

In peace and prayer,

**Fr. Pat**



**THE DEANERY SCHOOL:  
HOLY SAVIOR ACADEMY**

Holy Savior Academy, 149 South Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield. Come tour the pre-kindergarten-through-eighth-grade school and ask about plans for the upcoming school year, including our Academic Power Hour and the year-round pre-kindergarten program for 3- and 4-year-olds. Visit with our faculty and staff as well as with school parents and students. For more information, call 908-822-5890 or visit [www.holysavioracademy.com](http://www.holysavioracademy.com).

**Join the Youth Groups at OLMV:**

Come and join the excitement as OLMV re-establishes Youth ministries and organizes Youth Groups once again!!! Young people in grades 5 – 8 are invited to be part of our **Middle School Youth Program** and young parishioners in grades 9 – 12 are invited to become part of our **High School Youth Program**. We are planning a variety of activities for both groups, including open-gym nights, movie nights, field trips, service projects and spiritual events. Youth and their parents who are interested in finding out more about our Youth Ministry are invited to contact Kelly Rooney at [krooney@olmv.net](mailto:krooney@olmv.net) or 732-356-2149 x 1108. Parents and other adult members of our parish who might be interested in assisting with either group are invited also to contact Kelly. A Youth Ministry table will be set up at our Parish Ministry Fair which will be held in the Parish Center after all the Masses on **April 18 and 19, 2015**. Please stop by to find out more information or to ask questions.

*Have you lost a loved one? This is about joining our "Journey through Grief." Our mission is to find healing, comfort and peace. When a loved one dies our world changes. Our hearts are broken and the simplest things of life becomes an enormous challenge as we are faced with sadness, loneliness and, even anger.*

The group will be meeting **THURSDAYS** at Petra House for 8 weeks.

**Place:** Petra House (610 Harris Ave, Middlesex)

**Date:** April 9 through May 28, 2015.

**Time:** 2:30 P.M.—4:00 P.M.

**Contact:** Monique 732-356-9001, Pat 732-356-8886 or Mary 732-331-6147. THERE IS NO FEE. Pre-registration required!

**NAOMI TEA...Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> ...12:30 - 2PM in Petra House...**

We welcome **ALL WIDOWS** to join us for a gathering to share prayer, conversation, and refreshments. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet friends and discover others who have suffered the same loss. No need to register; just come and *bring a friend*, or someone who might need a ride or a personal invitation. **Small bite-sized desserts** to share are also appreciated!



**OLMV ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY  
"HELP LINE"**

732-356-2149 option 6

All calls for assistance are confidential

**VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM:**

donate a running or non-running vehicle to help the less fortunate.

To do so please call the help line at 732-356-2149 option 6

**2014 Bishop's Annual Appeal  
Life-Changing Faith**

The *Office of Schools* believes that the children are the Church of Tomorrow. It is our moral imperative to provide a strong foundation in both Catholic faith formation and academic excellence.

*Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal is an investment in the future of our Church. Please consider making a gift to-day.*

**Ministry to Veterans and Military Families:**

On Sunday, May 17, 2015 at the 11:30am Mass, Our Lady of Mount Virgin Ministry to Veterans and Military Personnel will honor men and women of our community (parishioners and members of the wider community) who are currently serving in the Military, veterans who have served our country and family members and friends. A reception in the Church hall will follow Mass. We ask that members of the military and our veterans who will attend to bring a picture (in military uniform - no larger than 8.5 by 11) that can be placed by the altar as we honor the members of our community who are now or have proudly served our country. More to follow!!!



**NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES ON APRIL 7.**

**FIRST COMMUNION PRACTICE:**

**Group A: April 27 (4:00—6:15 pm)**

**Group B: April 29 (4:00—6:15 pm)**

**FIRST COMMUNION: May 2 (9:30 & 11:30 am)**

**ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY UPCOMING EVENT:** Retreat at the Shrine of St. Joseph, Sterling NJ, **Thursday, April 23, 9:30 am—3:00 pm (\$35.00)**. Includes hot lunch. We will car pool from OLMV. Open to all parishioners. For more information, call Jane DeNardo 732-469-2468.

**OLMV Altar Rosary Society:** Rosary followed by Meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm.

**Fish, Inc. Food Collection. Thank you!** Response to our monthly food collection was heartwarming. God bless you for your kindness and generosity to the needy in our area.

**Next Food Collection: April 18—19.**



**The Knights of Columbus Council 12700**

*will be holding their 6th Annual Knight of Comedy on Friday, April 17th at the Parish Center. All tickets are \$25.00. They will be on sale after all weekend masses and will also be available Monday thru Friday at the Parish office. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be served at 7:30 pm with two comedians to follow at 8:00 pm. Vinnie Brand, owner and comedian of the "Stress Factory" will headline the show. There will be door prizes, and attendees are encouraged to BYOB. This has been one of our most popular events at OLMV and came close to selling out last year so get your tickets early. Reserved tables for parties of 8 or more will be honored. Please contact Steve for tickets and table reservations at 973-390-5532.*