

## PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION



### Mass Intentions

#### Saturday, April 16

5:30pm Anna & Andrew Sebastian

*Requested by family*

#### Palm/Passion Sunday, April 17

8:00am Special Intention for the

**Mary, Mother of Jesus Retreat Ministry**

10:00am Vivian Drury

*Requested by sister Vicki*

12:00NN For the Parish

#### Monday, April 18

7:00am Special Intention for

Kathleen Carney

*Requested by friends*

#### Tuesday, April 19

7:00am Michael Tameo

*Req. by Ted and Denise Carlson*

#### Wednesday, April 20

7am John & Catherine Donnelly

*Req. by Fred & Arlene Robinson*

#### HOLY THURSDAY, April 21

7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

#### GOOD FRIDAY, April 22

7:00pm Solemn Service of Our

Lord's Passion and Death

#### HOLY SATURDAY, April 23

7:30pm Solemn Vigil of Easter

#### EASTER SUNDAY, April 24

8:00am Robert Frankre

*Requested by family*

10:00am Frank Madden

*Requested by family*

12:00NN Joan Kazounis

*Requested by family*



### St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

#### Palm/Passion Sunday, April 17

10:00am John and Grace

Carpinelli

*Requested by family*

#### Sunday, April 24

10:00am Christopher Cannon

*Requested by family*



### For Your Information

#### PARISH SUPPORT

Parish Support for April 10th was Budget—\$7,408; Ongoing Maintenance—\$2,644. This weekend's second offering is the Operation Rice Bowl / Catholic Relief Services Offering. The Good Friday collection is for the Holy Land and the Easter offering will go toward our Catholic Charity Fund goal. Thank you for your continued generosity!

**SANCTUARY LAMP** at St. Francis Church burns in memory of Dorothy Feipel.

#### FOOD OF THE MONTH

Your donations of spaghetti sauce, juice, peanut butter, jelly, cans of chili, baked beans and rolls of paper towels may be dropped off at the entrance of the church or chapel.

We thank you in advance for your continued generosity to those who are less fortunate.

#### THE CATHOLIC CHARITY FUND APPEAL

Where we stand to date: Received: \$70,000; Goal: \$104,000

Thank you to all who responded so far. If you've been meaning to donate but haven't yet turned in your pledge or one-time offering, please consider dropping it off at the rectory sometime this week, mailing it or drop it in the offertory next weekend. As always, thank you for your generosity.

**NO BIBLE STUDY** on Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> in FGC at 7pm.

#### WALK-FOR-SHELTER

The annual Good Friday Walk-for-Shelter will start this Friday, April 22nd at 9am at Peace Dale Congregational Church. By walking in the Walk-for-Shelter you are helping to provide support and hope for homeless families and individuals in our community. Pledge forms are available outside the Religious Ed. Office or online at [www.welcomehouseofsouthcounty.org](http://www.welcomehouseofsouthcounty.org).

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Steubenville East High School Youth Conference is an annual conference which brings together 2500 teens from across the Northeast for a powerful weekend that includes music, great talks, prayer, confession, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, fun and fellowship. This year's conference will take place at the University of Rhode Island July 22-24. Adult volunteers are needed to fill a variety of roles. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Heather Flynn at: [heather@liftedhigher.com](mailto:heather@liftedhigher.com).

#### LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

Remaining area penance services are:

Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM

St. Francis of Assisi

Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM

Christ the King

#### PREPARED FOR EASTER?

The best way to prepare for the Sacred Triduum is to celebrate the Sacrament of Confession! What good is simply remembering the Resurrection if we don't allow our old selves to die so that we too can be raised with Christ? Our parish Penance Service (with opportunity for individual confession) will be held THIS TUESDAY, APRIL 19 at 7:00PM in St. Francis Church. Pamphlets entitled, "How to Make a Good Confession" are still available at the doors of the church. We'll see you on Tuesday night and bring a friend or two!

**EASTER FLOWER OFFERING ENVELOPES** ... If you'd like to place a lily in the sanctuary at Easter in memory of a loved one, please fill out an Easter flower offering envelope in your budget packet or one of the envelopes at the entrances of the church/chapel and return it to the rectory.

APRIL 17, 2011

## NEW PARISH WEBSITE

Some of the great benefits of the technological age include the ability to share information quickly and effectively, and to remain connected. For the past several years, parishes have struggled with how to integrate new forms of communication and information-sharing. Our parish has had a website for several years and we are grateful to parishioner Peg Ryan for helping us maintain that website. Yet as it is becoming increasingly obvious that most people gather information from the internet, we have felt the need for a more current and expansive website to meet our needs as a parish. Several months ago, we contracted BonFX Graphics, a local web design company, to design and launch a brand new parish website for St. Francis and St. Romuald. We are incredibly pleased with the finished product. BonFX has produced a website that is attractive, easy to use, and expansive in its content. We pledge to keep our parish website current at all times, with the most recent information available. Please bookmark the new address:

<http://stfranciswakefield.com>

and check back often for updates. Many thanks to all those who worked so diligently in compiling information, organizing it, and submitting observations and recommendations for improvement. We hope you are as pleased as we are! Let us know what you think!

## THANK YOU!

Many thanks to Marissa Shanstrom for organizing a team of dedicated parishioners to lead local nursing home residents in the Stations of the Cross and the Rosary throughout the Lenten season. Thank you to all those who participated in bringing much joy to our nursing home residents through the power of prayer and fellowship. Thank you! Please keep all our parish shut-ins in your prayers, especially during the Easter Season.

## DAILY MASS SACRISTANS

We are in need of one or two additional people to assist after daily mass with returning items to the sacristy and extinguishing the candles. If you attend daily mass on a regular basis and would be interested in helping, please call Kelli at the rectory (783-4411).

## COULD YOU NOT WATCH ONE HOUR WITH ME?

For many years, the custom of visiting seven churches on Holy Thursday night to adore the Blessed Sacrament was observed. After attending the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, plan on staying for a short time with the Blessed Sacrament in Helen Bouchard Hall. You are encouraged to then visit the other churches in our area, as well, for a brief period of silent prayer and adoration. If you'd rather go home immediately after Mass, you are welcome to return to Helen Bouchard Hall for adoration later in the evening. The hall will remain open for adoration until 11:00PM. Please plan on spending some time on Holy Thursday in adoration of our Blessed Lord.



## Religious Education

**Grades K-6**—No class the next two weeks.

**Wednesday Classes Gr. 3-6**—Have ended for the year.

### **Grades 7-10**

Religious Education classes are completed for this year for **grades 7-10**. Catechists for these grades are asked to return their teacher guides to the Religious Education Office at your earliest convenience. Home study students in **grades 7 & 8** will be contacted at the beginning of May to make appointments with Mrs. Castro for a year end meeting.

### **Confirmation Candidates**

Reminder for **Confirmation II** candidates. There will be reconciliation & rehearsal on Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the main church. Confirmation will be held at 7pm on Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. Candidates and their sponsors need to be in Helen Bouchard Hall by 6:30PM Friday evening.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word**—during the 10am Mass.



## This Week

### **Sunday, April 17**

NO Classes Palm Sunday or Easter.

Classes resume May 1st.

3:00pm Palm Sunday Sacred Concert

7:00pm AA (HBH)

### **Monday, April 18**

7:30-12:00 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (church)

11am Divine Mercy Cenacle (church)

7pm Adult Choir Rehearsal (loft)

### **Tuesday, April 19**

NO RCIA or BIBLE STUDY tonight

7:00pm Lenten Penance Service (church)

### **Wednesday, April 20**

7:00pm Lenten Penance Svc at Christ the King, Kingston

### **Holy Thursday, April 21**

7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper w/ Adoration at the altar of repose until 11pm

### **Good Friday, April 22**

3pm Stations of the Cross

7pm Solemn Service of Our Lord's Passion and Death

### **Holy Saturday, April 23**

7:30pm Solemn Vigil of Easter

## LONGING TO RETURN: LENT WRAP-UP

Throughout this Lenten season, as a parish family we have reflected on the theme "Longing to Return." We have "returned" to the Lord over the past five weeks of Lent in a number of ways. We have studied scripture more intently, we have prayed the Stations of the Cross both in our parish church and in area nursing homes, we have gathered with members of other Christian communities to pray and hear God's Word, we have celebrated the sacrament of penance, we have learned more about our rich Catholic heritage through our Dumb Ox book club, we have studied forms of art that lead to spiritual renewal, we have even gathered together to break bread and enjoy a homemade bowl of soup! It has been a busy Lent! Hopefully, through the power of God's grace, each of us in our own way has "returned" to Christ, hoping to encounter him anew in the community of the Church. As we enter into Holy Week and approach the three most sacred days of the year, we realize that our longing to return to paradise is a longing that would remain unfulfilled if it weren't for the tree of life, the cross, on which Jesus was nailed. Through the cross he conquered sin and death, opening for us the path back to paradise. As we are about to conclude our Lenten journey on Holy Thursday, consider these words from the Eastern Liturgy: ***"In Paradise of old, the tree stripped me bare, for by the eating of its fruit, the enemy brought in death. But now the most holy tree of the Cross that clothes all with the garment of life has been set up on earth, and all the world is filled with boundless joy!"***



## Year of Liturgical and Spiritual Renewal

## PASCHAL TRIDUUM

The various ceremonies of the Sacred Triduum constitute one single liturgy, which is the heart of the liturgical year. The liturgy of the three days celebrates the greatest mysteries of redemption, and through the outpouring of the sacraments, not only do we *remember* what the Lord did for us, we actually *experience* it anew. In the liturgies of the Triduum, the Church remembers the Passion, death and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus. But although these liturgies are full of drama and a powerful sense of history, liturgical remembering is not about the past *per se*; it is about the present! When the Church remembers, something happens in the here and now! "Recalling thus the mysteries of redemption, the Church opens to the faithful the riches of the Lord's powers and merits, so that these are in some way made present in every age in order that the faithful may lay hold on them and be filled with saving grace" (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, sec. 102). May you too be left speechless by the wonder of these holiest days of the liturgical year! **Please join us on each night of the Sacred Triduum to be immersed more deeply into the Paschal Mystery!**

## HOLY WEEK

Holy Week is the climax of the entire liturgical year. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of the Holy Week, when we commemorate Christ's royal entry into Jerusalem. On Monday evening, our parish priests will gather with the Most Reverend Bishop at the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul in Providence to participate in the **CHRISM MASS**. During this special mass, all of the priests of our diocese will renew their priestly promises before the bishop and will receive the newly blessed oils for use throughout the coming year (the Oil of Catechumens, the Oil of the Sick, and the Oil of Sacred Chrism). On Holy Thursday, Lent ends and the Sacred Triduum begins. The Sacred Triduum, the three sacred days marking the final events of our Lord's earthly life, forms the core of Holy Week. On Holy Thursday evening, we will celebrate the **MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER** at 7:00PM in St. Francis Church. This special Mass commemorates the institution of the Holy Eucharist and the Ministerial Priesthood. At this Mass, a ceremony of foot-washing is celebrated, in remembrance of Christ's own act of service at the Last Supper. At the conclusion of the Mass, the Blessed Sacrament is carried in solemn procession to the "repository" which is located in Helen Bouchard Hall, where adoration will continue until 11:00PM. Meanwhile, the altar is stripped of its appointments, as a remembrance of Christ's being stripped of his garments. On Good Friday, we recall with great solemnity the death of Jesus on the cross. Stations of the Cross will be held at 3:00PM. This is the only day of the year that Mass is not celebrated! The **CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION** will take place at 7:00PM in St. Francis Church. This distinctive service, which is *not* a mass, contains the familiar veneration of the cross and the distribution of Holy Communion. On Holy Saturday, the most sacred night of the year, we will gather at 7:30PM in Saint Francis Church for the **EASTER VIGIL**, the mother of all vigils, when we watch for Christ's resurrection. This mass begins in total darkness with the blessing of the Easter Fire and the lighting of the Easter Candle. We hear several readings, retelling us the story of our salvation and the mighty power of God's work in the course of the world's history. Our RCIA candidates who have been preparing throughout the past year will receive the Sacraments of Initiation and all present will renew their baptismal vows. Please make every effort to attend these sacred services of the Triduum. Without them, we would not be who we are!



### Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper—7:00PM

### Good Friday

Celebration of the Lord's Passion—7:00PM

### Holy Saturday

Solemn Vigil of the Lord's Resurrection—7:30PM