

# Holy Week

**A Palm Branch — to represent the events of Palm Sunday.**

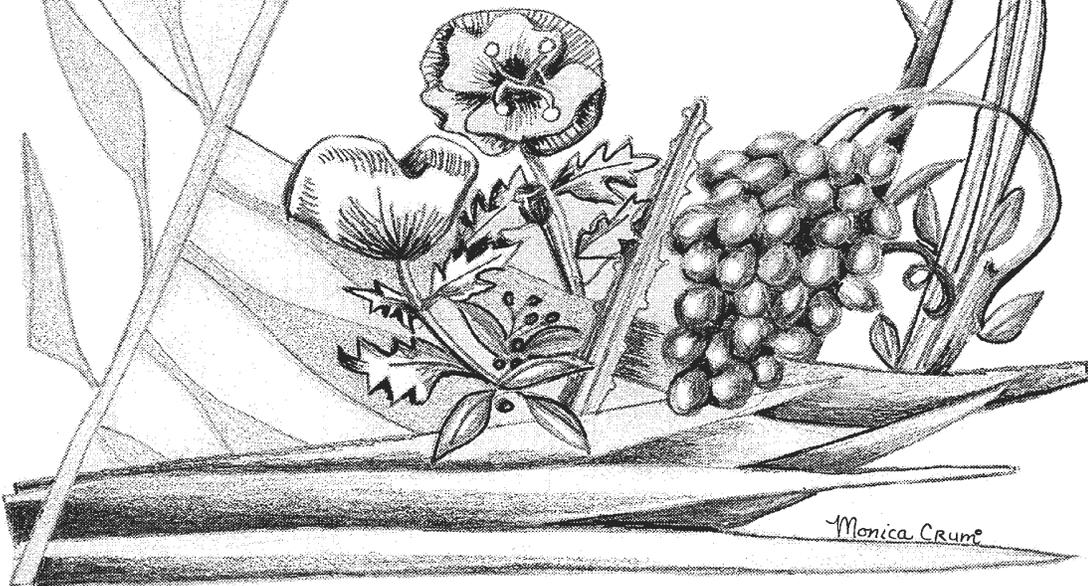
**Grapes and Wheat Stalks — to symbolize the Last Supper.**

**A Reed of Thorns — to depict the mocking of Christ.**

**A Passion Flower or Poppy (the source of gall) — to represent the Crucifixion.**

**Aloe, Myrrh or Other Spices — to symbolize the Resurrection.**

Taken from "The Fragrance of Easter", Sue Monk Kidd



# Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

8:00am: Robert Walters  
5:00pm: +Victor Pesqueira

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

**Palm Sunday**

8:15am: For the Parish  
11:15am: +Viviana Uribe Torres, +Sara Nava

MONDAY, MARCH 30

7:00am: Gus Wall

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

7:00am: Teresa Brooks

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 01

7:00am: +Shirley Wall

THURSDAY, APRIL 02

**Holy Thursday**

7:00pm: 1st Communion Candidates & Parents

FRIDAY, APRIL 03

**Good Friday**

7:00pm: **The Passion of the Lord**

SATURDAY, APRIL 04

**Holy Saturday**

8:00pm: OCIA Candidates & Sponsors

SUNDAY, APRIL 05

**Easter Sunday**

6:00am: Sr. Jean Marie Hauck, S.D.S.  
8:15am: +Vicky Neyhouse  
11:15am: For the Parish

Dear Brothers and Sisters:



On March 25, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. The readings for that day were both powerful and beautiful: **Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10** (*Behold, the virgin shall conceive*)/**Psalm 40: 7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11** (*Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will*)/**Hebrews 10: 4-10** (*As it is written of me in the scroll, behold, I come to do your will, O God*)/**Luke 1:26-38** (*Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son*).

The following meditation appeared in *Give Us This Day: Daily Prayer for Today's Catholic*. It was written by Judith Valente, author of several spirituality titles, including most recently **The Italian Soul: How to Savor the Full Joys of Life**.

**Everyday Grace**

It's always disconcerting to me to come across the Gospel of the Annunciation in the middle of Lent. Shouldn't we reserve the narrative for Advent? Then I remember the date: This Gospel comes exactly nine months before we celebrate Christ's birth in December.

Lent is a season when we are called to take a hard look at our interior lives and examine those places where we need to sweep out the ashes we've allowed to accumulate over the past year. So, it is a relief to remember how God works in mysterious and wondrous ways in the midst of this period of self-reflection.

I've always loved the Annunciation Gospel: all those miraculous pregnancies, Elizabeth conceiving a child in her old age, and young Mary visited by an Angel and offered a chance to do something no woman had done before - or could even have imagined. Though confused and even frightened, Mary trusts. Somehow, she must use the courage to say yes!

Lent is a sober time as we examine where we have failed at being the kind of person Christ calls us to be. But as both the Psalm and Saint Paul's letter reminds us, true conversion isn't about showy forms of personal piety and outward expressions of penance. Conversion is cultivating a sincere heart that continuously seeks to change those aspects of our lives that divide us from others, which keep us from being merciful as Christ was, and that prevent us from experiencing everyday grace.

Therefore, it is a comfort at the midpoint of Lent to once again be reminded that no matter how far we fall short in our own desire to change for the better, the words the angel spoke to Mary are also directed to us: "Nothing will be impossible for God." As Lent rolls on, can we have the courage to trust in that promise?

I hope and pray that you truly have a very happy and holy week and a grace filled Easter. You are in my daily thoughts and prayers.

**Always in the Savior, Fr. Joe**

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**PLEASE NOTE**

If you would like to participate in our Live Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, please call the parish office to volunteer or if you want more information.

**Fr. Joe**

## PRAYER REQUESTS

We are here to pray for you!



Barbara Brodeur, Carolyn Wingenter, Zanetta Brown, Faye Fletcher, Batchelder Family, Stachura Family, Sayre Family, Maddie Clearly, John Rourk, Jr., Cindy Morales, Linda Dimmock, Ralph & Helen Kissel, Judi Trygg, Cecilia Hall, Deacon Mike Rooney, Jane and Dena Bell, Marie Basta, Richard Brown, Jena Lanzell, Charlotte Johnson, Emma Lang, Jackie Weems, Bob Strang, Jacqueline Meador, Adrianna Hilburn, Jason & Jaxson Rivera, Therese Thomas, Art Sandridge, Chris Karlson, Mary Vandergraft, Jeff Baldwin, Ben Sunde, Anna Wilks, Bill Boehme, Kennita Turner, Eva Nave, Anna Belander, the Price family, Gail Johnson, Sally Cox, Mary Andrus family, George deVuyst, Milly Kuszynski, Brent Weisbecker, Mary Jean Travis, Jean Arndt, Mil White, Fr. Tim Pfander, Bobbie Quintana, Jr., Ezra Morris, Larry Barnett, Susan Sheehy, Chris Johnson, Peter Donnelly.

**Note**

If you wish to add someone to the prayer list, please contact the parish office. When that person recovers, please call again to remove their name so that others can be put on the list. **Thank you, Fr. Joe**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday	Isaiah 43:1-7 Ps 27:1-3, 13-14 John 12:1-11	Saturday	Genesis 1:1-2:2 <b>Vigil Mass</b> Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12-14, 24, 35 Genesis 22:1-18 Ps 16:5, 8-11 Exodus 14:15-15:1 Ps Exodus 15:1-6, 17-18	Sunday	Acts of the Apostles <b>Easter</b> 10:34a, 37-43 <b>Sunday</b> Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 Colossians 3:1-4 John 20:1-9
Tuesday	Isaiah 49:1-6 Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15, 17 John 13:21-33, 36-38		Isaiah 54:5-14 Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13 Isaiah 55:1-11 Ps Isaiah 12:2-6 Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4 Ps 19:8-11 Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28 Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4		
Wednesday	Isaiah 50:7-9a Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34 Matthew 26:14-25		Isaiah 55:1-11 Ps Isaiah 12:2-6 Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4 Ps 19:8-11 Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28 Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4		
Thursday	Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14 <b>Holy Thursday</b> Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-15		Romans 6:3-11 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 Matthew 28:1-10		
Friday	Isaiah 52:13-53:12 <b>Good Friday</b> Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25 Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 John 18:1-19:42	Epistle	Romans 6:3-11 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 Matthew 28:1-10		
		Gospel	Matthew 28:1-10		

**THE WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS** group will meet for lunch on April 9, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. at Surin of Thailand, Westbury Square, 975 Airport Road in Huntsville. Please call or text Glenda at 520-603-6708 by April 7 for information, reservations or cancellations. Newcomers are always welcome, so come join us!

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL'S SHARE THE HARVEST** food pantry collection will be held on April 11/12. We especially need: canned meat, soup, pasta, spaghetti sauce, rice, mashed potatoes, jelly, pancake mix, cereal, canned fruit and snacks/cookies. Please no bulk items or glass.

Please drop off food items at the collection point in front of the church before Masses on April 11/12 and do not leave any items unattended or exposed to the elements.

Thank you for your continued support of those in need in our community. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Kevin Nash at [kmn444@hotmail.com](mailto:kmn444@hotmail.com) or (315) 664-0755.

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS**



If you would like to make a donation to seasonal flower arrangements or request a special commemoration, please call the parish office at 256-534-8459.

**ST. JOSEPH HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2026**

**TRIDUUM**

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**Holy Thursday** **No Mass at 7:00 am or 9:00 am**  
**April 2** **Mass of the Lord's Supper @ 7:00 pm**  
Adoration until 10:00 pm in St. Francis Hall

**Good Friday** **No Mass at 7:00 am**  
**April 3** Live Stations of the Cross at 12:00 pm  
**Celebration of the Lord's Passion @ 7:00 pm**

**Holy Saturday** **No Mass at 8:00 am or 5:00 pm**  
**April 4** Blessing of Easter Foods at 9:00 am in front of the church  
Confessions 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm  
**Easter Vigil Mass @ 8:00 pm**

**Easter Sunday** **Easter Sunrise Mass at Monte Sano**  
**April 5** **@ 6:00 am**  
**Easter Sunday Masses @ 8:15 am and 11:15 am in the church**

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**Easter Reception in St. Francis Hall**  
**after the 8:15 am Mass**  
**Easter Celebration in the Messmer Center**  
**after the 11:15 am Mass**

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE**

**APRIL 05, 2026**

*Please see the full schedule for ministry assignments for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil*

ALTAR SERVERS

6:00am: Volunteers  
8:15am: Lucy Fried, Maddie Lynch  
11:15am: Emma Taylor, Lena Taylor

LECTORS

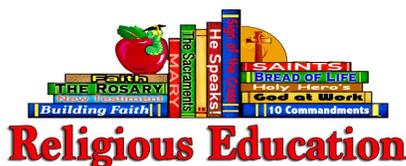
6:00am: Ann Kvach, Robert Styles  
8:15am: Jillian Fried, Claire Fried  
11:15am: Bruce Taylor, Helen Taylor

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

6:00am: Karen Sundry\*, \*Ben Sundry, \*Alicia Owens, \*Carmen Amato, \*Josette Dant, \*Ellen Styles, \*David Brost, \*Rita Cusack  
8:15am: Gina Bain\*, \*Paula Bertrand, Marian Kilgore, Laura Cardenas, Ashley Medina, Kevin Nash, Michelle Nash, Anne Heatherly  
11:15am: Bernita Briggs\*, \*Kristy Hayne, Jim Powell, Jennifer Luna, Jeffrey Taylor, Maggie Taylor, Josette Dant, Monique Kitts

# Religious Education

## Formation and Catechesis



### FORMATION CALENDAR

- March 29 RE/OCIA 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.  
St. Francis Hall/HFS/Parish Office Building
- April 5 **NO RE/OCIA—Happy Easter**
- April 12 RE/OCIA 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.  
St. Francis Hall/HFS/Parish Office Building

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**PARISH REGISTRATION:** If you attend Mass regularly at St. Joseph, you should be registered here. Single adults who no longer share an address with their parents should have their own separate registration. If you are planning to be married or are newly married, you are invited to join the parish. As a general rule, registration with a particular parish is important for any sacrament, such as baptism, 1st Communion, Confirmation, marriage and becoming a godparent. Please call the parish office if you have questions.

**BAPTISM:** Baptismal preparation class is required for parents and godparents. We offer the class at the beginning of each quarter, or four times a year. Please call the parish office to register. If you are a godparent from another parish, you must provide a letter of good standing from your pastor.

**MARRIAGE:** Marriage preparation classes are required if you plan to be married at St. Joseph. The preparation time is six months. You must be registered in the parish, complete the marriage preparation classes, attend an Engaged Encounter day or weekend and supply all the necessary documentation.

**FUNERAL:** Please call the parish office before making arrangements with a funeral home to ensure that the church and pastor are available. Schedule an appointment with the pastor to plan the service.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION NEEDED** Have you ever felt a desire to become closer to Christ? The EMHC may be the ministry God is calling you to join. Training sessions are available throughout the year.

If you are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister, contact Josette Dant at [josette@hutchenscompany.com](mailto:josette@hutchenscompany.com).

**THE MAGNIFICAT BREAKFAST** will be held on Saturday, April 25 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St. Elias Maronite Church Parish Hall in Birmingham, Alabama.

Our speaker, Cecilia Crandall, will share her story of the painful loss of her daughter and how she found strength to continue Laura’s legacy through God’s guidance and with the help of the Virgin Mary and the Holy Spirit.

Tickets are \$20 each or \$15 for students ages 13 to 22 and include a catered breakfast. They are available online at [BirminghamMagnificat.org](http://BirminghamMagnificat.org) or by contacting Jan Smith at 205-381-8481, from Alpha Church Supply or Holy Roses Flowers and Gifts.

No tickets sold at the door or after April 19.



**CATHOLIC CENTER OF CONCERN  
NEW UNDERWEAR DRIVE** We are happy to report the following totals from St. Joseph parish:

**Adult & Children**

- Underwear 894 pairs
- Socks 142 pairs
- T-shirts 69
- Miscellaneous bras and camisoles

Thank you for your continued generosity and commitment to our community and the communities we serve.

## Here Is What’s Happening This Week

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 01**

- 6:00pm: 11:15am Choir (SJC)
- 7:00pm: 8:15am Choir (SJC)

**THURSDAY, APRIL 02**

*Holy Thursday*

- 9:00am: HFS Live Stations of the Cross (SJC)
- 11:00am: HFS Seder Meal (FMC)
- 1:00pm: HFS Dismissal-Easter Break
- 7:00pm: Mass of the Lord’s Supper (SJC)

**FRIDAY, APRIL 03**

*Good Friday*

- 12:00pm: Live Stations of the Cross (SJC)
- 7:00pm: Celebration of the Lord’s Passion (SJC)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 04**

*Holy Saturday*

- 8:00pm: Easter Vigil Mass (SJC)

**SUNDAY, APRIL 05**

*Easter Sunday*

- 6:00am: Sunrise Mass (Monte Sano)
- 8:15am: Easter Sunday Mass (SJC)

**SUNDAY, APRIL 05**

*Easter Sunday*

- 9:30am: Easter Reception (SFH)
- 11:15am: Easter Sunday Mass (SJC)
- 12:30pm: Easter Celebration (FMC)

**Facilities Key**

- FMC = Messmer Center/Gym
- SJC = St. Joseph Church
- SFH = St. Francis Hall
- LMR/LIB = RE Center
- STA = St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel
- BRZWY = Breezeway
- VBC = Von Braun Center