

NEW WORSHIP AREA UPDATE

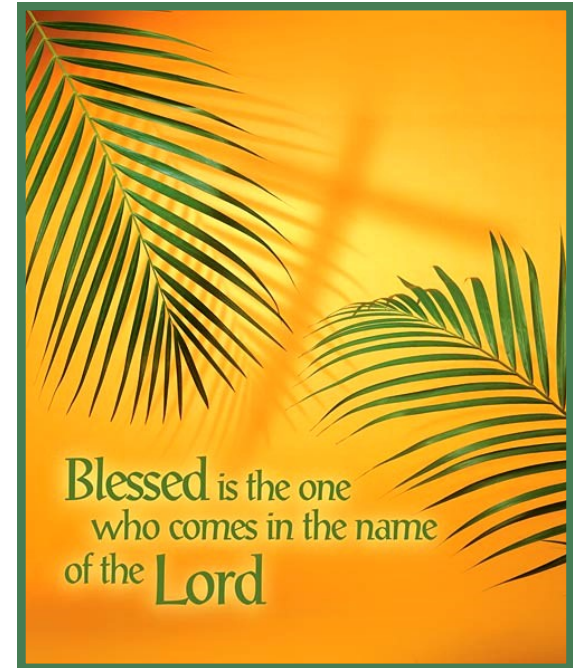
Still on schedule to be completed September 2021



*Thanks to everyone who continues to serve our church in many capacities.
We couldn't do it without you. God Bless you all.*

The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

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Blessed is the one
who comes in the name
of the Lord

Palm Sunday

March 28, 2021

Year B

PALM SUNDAY, March 28, 2021

The Church celebrates today Palm Sunday or/and Passion Sunday Because today's liturgy combines contrasting moments of glory, Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, and suffering which ends in his crucifixion – the royal welcome given to Jesus by his followers and the drama of his unjust trial culminating in his crucifixion.

As we listen to the Passion of Christ according to Mark, we are invited to examine our own lives in the light of some of the characters in the story like Peter who denied Jesus, Judas who betrayed Jesus, Pilate who acted against his conscience and condemned Jesus to death on the cross, the Chief priests who wanted to preserve their positions by getting rid of Jesus. The reading reminds us that Jesus died for our sins.

It is on Palm Sunday that we enter "Holy Week", and welcome Jesus into our lives, asking him to allow us a share in his suffering, death, and Resurrection. Holy Week challenges us to remember and relive the events which brought about our redemption and salvation, to appreciate gratefully the price Jesus paid for our salvation, and to return God's love for us (expressed through the suffering and death of Jesus), by loving others. The meditation on these Paschal mysteries should enable us to do our own dying to sin and rising with Jesus, which will result in our healing, reconciliation, and redemption. Proper participation in the Holy Week liturgies will also deepen our relationship with God, increase our Faith, and strengthen our lives as disciples of Jesus. And let us remember that Holy Week can become "holy" for us only if we actively and consciously take part in the mission of Jesus of looking out for those who are experiencing daily their "passion": the hungry, the poor, the sick, the homeless, the lonely and the outcast, the discriminated.

The focus of today's scripture readings and indeed all the readings of Holy Week is on Jesus, who is faithful to the Father, faithful to his mission of saving us. Jesus is faithful not only when he was being praised and honored as a king but also during the terrible times of suffering and crucifixion. The first reading today is from the prophet Isaiah. He foretells the mysterious One who is to come whom we know now as Jesus, by saying '*I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard, my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord God is my help, therefore I am not disgraced. I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame*'. This was exactly what Jesus did. He trusted that his father would strengthen him to be faithful to the end especially when suffering. The Good News is that God our Father will strengthen us also.

The liturgy of Holy Week is telling us of the incredible love of a God who will never give up on us, even when we praise him in good times, and then forget his love in hard times. It is especially important to note that nowhere in any of the gospel readings of this week does Jesus condemn anyone. Neither does he condemn you and me.

On the cross Jesus broke the cycle of violence. Instead of taking revenge on those killing him and returning hatred for hatred he returned forgiveness and love. Jesus did not act out of a power stance or with any superior force but met bitterness with gentleness, hatred with love, rejection by accepting the others in their anger. This is what we have to imitate.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading:

Isaiah 50:4-7

Responsorial Psalm:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Second Reading:

Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: *Mark 14:1-15:47*

Father suggests you say the Prayer for Spiritual Communion during communion



Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that you are truly Present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things And I desire to possess You within my soul.

Since I am unable at this Moment to receive You Sacramentally,

Come at least spiritually Into my heart.

I embrace You as being Already there, and unite Myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be Separated from you.

Amen.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



Katy Placilla, Jeanne Lessner, Vincent Recupido & Catharine Aumuller,

PARISHIONERS

Peggy Williams, Lois & Skip Kramb, Marianne Krop, Tom Foley, Toni & Nikki Traynor, Suzanne Sitterding, Veronica O'Leary, Michele Meanely, Jack & Louise Petralia, Tom Wash, Paul Pearce, Lynn & Jim Vajda, Min Tassone, Grace Anderson, Natalie Smith, Lorie & Sal Messina, Pat Paul, Georgia Beville, Margaret Hock, Anne Dunn, Michelle Chmiel, Tom & Cindy Jessee, Peggy Williams, Karen Dame, Mike Lokie, Steve Kirsch, Marilynne Cerullo, Tom Hawksworth, Mary Ann & Kenneth Gulick, Nancy Wirth, Chris Henkel, Vincent Recupido, Bettie Hodge, Bob & Ingrid Borden, Laurie King, Becky Nunn, Bill & Linda Gray, Carol Smith, Pat & Lee Reamy, Janine Jaboulay, Anne Paparella, Carole McPherson, Colin Walsh.

FAMILY OF PARISHIONERS

Karen Tatum, Nikki Ryan, Lynn Messina, Erik Meijer, Dave Hersh, Mike Shea, Krop Family, Pam Tibbs, Sherry Newton, Aquela Parker, Khloe Nipper, Bernie Smith, Virginia Talke, Phil Melancon, Ray Kostaskey, Doris Melancon, Dominick Perry, Kimberly Lavinder, Doug Meuse, Michele Brune, Noele & Mike Anglin, Anita Bomberger, Drinkwater Family, Kathy Shepherd, Lucy Walker, Suzanne Whelan, Jim Rundle, Rundle-Kehl family, Doris & Arthur Green, Rachel, Brian & Marcus Pittman, Robbie Beasley, Sandra Bush & Children, Mary Gray, Denis Popp, PJ Schwedler, John Calvin Barnard, Sal Messina Jr., Colleen O'Rollins, Michael Reamy, Natash Walsh, Ellen DeMaurez, Michele MacFarland, Shirley Schultz, LC Warren, John Vajda, Sandy Alter, Andy & Iris Hetzer.

FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

The Butt Family, Greg Chambers, Bristow Family, Peg Meushaw, Dave Gunn, Chuck Taylor, Paula Harcum, Cathy Kirkland, Steve Sohles, Remy Maine Miller, Jessie Debusk, Ryan & Jeanne Norris, Donna Newcomb, Vickie Hogge, Maria Franzoni, Pumpkin Brownley, Rita Blommel, Brenda Knupp, Ashely Scott & family, Steve Smith, Susie Loustaunau, Elizabeth Panzer, Linda Cryer, Tyra Freed, Valerie McCarthy, John Rychtarik.

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List please contact the office by email or phone.

MAIL IN OFFERTORY, AND ON LINE DONATIONS: MARCH 21, 2021

Collection: \$ 2,417
Second Collection:
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 83,029
Total Budget Projection: \$ 75,703
Our second collection today is for Easter Flowers.



"Hyperlink to website"

We signed the following principle checks this week:
\$159 Printer Leasing Fee; \$260 Lawn Care.

BIRTHDAY'S FOR APRIL



1st-Carole McPherson & Suzanne Sitterding, 3rd-Bob O'Leary, 4th-Blaise Katsuki, Sally Johnson, Marianne Krop & Fritz Heunemann, 5th-Jim Vajda, 6th-Ray Kostas, 8th-Pat Reamy, 10th-Anne Dunn, 12th-Nancy Wirth & Tracy Pausic, 13th-Carol Smith, 17th-Margaret Hock, 23rd-Kaylee Kirsch & Tom Johnson, 28th-Louise Hartz.



ANNIVERSARY DATES FOR APRIL

3rd-Brendan & Eileen O'Brien, 9th-Tom & Sharon Hawksworth,
10th-Bill & Linda Gray, 17th-Mike & Noelle Harvey.

THANK YOU'S ALL AROUND COV

A big shout out to all those who helped with Soup & Stations:



Soup Makers:

Michele Meanley, Cindy Jesse, Mary Sychterz, Germaine Hayes,
Lynne Dreelin, Eileen O'Brien, Lynne Richardson, Debby Harriman, Mary Dorman,
Lisa Forte, Georgia Belville, Pat Marchant, & Donna Brandl.

Bread Makers: Debby Harriman, Roseanne Moncure, Germaine Hayes, Kathy Kauffman, Carol Smith, Jean Kostas, John McCormack, Donna Brandl, Mary & Tom Dorman & Linda Gray.

Thank you to all you wonderful people for providing us with home cooked meals.
Also a big thank you to Eileen O'Brien for setting the stations up & to
Carol McCormack for setting the scene with live music.

We also want to send out a special thanks to those that helped with the Scoots BBQ:
John McCormack, Debby Harriman, Ed Harriman & Mary Sychterz.

These fundraising efforts resulted in approximately \$700 each in profit for the Building Fund. Gigantic, but worthwhile endeavors. Mary Sychterz



REGRETS

We regret to announce the death of parishioner, Kathy Placilla, who passed away last weekend from the effects of COVID-19. Kathy and husband Mel joined the parish recently, and live north of Urbanna.

A private service was held at the Bristow-Faulkner Funeral home this past Wednesday. Our prayers are with Mel, daughter Kelly and other family members.

PALM SUNDAY MESSAGE

Palm Sunday always presents a contrast, a dichotomy so to say. We begin the liturgy by remembering Jesus entering Jerusalem. He is mounted on a donkey and welcomed by a crowd singing Hosana to the King! In various parishes, processions are held with chants and songs recalling this event. Then as the Mass progresses we read the Gospel of Passion of Christ, reliving the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus for our salvation. The celebration which begun in a very joyful mood changes to a somber one.

Isn't our life like that? We have moments of joy, sad moments, times of strong faith, and times of doubt. The past year has been those moments. It all began with joy and hope. But with the tragedy of a pandemic, all our securities crumbled, we felt a sense of abandonment, fear replaced hope. The past year has been one long passion. But Jesus says to each one of us; "Courage, open your heart to my love, you will overcome this moment. You will feel the consolation of God who sustains you." Like the Passion of Jesus which ends in the Joy of the Resurrection, may our life be renewed as we look forward with hope that life will soon come back to a kind of normalcy.



Father Gerry

EASTER EGG HUNT

Suspended for a year, Faith Formation will again conduct an Easter Egg Hunt after Mass on Easter Sunday. We have about 250 eggs to distribute for our children (under 12 years old) to discover. Out of concern for families who are fearful of attending Mass with children, we have no requirement for you to attend Mass to participate in the hunt. Mass normally lasts about 45 minutes, so congregate in the pavilion at 10:45am.



PAYROLL PROTECTION PROGRAM (PPP)

Early on the pandemic, we applied for a PPA Loan when offertory receipts were lacking. It required considerable paperwork fraught with government red tape. While waiting for Sona Bank to process our request, the Diocese located another bank that could handle it and submitted one in our behalf. The loan totaled \$9,915, and required a lengthy rationale for payment. When the process allowed it, the Diocesan Finance Office applied for loan forgiveness, and last week, the Small Business Administration forgave our loan. We thank the Diocese and our office staff for a timely success story.

REGRETS

We regret to announce the death of Vincent Recupido on Wednesday a week ago. Vince joined the parish in 2012 after retiring from the New York City Police Department and moving here to be close to other family members. Our prayers are with his spouse, Dolores Ann, Candace, and the Hollingsworth family. A private graveside service was held this past Monday in the COV cemetery.



CHURCH INFORMATION

Since we began celebrating Mass for all parishioners exclusive of alphabet restrictions, our attendance weekly has been about 70-75 persons.

We can handle that many persons seating-wise, but accounting for attendees has become difficult because so many parishioners are arriving only a few minutes before Mass.

Please consider arriving for Mass as early as 15 minutes before hand to ease the accountability issue.

At the same time that we ask you to arrive earlier, we would also ask that you minimize the socializing (a dichotomy-come early and don't talk) so we can ascertain who is seating where and reduce the risk of transmitting any infections.

TODAY'S ASSIGNMENTS

Lectors: Joe Sychterz, Becky & Spike Nunn Community Leader: Kathy Kauffman

ANNUAL APPEAL



We continue to further surpass our goal when counting cash donated to date and amounts pledged. Twenty-seven parish families, two former families, and one unknown have contributed to this appeal. To those who contributed to this achievement, I offer my heartfelt thanks and gratitude for your generosity in these times of unparalleled crisis and countless calls for commitment.

You are true bearers of the cross. Father Gerry

WHAT WILL BE YOUR LEGACY?

Good stewardship requires us to think of the future. Have your estate plan prepared now and express your good stewardship in ways that will bless your family and your church.

“Later” can be too late. Don't delay having your will drawn. Make sure your estate plans are in place so that your wishes will be carried out to benefit your family. Gifts you plan for your will can help your church continue to minister and serve.

Be sure that your estate planning documents are properly prepared. A homemade will “might” work, but unless it is properly written it might cause unnecessary expenses and delays-and worst of all, it might not accomplish what you want to happen. The writing of your will is a job for which you need professional assistance.



Potential, Purpose, Promise

CATHOLIC CHARITIES



Catholic Charities of Eastern Virginia provides Mental Health Counseling Services for adults, children, couples and families. Telehealth and safe in-person appointments are available on a sliding scale fee. Call 757-467-7707 to schedule an appointment.

LENT IS UPON US



Fasting is to be observed by all 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed.

Abstinence is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. When in doubt concerning fast and abstinence, the parish priest should be consulted.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence.

All the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

We remind everyone that the Holy Week Triduum will be held at FdS commencing at 6:30pm Thursday.

Good Friday service is at 5:30pm and the Easter Vigil at 8PM.

We do have one solemn service at COV. We will celebrate the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at 12 noon in the cemetery.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION

What will be the flooring in the New Worship Area?

The center aisle, front of the nave, and sanctuary will be ceramic tile.

Remainder will be carpet, but carpet that will come in replaceable squares when marred or tarnished. An all-ceramic tile floor would have been too noisy, especially when lowering and closing kneelers.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the *Lord*, plans to *prosper* you, and not to *harm* you, plans to give you *hope* and a *future*. Jeremiah 29:11

What a future we have. Our new church continues to appear before our eyes. Without you, it would not be possible. Thank you to all the parishioners for their generous commitments.

Memorials still available are as follows:

Confessional \$7,500 Sound System \$8,500
Double Wooden Doors \$10,000 Sanctuary Tile \$11,500
Pews and Choir Chairs minimum donation of \$250.
Stained Glass Windows 3 left \$12,000 each



"Hyperlink" to Memorials

