

St. Joseph Catholic Church

*“Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples.
Preach the gospel to all people.”*

March 28-29, 2026 | Palm Sunday



MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil Mass 4:00 PM

Sunday Mass 10:00 AM

Tuesday 8:30 AM

Wednesday 8:30 AM

ADORATION

Wednesdays 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

RECONCILIATION

Wednesdays 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

CONTACT US

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**Wednesday April 1
@ 6:00 PM**

**Hosted by the
Knights of Columbus**

This Sunday's Readings

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalms 22:8-9,17-20,23-24

Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel Reading Matthew 26:14—27:66

Today we begin Holy Week, the days during which we journey with Jesus on his way of the cross and anticipate his Resurrection on Easter. Today's liturgy begins with the procession with palms to remind us of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem.

The events of Jesus' Passion are proclaimed in their entirety in today's Liturgy of the Word. Those events will be proclaimed again when we celebrate the liturgies of the Triduum—Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Good Friday of the Lord's Passion, and the Easter Vigil. In communities that celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation with catechumens, these liturgies take on special importance because they invite the catechumens and the community to enter together into the central mysteries of our faith. These days are indeed profound and holy.

The story of Jesus' Passion and death in Matthew's Gospel focuses particularly on the obedience of Jesus to the will of his Father. As Jesus sends his disciples to prepare for Passover, he indicates that the events to come are the will of the Father (Matthew 26:18). In Jesus' prayer in the garden, he prays three times to the Father to take away the cup of suffering, but each time, Jesus concludes by affirming his obedience to the Father's will (Matthew 26:39-44). Even Matthew's description of Jesus' death shows Jesus' obedience to the Father.

Another theme of Matthew's Gospel is to show Jesus as the fulfillment of Scripture. Throughout the Passion narrative, Matthew cites and alludes to Scripture to show that the events of Jesus' Passion and death are in accordance with all that was foretold. And if the events were foretold, then God is in control. In addition, Matthew is particularly concerned that the reader does not miss the fact that Jesus is the Suffering Servant of the Old Testament.

Jesus acts in obedience to the Father even in death, so that sins may be forgiven. Matthew makes this clear in the story of the Lord's Supper. As Jesus blesses the chalice, he says: ". . . for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins." (Matthew 26:28)

While the Gospels of Matthew and Mark have many parallels in their narrative of the Passion, there are a few details worth noting that are unique to Matthew. Only Matthew indicates the price paid to Judas for betraying Jesus.

The story of Judas's death is also found only in Matthew, as is the detail that Pilate's wife received a warning in a dream and that Pilate washed his hands of Jesus' death. Finally, Matthew's Gospel alone mentions the earthquakes and other phenomena that happened after Jesus' death.

Matthew places the responsibility for Jesus' death on the Sanhedrin, the chief priests and elders who were responsible for the Temple. However, the animosity that those Jewish leaders and the Jewish people demonstrate toward Jesus is not to be interpreted in ways that blame the Jewish people for Jesus' death.

Throughout Matthew's Gospel, the narrative reflects the tension that probably existed between the early Christian community and their Jewish contemporaries. At the Second Vatican Council, the Council Fathers made clear that all sinners share responsibility for the suffering and death of Jesus and that it is wrong to place blame for Jesus' Passion on the Jewish contemporaries of Jesus or on Jewish people today.

There are many vantage points from which to engage in Jesus' Passion. In the characters of Matthew's Gospel, we find reflections of ourselves and the many ways in which we sometimes respond to Jesus. Sometimes we are like Judas, who betrays Jesus and comes to regret it. We are sometimes like Peter, who denies him, or like the disciples, who fell asleep during Jesus' darkest hour but then act rashly and violently at his arrest. Sometimes we are like Simon, who is pressed into service to help Jesus carry his cross. Sometimes we are like the leaders who fear Jesus or like Pontius Pilate, who washed his hands of the whole affair. Jesus dies so that our sins will be forgiven.

The events of Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection are called the Paschal Mystery. No amount of study will exhaust or explain the depth of love that Jesus showed in offering this sacrifice for us. After we have examined and studied the stories we have received about these events, we are left with one final task—to meditate on these events and on the forgiveness that Jesus' obedience won for us.

--*Sunday Connection, Loyola Press*

Parish Calendar

Tuesday, May 31

Daily Mass 8:30 AM

Wednesday, April 1

Daily Mass 8:30 AM

No bible study in observance of Holy Week
Stations of the Cross/Soup Supper
6:00 PM

Thursday, April 2

Prayer Shawl 10:00 AM

Friday, April 3

Good Friday - Veneration of the Cross 7:00 PM

Saturday, April 4

Easter Vigil 8:00 PM

Sunday, April 5

Easter Sunday Mass 8:00 and 10:00 AM

Monday, April 6

Easter Monday - Parish offices closed



Easter Egg Hunt

Join us for our Easter Egg hunt on Easter Sunday at **9:00 AM**, between the 8:00 and 10:00 AM Masses.

We need your help! Midway Elementary still has 33 students who rely on weekend food bags through the Second Harvest Bite2Go program for the months of March, April, and May.



Just \$15 feeds one child for a month of weekends. \$45 covers all three months. Any amount makes a difference. If you're able, please consider donating online through the Bite2Go website: <https://donors.2-harvest.org/page/Bite2GoElementary>



After Easter, we'll also have a donation jar and volunteers in the lobby to answer questions. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Saint Francisco Marto



Francisco (1908-1919), his sister Jacinta, and their cousin Lucia cared for their parent's sheep in the fields of Aljustrel, Portugal. On May 13, 1917, they saw an apparition of a beautiful Lady; for several months following, the Lady appeared to them again on the thirteenth day of each month. Despite pressure,

threats, and the burden of favorable but overwhelming attention from others, the children firmly repeated what they had seen and passed on the message of penance given them by the Virgin Mary. Francisco died young of influenza, but he lived as the Blessed Mother had told him to do, making sacrifices every day for sinners.

--Saints, Becoming an image of Christ every day of the year

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 28 - St. Joseph Parishioners

Sunday, March 29 - Kevin Weidinger+

Tuesday, March 31 - Mary Beth Shafer (healing)

Wednesday, April 1 - Bonnie Betts (healing)

Saturday, April 4 - St. Joseph Parishioners

Parish Offerings

Income	Budget/week	Actual/week
Envelopes	\$ 3,385.00	\$ 3,756.00
Plate	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,074.00
Online gifts	\$ 1750.00	\$ 2,112.65
Building fund		
Kid's Fund		23.55
Total	\$ 5,616.00	\$ 6,942.65

Prayer Intentions

Bonnie Viet Betts
Mary Beth Shafer
Anita Ascolese
Taffy Cochran+
Bob Watkins+
Kevin McKee+



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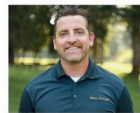
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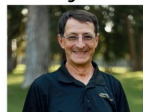
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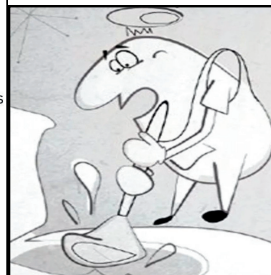
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