

## COMMUNITY COMING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 04/02 (Today) HOLY MASS at 10am. with blessing and distribution of palms. Regular COFFEE HOUR in the church hall.
- 04/03-05 (Monday-Wednesday) CLEANING OF THE CHURCH. Are there any volunteers to help us clean the church before the Holy Week liturgies?
- 04/06 (Maundy Thursday) HOLY MASS of the Lord's Supper at 5pm.
- 04/07 (Good Friday) SOLEMN LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION at 5pm.
- 04/08 (Holy Saturday) PASCHAL VIGIL with blessing of fire, water & Paschal Candle at 8pm. Blessing of Easter baskets just before the liturgy begins.
- 04/09 (Easter Sunday) HOLY MASS OF THE RESURRECTION at 10am. EASTER BREAKFAST follows the Mass in the Church Hall (free but must be booked by Palm Sunday, April 2).



# Holy Week

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

23 Golway Street, Manchester, CT 06042  
Official website: [www.saintjohnspncc.org](http://www.saintjohnspncc.org)  
Facebook: John the Baptist, Manchester CT  
Rectory phone: 860-643-5906

PASTOR - Rev. Adam Piekarczywski

April 2, 2023

# BEHOLD

PARISH BULLETIN

## PALM SUNDAY

MASS INTENTION - 10am

For + EUGENIA PALUSZYNSKA  
(req. by Maria with the family)

### INTROIT

C: Open wide the door and gates. Lift high the ancient portals. The King of glory enters; Who is the King of glory? He is God, the mighty Lord.

R: Hosanna in the highest. Blessed are You Who have come to us so rich in love and mercy. Hosanna in the highest.

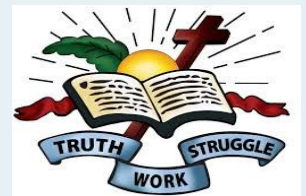
C: Lord, for us Your wounds were suffered.

R: O Christ Jesus, have mercy on us.



## HOLY MASS

. 10.00 am



## MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass said for a particular intention, you must stop by the Parish Office or the sacristy in the Church before/after Sunday mass. Masses can be said for a deceased person or as a special intention for the living. You may reserve a Sunday of your choice, and your intention will be published in the parish bulletin.

We encourage you to offer a Mass on the occasion of a birthday, anniversary or special personal (family) need.

## READING 1

**A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.**

The Lord GOD has given me  
a well-trained tongue,  
that I might know how to speak to the  
weary a word that will rouse them.  
Morning after morning  
he opens my ear that I may hear;  
and I have not rebelled,  
have not turned back.

## IS 50:4-7

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.

**The Word of the Lord.** *Thanks be to God.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*„My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?“*

## PS 22

## READING 2

**A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians.**

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form  
of God, did not regard equality with God  
something to be grasped.  
Rather, he emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
coming in human likeness;  
and found human in appearance,  
he humbled himself,  
becoming obedient to the point of  
death, even death on a cross.

## PHIL 2:6-11

Because of this, God greatly exalted him  
and bestowed on him the name  
which is above every name,  
that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
of those in heaven and on earth and under  
the earth,  
and every tongue confess that  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**The Word of the Lord.**  
*Thanks be to God.*

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

During this most Holy Week, may the time you spend reflecting on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus bring you a greater awareness of GOD’s love for you! Today we begin Holy Week, the most solemn week in the church calendar. We reflect upon the events that brought about our salvation. Jesus triumphantly enters into Jerusalem, the City of Peace, in order to announce the GOoD News, not just with His words but by His act of loving sacrifice for all people. We journey along with Him as He celebrates the great feast of Passover and becomes the New Paschal Lamb Whose blood is poured out so that we, the New Israel, might experience the liberation from sin and the new life of grace. We look on as Jesus suffers His passion and crucifixion. And ultimately, we will experience His glorification from the cross and at the tomb.

The Gospel relates the events of this week, from Judas’ making a pact with the religious leaders to hand over Jesus, to the Last Supper, to the agony in the garden, to the fake trial, to His passion – condemnation, scourging, crowning with thorns, crucifixion, death, and burial. We need to read the passion story over and over again this week. We should take time to realize all that Jesus did in order to bring the GOoD News to us. The four gospels share only a glimpse of the full suffering and pain that Jesus experienced. So also the resurrection accounts will only give us a small idea of the magnificence of the glorified Risen Lord Jesus.

Books have been written, movies have been made, about the passion of Jesus, describing the physical and emotional pain Jesus suffered. Yet, rather than my adding words or your reading how much Jesus suffered, it behooves us to spend time this week slowly and reflectively re-reading the passion as related to us in the four Gospels. [Matthew 26: 14 – 27:66; Mark 14: 1 – 15:47; Luke 22:1 – 23:56; John 13:1 – 19:42 (John’s account is longer because it includes Jesus’ discourse to (and His prayer for) His disciples during the Last Supper.) Each gives us another perspective on the key events of the mystery of our salvation.

A key line in the Gospel is the words of the Roman soldier after the death of Jesus: “Truly, this man was the Son of GOD!” This should be our profession of faith this week, and always. Let us proclaim it by living as the daughters and sons of GOD, the sisters and brothers of the Lord Jesus. Let us live lives that show we accept the salvation and redemption for which Jesus poured out His blood. Let us be transformed through the Paschal Mystery (the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus), so others will know that we believe that Jesus truly is the Son of GOD, our Savior.

***The personal question/action for today:*** When I think of the events of Holy Week, what thoughts come to mind? How do I make this week the holiest week of the year? How can I share the GOoD News of the paschal mysteries to those with whom I come in contact?