

here life ends.

*here life begins.*

**mass of the lord's supper**  
**thursday**

seven thirty in the evening

**the passion and death of the lord**  
**friday**

three in the afternoon

**the great vigil of easter**  
**saturday**

at eight in the evening

**easter**  
**sunday**

at ten forty-five in the morning

## CELEBRATING HOLY WEEK

*The week before Easter, which we call Holy Week, is of central importance to the practice of our faith as Christians. It is so important that about one third of the gospel story focuses on this one week and the day of resurrection. While it might seem to be just a series of commemorations of events long past from the life of Jesus, it isn't really. It is actually one celebration that processes through the week; a week-long celebration that weaves our history, our faith, and our remembering of the glory and wonder of this great story, **our** story. This isn't a lesson in history; it's God who is alive, who is moving and acting in us and through us, here and now. It's living faith. It's a faithful people who gather to tell the story again and again; to remember, to celebrate, and to believe.*

### Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

*Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 /Is 50:4-7/Ps 22/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1---15:47*

For a celebration that begins so triumphantly with Jesus' joyful and glorious entry into Jerusalem amid cheering crowds waving their branches of palm, the mood sure turns dark very fast. "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord" too soon becomes "Crucify him! Crucify him!" The Passion – the greatest story of betrayal, lust for power, and murder ever written – takes a central place on this day. This is a day to remember pain and agony; the passion and death of The One whom we so recently celebrated at Christmastime; The One who came as a lowly child.

### Monday of Holy Week

*Is 42:1-7/Ps 27/Jn 12:1-11*

Judas just never gets it right. He thinks it a waste when the other Mary pours a liter of expensive oil onto Jesus. To Judas mind, the money should have been given to the poor. Poor Judas just doesn't get it. Perhaps that's because, as is so often the case with people like him, his protests are false: "He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief and held the money bag and used to steal the contributions." (John 12:6) Judas, stealing from the collection basket, is about to be undone by his own corruption. *Today is a day to reflect on what I give to the Lord, whether it's time, money, or effort. Am I like Judas, so full of myself and flaunting my little "gifts" to God's charities as an excuse to avoid giving to God what is really due to God – and keeping the rest for myself?*

### Tuesday of Holy Week

*Is 49:1-6/Ps 71/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38*

Jesus is on to Judas – his thievery and betrayal is no secret any more. Jesus forces Judas' hand, and Judas now must move quickly. Why doesn't Judas just apologize and ask forgiveness? Surely Jesus would have forgiven him for his wicked plan, and there was still time to abort it. But Judas wants to keep to the deal he made to turn-over Jesus for those precious silver coins. *Today is a day to reflect on the times I had a choice to make, but either failed to act or deliberately chose the wrong path. Am I sometimes, like Judas, so fixated on what I want that I would deliberately choose to do wrong to someone? Would I ever just stand by and allow someone to be hurt when I could so easily prevent it?*

### Wednesday of Holy Week

*Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69/Mt 26:14-25*

Judas has done the deed, but he still plays coy. "Surely it is not I, Rabbi?" Jesus has been betrayed for a measly thirty pieces of silver – the same compensation that would be paid to one whose slave has been gored by an ox. (Exodus 21:32) *Today is a day to reflect on the value I place on the things I love. How much is my family worth to me? My friends? My Savior? What is my own life worth to me?*

### Holy Thursday

*Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21*

With all the focus on Judas, we should take time to remember that there are a lot of people in the world doing the work that Christ commanded to be done. In the Mass of Chrism, celebrated every year at the Cathedral on Holy Thursday, we remember those who have been chosen to carry on Jesus' work in a very special way; we celebrate their ordination to the Priesthood and we witness the blessing of the Holy Oils they use in their ministry to anoint in the Name of Christ. (Note: In our diocese, this celebration is moved to Tuesday of Holy Week at 10:30am.)

*Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15*

Because we tell this story so often – at every Mass, in fact – we might forget how remarkable it truly is: Jesus, knowing he is to be condemned to death, doesn't run for cover. Instead, he washes his followers' feet and feeds them. What an odd and truly remarkable way to impress upon them exactly what he wants them to do after he is gone. He's been teaching them by words for some time, but words can fail; Jesus knows he can communicate this most important command more effectively by actions, signs and symbols. In fact, so confident is he that stakes the life of the Church on it. *Today is a day to reflect on my actions, and what they communicate to others. Do my actions and my words seem to be in agreement? Are the "actions" I do in living my daily life a good mirror of what I say I believe?*

### Good Friday

*Is 52:13---53:12/Ps 31/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1-19:42*

In this reading of the Passion, the divine name "I AM" appears three times. Peter, asked if he is Jesus' follower, responds three times, "I am not." Jesus dies on the cross, mostly alone, humiliated, betrayed. John's telling of the Passion is subtly different from Mark's telling (which we heard on Palm Sunday.) No doubt if you were there, you would have told the story a little differently, too. But it's the same story, and no matter how many words we throw at it, mere words just cannot do it justice. The story of Jesus' conception, incarnation, ministry and death truly is the greatest story ever told. But now God is dead; and there will be no Mass, no Sacraments tomorrow. What is there to celebrate?

But we're not done. Tomorrow night, after the sun has gone down and the world truly sits waiting in darkness for Justice; at the Easter Vigil we will recount the whole story of Us, from the first cataclysmic moment of creation to the end of time, and it will all make sense. All of this happened in this way *because this is the way it had to happen*. And because of all of this: because God sent his only Son into the world to become incarnate, to live, to suffer, to die and to rise from death ... because of this, you – and all those who believe – will live forever.

## PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

### READINGS FOR THE GREAT VIGIL AND EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1---2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Gn 22:1-18  
or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ex 14:15---15:1/  
Is 54:5-14/ Is 55:1-11/Bar 3:9-15, 32---4:4/  
Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Rom 6:3-11/Mk 16:1-7  
Easter Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/  
Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7

### LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Youth Group will present the Living Stations of the Cross on **Good Friday, April 10, 2009 at 7:00pm.**

All parishioners and their guests are invited to this presentation.

### YOUTH GROUP EASTER CANDY SALE

The Youth Group will be selling Easter candy on Saturday, April 4, and Sunday, April 5 after Mass. All proceeds will go to offset the cost of the Confirmation Retreat.

This year the candy is from See's Candies. You have your choice of the following:

- 4 oz Milk Chocolate Foil Rabbit
- 4 oz. Chick Box filled with a variety of See's Candies
- 4 oz Peanut Butter Egg
- 4 oz. Dark Chocolate Butter Egg
- 4 oz. Bordeaux Egg

All are priced at \$5.00.

If you have already ordered Easter candy, you may pick up your order during these times. Or contact Rella to arrange for pickup during the week.

### TAG SALE – SPACE RENTAL

The Youth Group will be participating in the town wide Tag Sale once again this year. Our tag sale will be held in the front parking lot of the church. We will be renting space to those who would like to join us in the parking lot. The rental fee is \$15 for 8 feet of space – tables and chairs will be provided free of charge. Please contact Rella (875-4563) or by e-mail (rella@sacredheartchurch.net) if you are interested in renting a table.

### TAG SALE – DONATIONS

As you begin your spring cleaning, please remember that the Youth Group will take clean, usable items for the tag sale. We cannot take clothing items or shoes/boots. Please contact Rella for information about dropping off items you wish to donate. The proceeds from the tag sale will help to defray the cost of the Confirmation Retreat. Thank you.

### LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS – PRACTICE

Youth Group members are reminded that the final practice for the Living Stations of the Cross will be held on Good Friday, April 10, at 10:00am. Since the lights and music will be part of the practice, all members are asked to make every effort to be present for this practice. If you have any conflicts, questions, or concerns, please contact Rella.

### ATTENTION: SUNDAY FAITH FORMATION CLASSES & YOUTH GROUP

All Sunday Faith Formation Classes and the Youth Group will not meet on Sunday, April 12 in observance of Easter. Also, all Sunday Faith Formation classes and Youth Group will not meet on Sunday, April 19 because of the Vernon school system's Spring Break. These classes and Youth Group will meet again on Sunday, April 26 at their regularly scheduled times. Questions? Please contact Rella.

### BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

Next Saturday, April 11  
at 9:30am  
at Saint Maurice Church

*All from Saint Maurice and Sacred Heart who wish to have their Easter food blessed are invited to bring their food to Saint Maurice at 9:30am.*



There is an abundance of human need surrounding us – the poor, the sick, the elderly, troubled families, the disabled, and those in crisis. The Annual Bishop's Appeal (ABA) gives us an opportunity to respond to those in need and to show Christ's love by putting our faith in action as a Diocesan family. The Diocesan agencies and programs supported by the ABA help with both spiritual and physical needs and go beyond what an individual parish can accomplish alone. **Thousands of people, many programs and agencies, our parish, and our Diocese need your help.** Please plan to make your pledge to the Annual Bishop's Appeal.

APRIL 5, 2009

---

## THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

**SATURDAY** PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION (FT)  
5:45pm **Mass: Gertrude Soucy**, requested by Richard & Rella Bernabucci

- and - **George Pinzel**, requested by John & Jeanne Swart

**SUNDAY** PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION (FT)  
10:45am **Mass: Mary Rooney**, requested by the Sacred Heart Parish Family & Youth Group

### MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

9:00am **Mass: Adele Sennik**, requested by Fr. Stan

### TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

10:00am **Chrism Mass (at Cathedral of Saint Patrick, Norwich)**

### WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

*NO SERVICES*

### HOLY THURSDAY

7:30pm **Mass of the Lord's Supper: Deacon Chuck White**, followed by the **Feast of Breads**

**GOOD FRIDAY** DAY OF FAST & ABSTINENCE (ONE MEAL, MEATLESS)

3:00pm **Liturgy of the Lord's Passion**, followed by **Soup & Bread Supper** at 5pm

7:00pm **Living Stations of the Cross**

### EASTER VIGIL - SATURDAY

8:00pm **Easter Vigil Mass: For the People of Sacred Heart & Saint Maurice**

### EASTER SUNDAY

10:45am **Mass: Arthur & Ronald Lavigne**, requested by Marge Lavigne & Family

## MEETINGS

### SATURDAY

7:30pm **Narcotics Anonymous**, South Rooms

**SUNDAY** **Fellowship before and after Mass**

9:15am **Faith Formation Grades 1-5**

6:30pm **Faith Formation Grades 6-Conf Prep**

7:45pm **Youth Group**

**MONDAY** Offices Closed

7:00pm **Haiti Ministry**, Deacon Chuck White Memorial Haiti Ministry Room

**TUESDAY** Offices Closed (until late afternoon)

### WEDNESDAY

4:00pm **Faith Formation**, Gr. 1-3, 5

8:00pm **Alcoholics Anonymous**, South Community Rms

### HOLY THURSDAY

10:00am **Bible Study – Disciples on the Journey**, South Community Rooms

8:00pm **Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book**, South Rooms

9:00pm **Feast of Breads**

### GOOD FRIDAY

10:00am **Youth Group Rehearsal** for Living Stations

5:00pm **Soup & Bread Supper** – Almsgiving to benefit Norwich Mission House in Haiti

### HOLY SATURDAY

9:30am **Blessing of Easter Food** at Saint Maurice

7:30pm **Narcotics Anonymous**, South Rooms

**EASTER SUNDAY** **Fellowship before and after Mass**

**NO Faith Formation Grades 1 - Conf Prep or YG**

**WEBSITE ADDRESS FOR ST.MAURICE**  
**WWW.STMAURICEKOFC.ORG**  
 E-mail [stmauricechurch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stmauricechurch@sbcglobal.net)

**Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**

**Saturday, April 4, 2009**

**4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass, Annita DeTuccio**, request Dolores, Annita, & Gena Betti; and for **William H. Johnson, Jr.**, request of Richard, Gail & Terri Gidius

**Sunday, April 5, 2009**

**8:45 a.m. Mass, Kim Auger**, request of Joanne & Frank Auger and family, and for **Orlando Santana**, Request of Joanne & Frank Auger and family.

**Next Weekend**

**Saturday, April 11, 2009**

**Renato Vezzetti**

**Sunday, April 12, 2009**

**Levi Fournier**

**GOD'S PLAN FOR TITHING**

**Last week's offertory \$ 3,238**

**Last year's offertory \$ 4,489**

*"If anyone should say to you, "Why are you doing this?"  
 Reply, 'The Master has need of it and will send it back here  
 at once."*

**In response to the question of our tithing, our reply should be "The Master has need of it." Be assured that God will not be outdone in generosity. The return to us is a thousand fold, in ways that we do not or cannot see.**

**Readings for the week of April 5, 2009**

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 /Is 50:4-7/  
 Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1---15:47 or 15:1-39

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Rv 1:5-8/  
 Lk 4:16-21  
 Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8,  
 11-14/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13---53:12/ Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/  
 Jn 18:1---19:42

Saturday: Vigil: Gn 1:1---2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Gn 22:1-18  
 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ex 14:15---15:1/  
 Is 54:5-14/ Is 55:1-11/Bar 3:9-15, 32---4:4/  
 Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Rom 6:3-11/Mk 16:1-7

Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/  
 Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7

**THIS WEEK**

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION**

*Gospel Reading: Mark 11:1-10*

*"Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name  
 Of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest."*

*Fr. Stan, celebrant*

*Ushers Group II*

**Coffee Social Sunday; Easter Egg Hunt  
 Confirmation Candidates' Meeting  
 Generations of Faith Meeting  
 Distribution of Easter Food Baskets**

**Mon. Apr. 6: Mass at 9:00 for a special intention**

**Tue. Apr. 7 No Mass**

**Choir Rehearsal 7:15 P.M.**

**Wed. Apr. 8 Mass at 9:00, for Larry Sykora,  
 Request of Jennifer & Phil Daly**

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 8**

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

**3:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.**

**HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 9**

**EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**7:00 P.**

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10**

**3:00 P.M. SERVICE WITH COMMUNION**

**7:00 P.M. STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 11**

**9:30 A.M. EASTER FOOD BLESSING**

**CONFESSIONS 6:00 P.M. – 7:45 P.M.**

**8:00 P.M. EASTER VIGIL**

**NEXT WEEK**

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 12**

**MASS AT 8:45 A.M.**

**8:00 P.M. EASTER VIGIL**

**ALTAR SERVERS: Maria Cinea, Josh Meyers,  
 Stephanie Leiner**

**LECTOR: Judy Knox, Leah Dean, David Delorme**

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Georgette Pelletier,  
 Arlene Giglio, Vi Sobol**

**8:45 A.M. EASTER SUNDAY MASS**

**ALTAR SERVERS: Kimberly Newton, David and  
 Chrissy Bendzinski**

**LECTOR: Richard Carpenter**

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Bob Rouleau, James Boylan  
 Margaret Maneggia**

## **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU.**

A NOTE WAS RECEIVED FROM CHERYL SCHARDT, DIRECTOR OF THE TOWN OF BOLTON, SENIOR SOCIAL SERVICES, ACKNOWLEDGING THE \$1,000 CONTRIBUTION TO BOLTON FUEL BANK.

As announced last week, all our parishioners are invited to the consecration of the Chrism and the blessing of the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of the Catechumens at the Chrism Mass on Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. The Mass will be celebrated at Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Norwich. Bishop Michael R. Cote will celebrate this liturgy.

The Sacred Chrism, oil mixed with sweet perfume, symbolizes the presence of the Holy Spirit. It will be used in the parishes in the sacraments of baptism and confirmation. It is also used at the ordination of bishops and priests and at the dedication of a church and altar.

The Oil of the Sick is used to anoint those who are suffering from illness so that they may receive strength and healing, both physical and spiritual.

The catechumens will be anointed with the Oil of Catechumens in preparation for their baptism at the Easter Vigil.

The Chrism Mass is a celebration of the entire local Church, and the subsequent use of the oils in the various parishes is a sign of unity among God's people. Why not plan to take your family to the Cathedral that day? It is a very special experience!

## **ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKEND APRIL 17 - 19, 2009**

HELD AT THE IMMACULATA RETREAT CENTER,  
WILLIMANTIC, CT.

PLANNING TO SPEND A LIFETIME TOGETHER  
AND GETTING MARRIED IN THE CHURCH? THE  
ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKEND IS A  
MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM DESIGNED  
TO GIVE COUPLES AN OPPORTUNITY TO  
DIALOGUE HONESTLY AND PREPARE TO  
RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE.  
FOR INFORMATION/REGISTRATION CALL:  
FRANK & MARYANNE PENDOLA @ 860-536-8665  
EMAIL: NORWICHEEBOOKING@COMCAST.NET

## **RETRouvaille: A LIFELINE FOR TROUBLED MARRIAGES**

RETRouvaille BEGINS WITH A WEEKEND EXPERIENCE IN WHICH HUSBANDS AND WIVES ARE HELPED TO HEAL, RE-ESTABLISH COMMUNICATION AND TO GAIN NEW INSIGHT INTO THEMSELVES AS INDIVIDUALS AND AS A COUPLE. FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SIGN UP THE THE NEXT WEEKEND IN CT. APRIL 17-29, 2009 PLEASE CALL: Bill & TERRI MASON

203-8979-3842

WEBSITE: [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org)

## **LOOKING FOR**

Volunteers are desperately needed to deliver Meals on Wheels to the frail and elderly in Manchester, Bolton, E. Hartford, Vernon, Ellington, E. Windsor, S. Windsor, Coventry, Andover, and Tolland. Drive as much as every day, one day per week or one day once a month. The choice is yours.

Leave VNHSC (Visiting Nurse Health Services of CT.) 8 Keynote Dr., Vernon, CT. between 9:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.. Takes about one to two hours to complete route. Mileage reimbursement available. Call Marion at 872-9163 x 2367, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for more information. If unavailable leave message on Voice Mail.

## **OPERATION RICE BOWL**

As we continue our Operation Rice Bowl journey let us remember in prayer that we are one human family, regardless of our differences. Answering the call to love our neighbors will promote a culture of respect and lead to peace in our own community, and in communities around the world. May our fasting keep us mindful we are our brothers' and sisters' keepers.

May our almsgiving assist those in need here in the United States. 75% of your gifts to Operation Rice Bowl support Catholic Relief Services' programs around the world. The remaining 25% of your contributions stay in diocese in the U.S. to assist local hunger and poverty alleviation programs.