



SATURDAY, April 4, 2009 VIGIL: Palm Sunday

8:00 AM †All Souls in Purgatory req by Mary Yando
†Theresa Bombard, Linda Hicks Fish req by Arleeda Hickey

4:00 PM †Gasper DeSantis, Sr req by his family
†Pauline Mei req by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Allard

SUNDAY, April 5, 2009 Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

8:00 AM †Justin Martin req by John & Charlotte Cook

10:30 AM †Wanda Adameczyk 1st ann req by Dan & Linda Drewniak

†Michelle Kowalski req by the Racicot Family

MONDAY, April 6, 2009

8:00 AM †For our Seminarians and an increase in vocations in the Springfield Diocese req by Rita Gallagher
†Rene Suprenant 2nd ann req by Mom & Dad

TUESDAY, April 7, 2009

8:00 AM †Jimmy Katsar req by Bob & Felicia Stanton

WEDNESDAY, April 8, 2009

8:00 AM †Gene Whitney req by Therese

6:00 PM †Stations of the Cross

6:30 PM †The People of the Parish

THURSDAY, April 9, 2009

8:00 AM †Morning Prayer

7:00 PM †Mass of the Lord's Supper

FRIDAY, April 10, 2009

8:00 AM †Morning Prayer

12:00 PM †Children's Stations of the Cross

3:00 PM †Veneration of the Cross & Communion Service

7:00 PM †Veneration of the Cross & Communion Service

SATURDAY, April 11, 2009 Easter Vigil

†Morning Prayer

8:00 PM †Thomas Buczko req by Buczko family

†Henrietta Buczko req by Buczko family

SUNDAY, April 12, 2009 Easter Sunday, Resurrection of the Lord

7:00 AM †Jackie Benham req by her sister

8:30 AM †Stanley & Pat Antonovitch in celebration of 50 years of marriage

†Emil Nowak req by Wesley Nowak & family

10:30 AM †Fermio Silva 6th ann req by the family
†Frank & Alice Samborski; Roger Gaughan, Mona Fundkowski and Robert Adams

Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out:

"Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!

Hosanna in the highest!"

- Mk 11:9-10

Readings for April 18-19, 2009

Acts 4:32-35/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31

Religious Vocations Corner –The glorious Feast of the Resurrection of Christ proclaims, forever, that life is greater than death. Jesus commanded us to preach this good news to all peoples, in all places, at all times. If you feel God is calling you to minister in His church as a priest or religious, call Fr. Gary Dailey at 413-452-0816 or E-Mail: g.dailey@diospringfield.org.

The Pastor's Thoughts...

-With this celebration of Palm Sunday we are into the most important week for us as a Christian people and we should observe it as such. Last week's Generations of Faith really brought home to us the immensity of Christ's love for us in his suffering and death. Out of appreciation and respect for his incredible suffering Good Friday, above all the other days of Holy Week should be observed by being present for at least one of the three services. How sad it is that our Christian churches are not filled on this day. Do come and personally thank the Lord for what he did for YOU and ask Him for the grace to remain faithful.

-A very special word of thanks to Armand Chapdelaine of the parish for his unbelievable presentation on the Shroud of Turin, the authentic burial cloth of Jesus. His insights and witness truly was a "faith deepening" experience which we all so appreciated. What a special gift it was for all of us who attended as we prepare for this week we call "Holy" and what it celebrates.

-A reminder to sign-up for our new Parish Directory. Photo sessions may be reserved on the board provided in the gathering space. All who participate will receive a free photo and directory. Do sign up ASAP if you or your family plans to participate.

-Our Diocesan Annual Appeal continues and is in need of our support. As of this date, 151 households have responded with gifts totaling \$16,417.00 this is not quite half our parish goal of \$34,000. We are a community of 1,400 households. I am sure if we each do what we can our goal will be more than reached on behalf of the many who are looking to us for help.

-Mercy Sunday will be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter beginning at 2PM in the church. The novena in preparation for this begins on Good Friday. Be sure to pick up the materials provided by our Spiritual Life Commission if you plan to participate.

-This Sunday afternoon at 2PM is our Lenten Parish Reconciliation Service in the church. Several priests will be available to hear your confession in preparation for the Triduum and Easter. Do come and take advantage of this opportunity to receive the merciful love of God.

-The Mass of the Holy Oils or "Chrism Mass" will be celebrated on Monday evening at the Cathedral in Springfield at 7PM. All are invited to attend. There is a car pool leaving from the parking lot in front of the rectory at 6PM.

-A note of thanks to Stan Wyman and all his helpers for preparing and sending out the Easter letter that was mailed out to all our members this past week. Please consult it for all the events that are happening here in the church this Holy Week. The more you participate the more you will experience what our Faith means and how great the love of God is for us, His people.

A Blessed and Faith-filled Holy Week to all,

Fr. Vern

**HOLY
WEEK**

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

*In Gratitude to God for His many gifts,
the members of this parish have returned
the following resources in support of the parish
and its ministries...*

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|--|------------|
| The Sunday Collection for March 28-29was..... | \$5,601.50 |
| Weekly Sunday Average | 6,305.92 |
| Weekly Sunday Goal..... | 6,500.00 |
| Mortgage & Expansion Collection for March 1-29 | 6,175.00 |
| Monthly Mortgage & Expansion Goal..... | 6,000.00 |
| Monthly Mortgage & Expansion March Overage..... | 175.00 |

Eucharistic Adoration and Visitation - The Adoration Info Line number is 323-6272 Extension 6. Please, always call just before coming in for your hour to see if Adoration has been closed due to extreme cold or bad weather. The Adoration Chapel (entrance around the rear of the church) is open to all parishioners for a visit before the Blessed Sacrament. Hours of Adoration are 8:00 AM – 10:00 PM Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. If you would like to be a part of our Adoration program, either as an assigned adorer or substitute, please call Pam at 323-7416. **The following hours are in need of an Adorer: Monday 2:00 – 3:00 PM, Tuesday 12 Noon – 1:00 PM and Tuesday 1:00 – 2:00 PM.**

Liturgical Roles

Weekend of April 11-12, 2009

Lectors

- 8:00 PM Patel, Crosby, Schmidt, Phaneuf
- 7:00 AM Fontaine
- 8:30 AM Miffitt
- 10:30 AM Abuselmi

Ministers of the Eucharist

- 8:00 PM Carney, Crosby, Letendre, Fedora, Adams, Buczko, Tyler
- 7:00 AM Fontaine, Barrett, McGinnis, Amy, John & Therese Rakouskas, Coty
- 8:30 AM Ricardi, Couture, Tovet, Kielbasa, Moran, Lemire, Waniewski
- 10:30 AM Desilets, Belanger, Dell'Olio, Gary & Linda Racicot, Lattrell, Rose

Altar Servers

- 8:00 PM T. Lewis, R. Racicot, C. Grady, R. Gousy, A. Muraczewski
- 7:00 AM John & Justine Holdsworth
- 8:30 AM Bob Dubois, Frank Muraczewski
- 10:30 AM T. & J. Bechta, M Beaudet

St Francis of Assisi Food Pantry is in need of baked beans, beef stew, and spaghetti/ravioli in a can. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Change your thoughts and you will change your world.



Brick Corner – We would like to thank the following parishioners who have “purchased a brick” for our new church, either in their name or in the name of a loved one: Theresa Renaud – One Brick in Memory of Her Godchild, Vanessa Kotowski.

Thank you for your support and please remind your friends that they, also, can “buy a brick”. They are only \$10.00 each.

Spaghetti Supper to Benefit NCCY - The NCCY Teens of St. Francis Parish will host a Spaghetti Dinner prepared by Chef Francesco Dell'Olio in the Pine Room of the St. Francis Parish Social Center on Saturday, April 18th. Proceeds will help to defray part of the cost of their attendance at the National Catholic Youth conference. Serving time for the dinner is 5:30 to 7:00 PM. Tickets will be on sale at weekend Masses through April 12 or by contacting John Coty at 413-348-3661. Tickets will not be sold at the door. Donations are Adults \$10.00, children 5-12- \$6.00 and children under 5 eat free.

Cub Scout Pack 507 is hosting a New York City bus on Saturday, April 18. Roundtrip fare is \$40; payable to pack 407; c/o G. Fortunato, 52 Deer Run, Belchertown. There are 20 seats remaining but they will go quickly! The 56 seat King Ward motor coach will leave Chestnut Hill Community School at 7 AM and arrive 10:30ish in NYC. There will be three drop off points: Metropolitan Museum of Art (upper 90's), Times Square and South Street Seaport. The bus moves on and then parks for the day. Departure is 7 PM – the group will gather on the front steps of St. Patrick's Cathedral at 6:30 and then walk as a group to the departure site to be announced. Call 323-0966 if you have questions/concerns. Thank you for your support of 507 Cub Scouts!

Family Life – The next meeting of the Widow and Widowers Social Group is Thursday, April 16th, at 7 PM. If you have a need to meet friends and start a new life call Beth at 323-5910 for more information. -If you have been newly diagnosed with cancer or are presently undergoing cancer treatment, come to the Cancer Support Group. This is a place to come and talk with people who understand what you are going through. We have many services to offer you. Our next meeting is Monday April 13th at 5:30 PM in the Tovet Room. If interested, please call Beth at 323-5910.

Calling all golfers – Please join us for the 10th Annual St. John the Baptist Golf Outing on Monday, May 11th at Ludlow country Club. The format will be a 4-Person Scramble with a 10 AM Shotgun Start. The entrance fee is \$90 per person and includes: golf, cart, lunch and dinner. To register, please call Rich Benoit at 589-1991. Deadline is May 1st. All proceeds benefit students of the school.

Attention graduating high school students! – Interested in attending a college where you can continue practicing your faith with other students? U Mass, Amherst Newman Catholic Center is active in offering social activities, events, community outreach and opportunity to grow spiritually. For more info: peers.newman@gmail.com or www.newmanumass.org.

APRIL 5, 2009

Michael Sweeney Prayer Line

From March 23 through March 30, 2009 the following intentions were added to our already long list of requests for prayers. Won't you please join us in praying for them all.

Thanksgiving for successful rehab. for A.B.

Prayers asked for healing of pneumonia for Fran Trudeau.

Thanksgiving for good test results for Bill B.

Prayers asked for good test results for David and for improved health.

Special intention for Attree for healing..

For Gina for safe delivery of her baby.

Healing and relief of pain for Sue who is hospitalized.

Healing of pneumonia for John Correia

Renewed intention for Joan L. for recovery from a stroke.

Prayers asked for healing for Everett and for improved health.

Thanksgiving for prayers answered for Gert Opalenik.

For Liz M. healing of a back injury and possible paralysis.

For Jean C., good test results and complete healing.

Healing for Angie.

Special prayers for Nancy J. for a positive outcome for her cancer surgeries.

Thanksgiving for the life of Richard MacLeod. Please pray for the repose of his soul and for his family and friends in their bereavement.

Thanksgiving for all God's Graces and His answers to the requests of the prayer line. If you would like to have the prayer line members pray for you or a loved one, please call Chris McGinnis, 323-6622, Louise Groux, 323-4046 or Marion Masse, 323-7169.

Pilgrimage to Honor Padre Pio & St Francis – If you have devotion to Padre Pio and/or St Francis and the secular Franciscan life of service, you may be interested in knowing more about the Catholic Communications sponsored pilgrimage to Rome, Assisi and San Giovanni Rotondo, Italy, this September. E-mail Lois at Catholic Communications, ccctrips@diospringfield.org or call her at 452-0837.

A Retreat for Married Couples will be held May 27-29 (Wednesday through Friday) at the Marie Joseph Spiritual Center (on the ocean) at Bidderford Pool, Maine. Father Marc Montminy will be the retreat director. Over the years Father Marc has begun an extensive couples ministry in his parishes with over 150 couples currently involved. For further information, please contact Paula and Harold Brunault at 534-1596 or Rosemary and Ed Amo at 533-4668.

The Irish Cultural Center at Elms College announces a bus trip to Worcester to attend Pilgrim Soul Productions of Marie Jones Irish play, *Stones in His Pockets*. The trip takes place on Sunday, May 3, 2009, at 2 PM, in the ancient Order of Hibernians Cultural Center. After the play we will share a buffet meal in the Hall Pub. Tickets, which are \$65 for members, \$70 for non-members, include the play, buffet, bus and driver's tip. Seats are limited; to reserve tickets, call 413-265-2537 or email irishcenter@elms.edu. By March 30 to guarantee a seat.

