

**For The Bulletin Of
March 20, 2016**

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE
PASSION OF THE LORD**

From Father Robert

If we were given one wish, and guaranteed it would come true, what would that wish be? For many of us, the wish probably would be about an everyday life different from the one we presently live. We might want power, wealth, and fame. Or, we might wish for good health free from advancing age and any suffering. Or, we might hope for passionate love, caring friends, steadfast relationships. Or hitting the Lotto/Mega/Power Ball and donating the money to the parish to build the Parish Hall!!! No matter what our wish, it would point to an underlying dissatisfaction with our present condition and a desire for a better life. In our future-looking, however, it is possible to miss the fact that what we long for is already present to us. We only need to see with different eyes, hear with different ears, expect with different hearts.

Jesus suffers, dies, and is buried. All because neither the Jewish leadership, the Roman leadership, nor the apostles understand. Throughout Luke's passion narrative, Jesus is trying to turn His accusers and hearers away from their understanding of kingdom to embracing "the kingdom of God." He is trying to show them that what they really want is upon them, just in a way different from what they expect. Even on the cross, He continues to show how different His kingdom is, for He forgives the very ones who cause Him suffering and

death. The "kingdom of God" that Jesus proclaims is so different. What reigns in His kingdom is not power, wealth, or fame; not freedom from misunderstanding and suffering or even death; not betrayal, denial, and abandonment. What reigns in "the kingdom of God" is patience and caring, forgiveness and reconciliation, promise full of life and dying full of promise. All this is what Luke's passion account sets before us.

The "kingdom of God" is not a place we can enclose, not a space we can occupy. It is a face we encounter – the very face of God, the very Presence of God. This kingdom is present whenever we wholeheartedly join ourselves with Jesus' utterance in the Garden: "not my will but Yours be done." This kingdom is present whenever we speak the truth about who we know and follow, shower compassion upon those sorrowing or in need, forgive those who harm us, bring hope to the despairing, and commend ourselves to God with conviction and purpose.

Jesus suffers, dies, and is buried. The gift of His death? He confers on us His kingdom and invites us to be with Him in Paradise. Two kingdoms: the one of this world, the one of Jesus. Which kingdom do we choose?

Living The Paschal Mystery

For most of us Holy Week unfolds like many other weeks; we still contend with work, school, preparing meals, doing laundry, cranky folks, the usual triumphs and setbacks. Palm Sunday begins an extraordinary week – a week that concentrates in a few days the ultimate meaning of our whole Christian life. We must slow ourselves down and make

choices so that this week doesn't go by without our taking the time to enter into its meaning. We celebrate in the liturgies what we live very day – all the dying to self that characterizes truly faithful disciples of Jesus, all the dying to self that proclaims our choice to live in God's kingdom. This choice is our way of continuing Jesus' saving mission, our way of making visible our ultimate desire: to live forever with God, united with this Jesus, Who suffered, died, and was buried. This Jesus Who was raised. Living in this kingdom is possible when we, too, commend ourselves into God's hands.

Today marks the beginning of the holiest week of the year for us. How will you observe it? What changes in your schedule will you make to be with our community to celebrate these great days?

- What blocks me from hearing and understanding the words of Jesus to me is...
- What opens me to hear and understand is...
- When I seek the kingdom of God, I...
- When I live in the kingdom of God, my life looks like...
- The cost to me of choosing to live in the kingdom of God is...

Holy Week, Triduum, and Easter

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
Saturday Vigil March 19, **5:00 p.m.**
Blessing and Distribution of Palms

Sunday, March 20, 8 and **10:30 a.m.**
Blessing and Distribution of Palms,
Procession (Incense at 10:30 a.m.)

Rite of Reception of Tina Costanza through Profession of Faith, Confirmation, and First Eucharist

Monday of Holy Week

March 21, 8:00 a.m., Holy Eucharist

Tuesday of Holy Week

March 22, 8:00 a.m.

Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

Wednesday of Holy Week

March 23, 8:00 a.m., Holy Eucharist

Holy/Maundy Thursday

March 24, 8:00 a.m., Sung Morning Prayer

The Great Paschal Triduum

Holy/Maundy Thursday, March 24

7:30 p.m. *Reception of the Holy Oils, Liturgy of the Word, Washing of Feet, Liturgy of the Eucharist, Candle-light Procession to the Altar of Repose, Adoration until 10:30 p.m. (Incense)*

Good Friday, March 25

8:00 a.m. Sung Morning Prayer

12:00 Noon Outdoor Stations of the Cross at our newly-installed Stations in the northeast section of the parking lot.

3:00 p.m. Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion and Death

Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross, Holy Communion (No Incense)

7:30 p.m. Tenebrae and Veneration of the Cross

Holy Saturday, March 26

8:00 a.m. Sung Morning Prayer

7:30 p.m. The Great Paschal Vigil

Lighting of the New Fire of Easter, Lighting of the Paschal Candle, Candle-light Procession Into Church; Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of Initiation celebrating the Sacraments of Initiation for Xochi Perez; Renewal of Baptismal Promises with Newly-blessed Baptismal Water, Liturgy of the Eucharist (Incense)

Easter Day, The Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord

8:00 a.m. Procession, Liturgy of the Word, Renewal of Baptismal Promises and Sprinkling with Newly-blessed Baptismal Water, Liturgy of the Eucharist (No Incense)

10:30 a.m. Procession, Liturgy of the Word, Renewal of Baptismal Promises and Sprinkling Rite with Newly-blessed Baptismal Water, Liturgy of the Eucharist (Incense)

The Easter Environment

You are invited to be a part of a wonderful tradition here at St. Ignatius of Antioch by contributing to help the Art & Environment Committee create an environment that says “EASTER!” for the entire 7 weeks of the Easter Season. Your generosity will help provide the panels of seasonal cloth at the Icons, the blooming plants and cut flower arrangements, the trees, and other special elements that will help us celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord for the entire 50 days. Your gifts may be given either in honor of OR in loving memory of family members and loved ones. Please make use of the envelopes

provided with my Easter Letter or additional envelopes found on the credenza. Thank you!

You are also invited to join the members of the Art & Environment Committee in creating the Easter Environment on Holy Saturday, March 26th, beginning at 9:00 a.m. We hope to be finished with all the work between 2 and 3:00 p.m.

Divine Mercy Observance

On Sunday afternoon, April 3rd at 3:00 p.m., you are invited to join those who pray the Divine Mercy Devotion. In the context of Sung Evening Prayer, the psalms of divine mercy will be sung, the Chaplet will be sung, images of the Divine Mercy will be blessed, and the liturgy will be followed by a reception in our parish hall. The homily will be given by our Pastoral Associate, **Peter Degl’Innocenti**.

Thank You

Each week we are blessed with many volunteers who do so much “behind the scenes” but whose work makes such a difference in our parish. This week we would like to thank the following:

Jun Bajet, Angela Bueno, Carole Miller, Rose Salamanca, and Steve Rojek who cleaned the church and parish hall...**Robert Goncalves, Harlan Young and Mary Ewing** who cleaned and maintained the bathrooms in both the church and parish hall.

...to our **counting teams** who are here every week to count the weekly collections.

...to our volunteers who assisted in the parish office last week: **Lorraine Lohmeier, Harlan Young, Karen Oliver, Barbara Jackson, Rowena**

**Cayaban, Yvette Young, Joe Fanfa
and Bev Iacona.**

...to our St. Vincent de Paul and
Mobile Mall volunteers who
transported last week's donations:
Bob Carvalho and Barbara Jackson.

...to our faithful weekly bulletin
assembly team: **Carole Miller, Dave
Costanza, Vangie Parrilla, Judy
Quicho and Belen Farin.**

...to our facilities volunteers who
assisted Rich Confetti: **Don Benson
and Jose Palomino** (aka: RDJ).

