

## From the Pastor's Desk



My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Palm or Passion Sunday commemorates our Lord's triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Jerusalem is a city that Jesus loves very much but is also the site of his greatest betrayal. Not only do we join in Jesus' triumphant return to Jerusalem by waving palms, we also experience the sorrow of His passion and death. Jesus' final days and hours in his earthly ministry give us a lesson of how to be disciples.

As Jesus enters the city on the donkey, the people welcome him by waving palms and laying out garments, signs reserved for kings. They greet him with joy because they believe he is the Messiah. Just a few days before this triumphant entry into the city, some of the non-believers, the Jewish leaders, expressed jealousy by criticizing the woman who pours perfume on Jesus. Her anointing was a sign of honor, signifying that he is the true Messiah and free from blemish. These same Jewish leaders will later push for Jesus' prosecution and death on the cross. Jesus' response in this interaction is key. Jesus points to the hypocrisy of the Jewish leaders choosing to criticize the woman, instead of they themselves choosing to help the poor. This is a lesson on what not to do. We should be more interested in our own works of charity instead of trying to discredit the good works of others.

This lesson in humility surely enraged the religious leaders who were already insecure because they felt threatened that Jesus would take away their power. They conspired to have Jesus arrested and tried so that they could have him condemned to death. During the trial when they were trying to trick Him, Jesus did not respond to them "like a lamb led to slaughter or a sheep silent before shearers; he did not open his mouth" (Is 53:7). When being falsely prosecuted, if you choose not to answer and your position is righteous, you will later be redeemed.

In contrast to the woman who anointed Jesus is Judas. He goes to the chief priests and offers to betray Jesus for money and self-gain. (Mk 14:10-11) As Jesus approaches his Passion, Judas responded with self-interest, self-gain, and self-preservation; the woman responded with sacrifice, commitment, generosity, and faith. When we are faced with distressful situations where we are challenged, do we respond more like the woman (with generous sacrifice and commitment to our faith) or like Judas (with only self-interest)?

On Palm Sunday, we wave our palms to welcome Jesus triumphantly into our lives. We also solemnly remember that Jesus entered Jerusalem for us, that He knowingly faced a violent death because He loves us. Let us respond this Holy Week with generous sacrifice and renewed commitment to serve those who continue to suffer every day from violence, hatred, discrimination, and injustice. Let us pray that we will be able to carry our "crosses" daily, following the examples in the Gospel, especially the example of Jesus, who because of His great love for us, sacrificed Himself.

Your Servant in Christ,  
Fr Khanh D. Nguyen, Pastor

## Lenten-Easter Schedule



*Palm Sunday*

*Saturday, March 24, 5 pm*

*Sunday, March 25, 7:45 am & 10 am*

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*Holy Thursday - March 29 at 7 pm*

*Good Friday - March 30 at 7 pm*

*Easter Vigil - Saturday, March 31, 8 pm*

*Easter Sunday - April 1, 8 am & 10 am*

### ❖ HOLY WEEK LITURGY & READINGS ❖

**Monday of Holy Week, March 26,** Isaiah 42:1-7; Gosp John 12:1-11 - no morning Mass

**Tuesday, March 27, St. John of Egypt,** Isaiah 49:1-6; Gosp John 13:21-33, 36-38 - no morning Mass

**Wednesday, March 28,** Isaiah 50:4-9a; Gosp Matthew 26:14-25 – Mass at 8:45 am

**Holy Thursday, March 29,** Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; Gosp John 13:1-15 – Mass at 7 pm

**Good Friday, March 30,** Isaiah 52:13---53:12; Gosp John 13:1-15 – Liturgy at 7 pm

**Easter Vigil, Saturday, March 31,** Genesis 1:1---2:2; Gosp Mark 16:1-7 - Mass at 8 pm

**Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord, April 1,** Acts 10:34a, 37-46; Gosp Mark 16:1-7 – Masses at 8 am & 10 am

**THERE WILL BE NO MORNING MASS ON MONDAY, MARCH 26.**

**HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR EASTER on Saturday, March 31, at 9:30am.** All are welcome-no experience needed. This is a fun way to meet new people and help us beautify the church. Students will receive community service and school parents volunteer hours. Lots of different tasks for every age and ability. Please consider joining us this year. "Many hands make light work".

**PLEASE SAVE THE APRIL CALENDAR INSERT IN TODAY'S BULLETIN.**

**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 30 AND ON EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 2.**

**THE WINE AND CHEESE SOCIAL RETURNS on Saturday, April 7 after the 5 pm Mass.** Join this all-ages gathering in the Community Center Conference room directly after Mass. Come sit awhile, visit, and get to know someone new.

**PASTA, PASTA, PASTA** Our St. Vincent de Paul food bank is in need of dry pasta and Chef Boyardee type canned meals. Thank you for your generosity.

### Sacred Story - Week 25

Choose the time and place for your 15-minute prayer time.

- ♦ We combine all five meditations week.
- ♦ Review our commitment to develop a rhythm of prayer that will carry us for the rest of our life.
- ♦ Preview our week and visualize the places and time for prayer.
- ♦ Spend no more/no less than 15 minutes in formal prayer session.

#### Week 25

- ♦ The themes of Creation, Presence, Memory, Mercy and Eternity are the meditations for this week.
- ♦ We begin with a review of the prayer structure in Week 16.
- ♦ We see the wisdom learned in Week 16 to support our prayer
- ♦ We will enter my prayer time at least once daily.

#### Affirmation

*"I will not tire of asking God's help because God delights in my asking."*

#### Information

- ♦ Next Sacred Story Gathering is April 2nd at 7 pm in the Parish Office Library
- ♦ If you wish to receive regular e-mail contact [marycross@aol.com](mailto:marycross@aol.com) or [msloane@comcast.net](mailto:msloane@comcast.net)

**ALL-DAY SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish on Tuesday, March 27, from 7 am to 7 pm, 231 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, across from the Seattle Center. For more information, contact the parish office at 206-284-4680 or [debbie@sacredheartseattle.com](mailto:debbie@sacredheartseattle.com)

**MARY: A BIBLICAL WALK WITH THE BLESSED MOTHER** Every Wednesday, April 4 through May 23 from 10 - 11:30 am in the Parish Center Library; and from 7 - 8:30 pm in the Community Center Conference Room. Call Sara Lane at 206-334-5350 or [sslane5@comcast.net](mailto:sslane5@comcast.net). Suggested donation towards costs including Study Materials is \$30. You may register online at <http://ascensionpress.com/studies/27533/registration/new>.

**FUNERAL MINISTRY** We would like your help in looking for people to provide cookies and/or salads for funeral receptions. The families who use our service are very appreciative. If you can help or if you know someone(s) who can help, we would love to hear from you or from them. Please call Jean Cooney at 206-363-6767 & let her know. Thank you.

**NORTH SEATTLE CATHOLIC YOUTH** will not have a regular Sunday Gathering on March 25; instead, we are going Bowling! If you have questions or are planning on bowling, contact Kate Brown; [kate@nseattlecatholicyouth.org](mailto:kate@nseattlecatholicyouth.org) or 206-488-5970. We are on break for Easter & will return on Sun, Apr. 15.

### St. Matthew School News

**Karen Herlihy, Principal**, 206-362-2785 ext. 102, [kherlihy@stmattschool.org](mailto:kherlihy@stmattschool.org)  
**Andy Hews, Administrative Assistant**, 206-362-2785, ext. 101, [ahews@stmattschool.org](mailto:ahews@stmattschool.org)

**"Excellence – Diversity – Community"**



**Now Enrolling for 2018 - 2019** St. Matthew School is now enrolling for Pre-K, Kindergarten, elementary school and middle school for the 2018-2019 school year. St. Matthew School provides academic excellence and diversity in a community of faith. Come see what we have to offer! Tours available weekly; contact Stacy Pretti at [spretti@stmattschool.org](mailto:spretti@stmattschool.org) or (206) 362-2785, ext. 103.

**Grant News** St. Matthew School received a grant of \$20,000 from the Garneau Nicon Family Foundation for technology. This is in addition to the \$33,000 raised during the Fund a Dream at the auction, so over \$50,000 is available for devices for our students and interactive whiteboards for our teachers. Thank you to your supportive community partners.

**SAVE THE DATE** The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Rainbow Heritage Festival will be on Saturday, May 19, from 12:30 to 4:30 pm. Join us for the next planning meeting on Tuesday, March 27 at 7 pm in the Community Center Conference Room. We welcome your ideas for entertainment, food donations, and crafts. Email Elaine Abarientos at [eabarientos@hotmail.com](mailto:eabarientos@hotmail.com) with questions or to volunteer. Thank you.

**NEW TO THE PARISH? INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR COMMUNITY?** Please call the parish office at 363-6767 and we will mail you a registration packet.

**UNITED WAY FREE TAX PREPARATION** Households making under \$66,000 can have their taxes prepared by a certified tax preparer. Online, file your taxes free with [www.MyFreeTaxes.com](http://www.MyFreeTaxes.com). In person, 30 locations have convenient hours; no appointments are needed. To find a location near you, languages available, a list of what to bring, and other details, visit United Way's website at [www.FreeTaxExperts.org](http://www.FreeTaxExperts.org) or call 2-1-1.

#### Sunday Env/Loose/Holy Days

	<u>3/18/2018</u>	<u>YTD 3/18/2018</u>
<b>Budgeted</b>	\$ 10,050	<\$363,437>
<b>Collected (basket)</b>	\$ 6,603	<\$395,629>
<b>Collected (online)</b>	\$ 2,100	↓
<b>Difference</b>	\$ 8,704	<\$ 32,192>



**Good stewards strive to conform their lives to that of Christ---emptying themselves of all pride and putting themselves at the service of others.**