



Today we celebrate Palm Sunday — the beginning of our Holy Week. Our liturgy starts with the account of Jesus humbly entering into Jerusalem riding a donkey. People put cloaks and palm branches in His pathway crying, “Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” It is with great joy that Christ was being honored as king, still in the same breath, we are filled with sorrow as we reflect on Christ’s passion and death. Thankfully, we know the glorious outcome of this painful journey. Today, as we read about the climax of Christ’s mission here on earth, we are reminded that He is the Perfect Steward, a model for us all on our stewardship journey.

Our First Reading, from the prophet Isaiah, portrays a suffering servant. The suffering servant, in many ways, foreshadows what Jesus endured during His passion — “I gave my back to those who beat me... my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting.” Christ endured such tortures, knowing that He did not deserve them, but still He humbly submitted to them.

We see that throughout Christ’s life, His mission as a steward was to fulfill His Father’s mission. He became man for a reason, and He humbly and obediently submitted to that mission for each one of us. We, too, play a unique role in our Father’s mission by bringing souls to Christ. And it simply begins with the witness of our lives. Let all that we do, including the way we speak and act, reflect our mission in this life.

This message is re-echoed in our Second Reading, from St. Paul to the Philippians. St. Paul says, “Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself... he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.” We see again that although our Lord deserved every honor and praise from man while on earth, He chose the path of service and humility, sacrifice and love. He gave us everything in that moment. This truly was an overflowing gift for each one of us. So how can we share our gratitude with the Gracious Giver?

We can bring service, humility, sacrifice and love into all areas of our lives — our homes by the way we treat our family members, into our church by the way we welcome and serve our neighbors, and into our workplaces by the way we speak and act.

Our Gospel today shares the account of Jesus’ last days on earth, and how He lives them says a great deal about how we should be living ours as faithful stewards. Jesus does many things in these last days, and they all revolve around prayer and service — two trademark actions of a good and faithful Catholic. He first hosts a Passover meal in which He gives us His Body and Blood in the Eucharist. He then intensely prays to His Father. Lastly, He submits to humiliation, torture and death for our sake, calling out to God the Father in His weakest moments. We might not be called to the same type of prayer and service, but we are all called to commit time in daily prayer with our Lord, and to serve our families, churches and neighbors in the various ways God is calling us to do so. No matter our state in life, we are all called to be faithful stewards through prayer and service.

As we embark on this Holy Week, let us take some time to reflect on the life of Christ as He is our model Steward, and may we strive to imitate Him daily.

**YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

**March 21, 2021**

Sunday Collection .....	\$ 4,402.85
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 125.53
Facilities Improvement Fund.....	\$ 110.00
Helping Hands Fund.....	\$ 599.44
Other - Easter Offering.....	\$ 1,400.00

***Second Collection -***

***April 2 (Good Friday): Shrines of the Holy Land***

***April 3 - 4 (Easter): Rice Bowl***



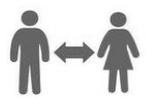
**3 EASY STEPS  
TO KEEPING YOURSELF  
& OTHERS HEALTHY!**



**WASH YOUR  
HANDS**



**DON'T TOUCH  
YOUR FACE**



**KEEP YOUR  
DISTANCE**

**HOLY WEEK LITURGICAL SCHEDULE**

March 29 - 31, Mon-Wed:	Normal Daily Masses (8 am)
April 1, Holy Thursday:	7 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper Eucharistic Adoration ( <i>begins after Mass until midnight</i> )
April 2, Good Friday:	3 pm - Passion Liturgy (English) 7 pm - Passion Liturgy (Español) Divine Mercy Novena Begins (English - 5:30 pm / Español - ??) - <i>in Church</i>
April 3 - 4, Easter:	Holy Saturday: 8:30 pm - Easter Vigil Easter Sunday: Regular Sunday Schedule



**DIVINE MERCY NOVENA:** Easter, our holiest day of the year, is almost upon us!

I don't want to belittle its importance, but I'm going to fast-forward to the next Sunday...

Mercy Sunday. A special day where graces abound! Where we have an opportunity to remove all punishment due for forgiven sins!

With this devotion... we celebrate Jesus' Divine Mercy... I don't think it's a coincidence that Jesus asked for the inscription "**Jesus, I Trust in You**" to be put on his picture of Divine Mercy... He asked that the Feast of the Divine Mercy be preceded by a Novena to the Divine Mercy. Our Lord Jesus gave St. Faustina an intention to pray for on each day of the Novena.

In her Diary, St. Faustina wrote that Jesus told her: "**On each day of the novena you will bring to My heart a different group of souls and you will Immerse them in this ocean of My mercy ... On each day you will beg My Father, on the strength of My passion, for the graces for these souls.**"

Jesus' revelation to St. Faustina comes under the heading of *Private Revelation*... and as such we, the faithful, are not bound to accept them. But, with the Divine Mercy... Graces flow every time we say the Chaplet... for ourselves... our loved ones... and others! Many people pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy daily...

But, as I said... St. Faustina's revelation is not dogma... and we are not required by Church to accept it...

Jesus asked that a Novena to His Divine Mercy be said beginning on Good Friday asking for certain souls to be brought into His merciful heart! As recorded by St. Faustina...

**On Day 2 Jesus asks- "Bring to Me the Souls of Priests and Religious... It was they who gave Me strength to endure My bitter Passion. Through them My mercy flows out upon mankind."** -

Fr. Mike... all priests, deacons, and religious benefit from this intercession... and

**On Day 7 He asks - "Bring to Me The Souls Who Especially Venerate and Glorify My Mercy...**

**Not one of them will go into the fire of hell. I shall particularly defend each one of them at the hour of death."**

What a promise to those who are true believers...

Those are just a couple of the Novena intentions... Consider the Chaplet, the Devotion, itself and Jesus' promises to those who say the Chaplet! In St Faustina's notes we read that: "... **Through the Chaplet you will obtain everything... if what you ask for is compatible My will!**" What a promise! We can pray for anything! And... as long as it is in line with God's will for us... for our salvation... it will be given to us! Now, I'm not saying you'll change history... but you may be able to influence someone's heart at the moment of their death and save them from eternal damnation. (*past... present... future... it's all in God's 'ETERNAL NOW'*)

We have His promise that He will be there at our side... or the side of whomever we are praying for at their death... Not as a Just Judge... as we deserve... but as our Merciful Savior. He will be there offering salvation – no matter how dark our sins! We, of course, have free-will. We have the option of accepting – or rejecting – His Divine Mercy... but He will be there!

So... I have to ask you... Will you take advantage of these graces? Do you believe? Do you Trust? Ask yourself... how can I more fully Believe... without seeing? Ask yourself... Do I Trust... really Trust... in Jesus?

I invite you to join us as we pray the Novena to the Divine Mercy.

We will begin the Novena on Good Friday, April 2nd, and it will end on the Day Before Mercy Sunday.

We will meet in the Church each day at 5:30 pm except on the last day (April 10<sup>th</sup>) when we will meet at 4 pm.

Novena pamphlets will be available at the Church.

If you can't physically be with us... please... join us in spirit and pray the Chaplet wherever you may be.

**Hope to see you there!** (Next week we'll 'talk' about our celebration on Mercy Sunday itself) 'till then... God Bless- DT.

## Resilient in Faith and Service

Jesus watched the people make their temple offerings. Many wealthy people gave great sums from their surplus. But Jesus pointed to another as having given more than all the rest—a poor widow who shared two small coins. Grateful for the Lord’s love and blessings, and resilient in faith and service, she gave everything she had back to God. She was the richest of all in love. The past year has been especially difficult. As the Archbishop’s Appeal for Ministries begins, let us pray for the courage and conviction to follow the poor widow’s example. In a spirit of love and with a generous heart, let us give willingly and joyfully to meet others’ needs.

Help your parish meet 25% participation goal by making a gift today! You can make a one-time gift, a monthly pledge, or a recurring monthly gift. A recurring gift is a monthly gift with no end date. This gift will continue until you indicate otherwise.

- Text-To-Give, (210) 750-6712, Keyword: APPEAL
- Give online at [www.archsa.org/appeal](http://www.archsa.org/appeal)
- Complete the gift form sent to your home
- Use the pew envelope, or
- Make your gift by phone at (210) 734-1604

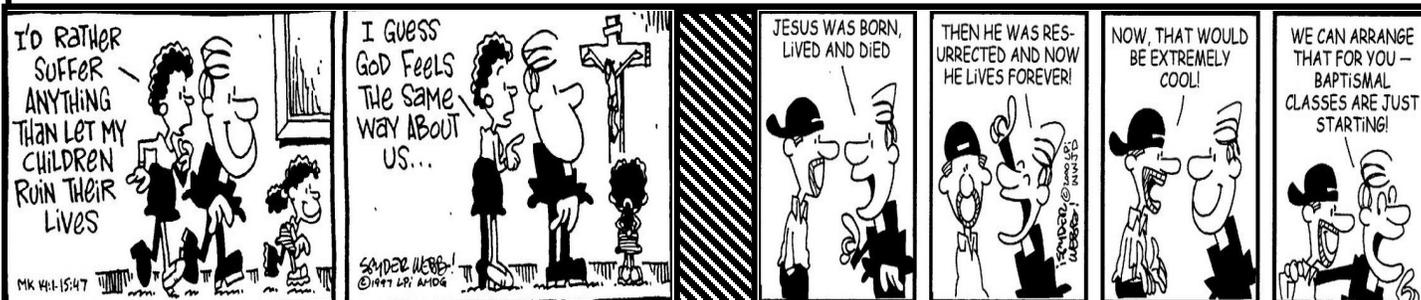
The Annual Appeal qualifies for many company matching gift programs and are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Please generously support the Appeal’s 30+ ministries devoted to caring for people in need across the archdiocese.

*“Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, and saw a poor widow putting in two mites. So He said, “...this poor widow has put in more than all” Luke 21:1-4*

Countless lives are transformed and uplifted through the Archbishop’s Appeal, thanks to individuals like you! We are called to live as Jesus did, sharing our blessings freely with people in need. This is true life in the Spirit. Your participation in the Appeal is essential in helping form and educate future priests, deacons, and catechists, as well as provide the basic necessities of food, clothing, and other social service ministries that aid the most vulnerable in our community. Who is a Christian Steward? We are Christian stewards when we receive God’s gifts gratefully, cherish and tend them in a responsible and accountable manner, share them in love with others, and return them with increase to the Lord. Being a Christian steward is an intentional, planned, proportionate giving of our time, talent and treasure. The Annual Appeal is an opportunity for you to grow as a disciple in gratitude for the gifts you have been given. Pray and discern in your heart a gift of love so that others, too, may encounter Christ as we glorify His kingdom. Thank you for your prayers and generosity.

*May God bless you for your willingness to do good so as to win the life that is true life.*



**St. Thomas More  
Knights of Columbus  
Council 7386**

**BBQ Plate  
Sunday, May 23, 2021  
Carolán Hall, 4427 Moana Dr, SA Tx 78218**



**PLATE:** 1/4 Chicken, 1 sausage link, beans, rice, jalapeno, pickles, bread and bottle of water  
**COST:** \$10 / plate (Curbside Pickup Only)  
**SERVING:** 11 am - 2 pm

**For Tickets Call:** Noah @ 210-459-9270 or any STM KoC Member



**St. Thomas More English  
Prayer Group**



March 25 - Meet at 6:00 pm in the Church

**Contacts:** Olga Guerrero: (210) 657-1610 or  
 Stella Lopez: (210) 618-6977



**Grupo de Oración  
Familias compartiendo la palabra**



El grupo de oración se reúne los viernes a las 7 pm.  
 Para mas informacion contacte Maria Isabel Hernandez.

**This Week at Our Parish**

**Sunday, March 28, 2021 - Palm Sunday**  
9:00 am Faith Formation (Eng) - School

**Monday, March 29, 2021**

**Tuesday, March 30, 2021**  
5:30 pm Divine Mercy Cenacle - Church  
7:00 pm Coro Alegria - Rectory Mtg Room  
Grupo Choir - Church

**Wednesday, March 31, 2021**

**Thursday, April 1, 2021 - Holy Thursday**  
Eucharistic Adoration - After Mass - Church

**Friday, April 2, 2021 - Good Friday**  
5:30 pm Divine Mercy Novena -1 - Church

**Saturday, April 3, 2021 - Easter Vigil**  
5:30 pm Divine Mercy Novena -2 - Church  
4:00 pm Reconciliation - Church

**Sunday, April 4, 2021 - Easter Sunday**  
5:30 pm Divine Mercy Novena -3 - Church

**Liturgical Roles**

**Thursday, April 1, 2021 - Holy Thursday**  
7:00 pm **Altar Servers** - (None)  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Rolando, DC John  
**Lector** - O.Weich

**Friday, April 2, 2021 - Good Friday**  
3:00 pm **Altar Servers** - (None)  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Tim,  
**Lector / Voice** - M.Fisher

7:00 pm **Altar Servers** - (None)  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Rolando  
**Lector / Voice** - J+M.Rodriguez

**Saturday, April 3, 2021 - Easter Vigil**  
8:30 pm **Altar Servers** - (None)  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Tim, DC John  
**Lector / Voice** - Abi.Perez

**Sunday, April 4, 2021 - Easter Sunday**  
8 am **Altar Servers** - (None)  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Tim  
**Lector / Voice** - C.Brown

10 am **Altar Servers** - (None)  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Rolando  
**Lector / Voice** - W.Torres

12 pm **Altar Servers** - (None)  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Rolando  
**Lector / Voice** - E.Marshall / H.Ruiz

**Lecturas de la Semana del 29 mar - 4 abril**

**Lunes:** Is 42:1-7; Sal 27:1-3,13-14; Jn 12:1-11  
**Martes:** Is 49:1-6; Sal 71:1-6,15,17; Jn 13:21-33,36-38  
**Miércoles:** Is 50:4-9; Sal 69:8-10,21-22,31,33-34; Mt 26:14-25  
**Jueves (la Cena del Señor):** Ex 12:1-8,11-14; Sal 116:12-13, 15-18; 1Co 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15  
**Viernes:** Is 52:13-53:12; Sal 31:2,6,12-13,15-17,25; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1-19:42  
**Sábado: Vigilia:** Gn 1:1-2:2; Sal 104:1-2,5-6,10,12,13-14,24,35; Ex 14:15-15:1; Ex 15:1-6,17-18; Ez 36:16-28; Sal 42:3,5; 43:3,4; Rom 6:3-11; Sal 118:1-2,16-17,22-23; Mk 16:1-7  
**Domingo:** Hch 10:34,37-43; Sal 118:1-2,16-17,22-23; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9

**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, March 27, 2021**  
8:00 am †Irene Lagunas  
5:00 pm †Adeline & Ed Richardson by Family

**Sunday, March 28, 2021 - Palm Sunday**  
8:00 am †Baldemar Saldiva by Fernandez Family  
10:00 am †Greg Guerrero by Volpenhein Family  
†Sr. Mary Angelee Kowalik by Volpenhein Family  
†Salome H Briseno & Carolina B Briseno by Morales & Briseno Families  
12:00 pm †Luis Miguel Perez by Family  
†Ulises Francisco Cortez by Family Cortez  
†Daniel Antuna, †Jose and Consuelo Luna by Deacon Rolando, Martha & Marisol Guerra  
†Alicia & Cruz Guerra, Eulalia Almaraz by Deacon Rolando, Martha & Marisol Guerra

**Monday, March 29, 2021**  
8:00 am †Maria Nguyen by Kim Nguyen

**Tuesday, March 30, 2021**  
8:00 am †Lan (Maria Nguyen) by Kim Nguyen

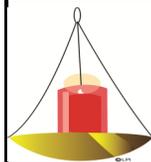
**Wednesday, March 31, 2021**  
8:00 am †Rosie Reyes & †Suzell Waller by Eddie Reyes  
†Maria Nguyen by Kim Nguyen

**Thursday, April 1, 2021 - Holy Thursday**  
7:00 pm Holy Thursday - No Mass Intentions

**Friday, April 2, 2021 - Good Friday**  
3:00 pm Good Friday - No Mass / Intentions  
7:00 pm Good Friday - No Mass / Intentions

**Saturday, April 3, 2021 - Easter Vigil**  
8:30 pm Easter Vigil - No Mass Intentions

**Sunday, April 4, 2021 - Easter**  
8:00 am †Baldemar Saldiva by Fernandez Family  
†Edgar and †Adeline Richardson by Family  
10:00 am †Tom Schleigh by Family  
†Matthew St.Laurent by Volpenhein Family  
†Ethan Leiber b Briseno Family  
12:00 pm †Luis Miguel Perez by Family  
†Jose Roberto Pequeno Jr by Joan Schulte  
†Jeremias Reyes, All Souls by Flor Reyes



**Sanctuary Light Intention:**  
**†David Sassenhagen**

**Readings for the week of Mar 29 - Apr 4**

**Monday:** Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3,13-14; Jn 12:1-11  
**Tuesday:** Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6ab,15,17; Jn 13:21-33,36-38  
**Wednesday:** Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10,21-22,31,33-34; Mt 26:14-25  
**Thursday (Lord's Supper):** Ex 12:1-8,11-14; Ps 116:12-13,15-18; 1Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15  
**Friday:** Is 52:13-53:12; Ps 31:2,6,12-13,15-17,25; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1-19:42  
**Saturday: Vigil:** Gn 1:1-2:2; Ps 104:1-2,5-6,10,14,24,35; Ex 14:15-15:1; Ex 15:1-6,17-18; Ez 36:16-28; Ps 42:3,5; 43:3,4; Rom 6:3-11; Ps 118:1-2,16-17,22-23; Mk 16:1-7  
**Sunday:** Acts 10:34,37-43; Ps 118:1-2,16-17,22-23; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9