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

April 1, 2007

El Señor me ayuda, por eso no quedare' confundido

-Isaias 50:7 a

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**CLASSES:** PALM SUNDAY CLASSES, APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> which WERE scheduled are now being CANCELLED. With the reading of the passion, the Blessing and Solemn Procession of the Blessed Palms during the celebration of the Liturgy we would be very late beginning our classes and parking would be a problem. Classes for Pre-School through Grade 8 will resume AFTER Easter, April 15<sup>th</sup>. May the Blessings and Peace of Holy Week and Easter be with all our families!

**CONFIRMATION:** Nineteen candidates are prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Our Bishop Michael Saltarelli, D.D. will celebrate the Liturgy and administer the Sacrament on Sunday, April 15, 2007 at 12 Noon in St. Joseph on the Brandywine Church. **REHEARSAL** for the Candidates with their Sponsors will be held on Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m. Please remember these young people and their families and sponsors in your prayers.

**FIRST COMMUNICANTS:** Our children in the First Communion Class will have a **MINI RETREAT/JESUS DAY** on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am. to 12 Noon in St. Joseph Family Center. ALL children must attend this morning of Prayer, Instruction, Activities. Parents are reminded to guide their children through the First Eucharist Book which parents received some weeks ago. Class time is limited because of Spring Break and Easter coming so close together. Parents guidance and interest in the religious instruction of the child is **MOST IMPORTANT**

#### NOVENA OF MASSES

Those who wish to remember their loved ones, living or deceased, in a Novena of Masses may do so by filling out the envelopes in your parish envelope packets, or located in the pews. Thank you.

#### HOLY WEEK/EASTER

**Confessions:** M, T, W: 11:30-12:00 & after 12:05 mass

**Mass of the Lord's Supper:** 7:30 p.m. This moving Liturgy will include the "Washing of the Feet." The Church will remain open until 11 p.m. for the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

**Good Friday: Celebration of the Lord's Passion with Veneration of the Cross & Communion** - 3 p.m. Stations of the Cross 12:05 & 7 p.m. Confessions 11:00 - 12:00 and after 7 p.m. stations

**Holy Saturday: The Vigil of Easter** - 8 p.m. There will not be a 5 p.m. Mass.

**Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of the Lord** - 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 There will be two additional Masses at 9:00 and 10:30 in the Family Center to provide for the overflow. The Children's choir will perform at the 9:00 Mass; the Adult Choir at the 10:30 Mass.

### **PASTOR'S NOTES**

#### *Passion Sunday*

Mass is longer today! Why! The reading of the passion of Christ? What is that? A horror story? A story of suffering? An endurance story? At least partly so. It is these and so much more. It is a story of heroism, cowardice, greed, power gone bad, and so forth. But above all it is a love story. It is the greatest love story that the world has ever known. It is God's love story. It is our love story.

Jesus goes to his death for no other reason than love. Love drives the universe. It is still the most powerful force that humanity has ever discovered. We are made for love. Without it we are nothing. No matter who we are, what we own, how many people we have under our authority, if we have not love, we are nothing.

Jesus, hanging on the cross, is the divine love song. This is a song without words. Words were too weak, too inadequate to bring home the love message. We needed to see love itself loving us. It's too easy to say, "I love you". Those words aren't always true, and when they are not true, they are the cruelest words a person can speak. But when we see love, when we gaze at love loving us, when we see the magnitude and the length to which love has gone for our sake, then there is a chance we will know love.

This week we will once again hear the love story of God told to us through our Holy Week celebrations. **Bishop Saltarelli** will be with us at the 3 p.m. *celebration of the Lord's Passion* on Good Friday. Come join us!

#### Washing of the Feet

Volunteers are needed to participate in the *washing of the feet* for Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. Call the office at 658-7017. John's gospel describes this ceremony a central moment in the Last Supper.

#### Holy Land Collection

On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual collection for the Holy Land. We ask you to be generous. Your financial contribution will support the works of the Catholic Community in the Middle East and to protect the Holy Places and Christian shrines.

### Men of Malvern Retreat

The Wilmington Archbishop Fitamaurice Group will be having their annual retreat this year the weekend of April 27-29 @ St. Joseph's in the Hills, Malvern, PA. Rev. Jim Nash and Rev. Michael Murray, OSFS will be retreat directors. Join this life-changing event. Call Frank Joyce @ 656.1522.

### Parish Council Nominations

We're taking names for Parish Council. It's a three-year term and there are vacancies from term endings of three members. Members must be available for monthly meetings on the second Monday of the month (Sept.- May). Areas of interest are Social Concerns, Family Life Maintenance, Liturgy, or Religious Education for children & adults. To nominate yourself or someone else, fill out the insert in today's bulletin and place in the box provided at the entrance of church. Call Msgr., Rebman or a members of the Nominating Committee with any questions.

### A PLEDGE & A PROMISE!

As spring approaches, and the weather becomes conducive to outside work, we will soon begin the following undertakings; restucco the parapet wall area above the sacristy; replace sacristy leaders; paint belfry & sacristy outside woodwork; replace bell tower floor; remove loose/missing slates on steeple; replace with new ones. The cost of the above work will be \$62,741.

Also, since all of our beautiful stained glass windows are leaking, they will be removed and renovated. This project will cost \$85,660. This will be done in two stages. Every other window will be removed for renovation, and replaced temporarily with painted plywood. When these are finished, the remainder will be treated similarly. So, later this spring, when you see unfamiliar faces or temporary scaffolding on campus, you'll know what's happening.

Funding for these capital expenses will come from the parish share of the Vision for the Future Fund which we designated for just these types of expenditures. After these projects are completed, \$200,580 will remain in that fund.

### HATS OFF TO SPRING

Junior Board of St. Francis Hospital invites you to attend its annual spring party and fashion show on Tuesday, April 17, Chase Center, Riverfront. Raffle, Gift shop, Gourmet Table. Tickets \$45. For reservations call Betty Ann 475.1328 or Betsy 656.1185.

### Garden of Eternal Life

Join in the Outdoor Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, April 6th at noon in the Garden of Eternal Life, Cathedral Cemetery. Ample parking is available & attendants will be on duty to direct parking. Rain or Shine!

### St. E by the Sea

Live & Silent Auction, April 28<sup>th</sup>. Contact Mary Agnes Rutkowski at 478-9323. Proceeds to benefit St. Elizabeth High School Scholarship Endowment and Technology Fund.

### Mass Intentions †

Saturday (Mar. 31)

5:00 p.m. Joseph Battle Vinson by Joe & Shirley Dougherty

Sunday (April 1)

7:30 a.m. Ann & Clover Knotts by daughters Bev & Carol

9:00 a.m. All parishioners

10:30 a.m. Rev. Alexander Ulitsky by Joseph F. Campanella

Monday (April 2)

7:00 a.m. Thomas E. Dewson, Sr., by family

12:05 p.m. Gen. & Mrs. J. F. R. Seitz by Margaret Seitz

Tuesday (April 3)

7:00 a.m. Marlene Mercer by Anne Kealey

12:05 p.m. Michael Dillon by Nancy Dillon

Wednesday (April 4)

7:00 a.m. James & Helen Grant & James S. Grant, Jr., requested by his family

12:05 p.m. Vivian Sassone Kelleher by Peggy Butler Baird

Thursday (April 5) *Mass of the Lord's Supper*

7:30 p.m. All parishioners

Friday (April 6) *Good Friday of the Lord's Passion*

11 - 12 Confessions

12:05 p.m. Stations of the Cross & Confessions

3:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Passion

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross & Confessions

Saturday (April 7) *Easter Vigil*

8:00 p.m. All parishioners

### Bap. Prep. Class

In order to have your baby baptized here, you must attend a baptism class. The next class will be held after the 11:30 on Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> in the meeting room of the Family Center. Please call or email Deacon Ed Lynch at 302-477-3200 or 302-654-7571 p.m. or [felynch@wlnglaw.com](mailto:felynch@wlnglaw.com)

### Easter Joy to Emmanuel Dining Room

Share your Easter joy with the more than 200 people at EDR who depend on us each month. Make room during this busy season to provide dinners and desserts for EDR. We need volunteers to come to the Family Center on Tuesday, April 10, at 9 a.m. to help prepare the boxed stuffing and green beans. We also need people to bring desserts to cap off the meal. Won't you join us? Call Jeanne Harkin, 610-388-1845, or Ann Hapka, 610-388-1362, if you have questions.