

Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord April 5th 2020

Gospel at the Procession with Palms

Matthew 21:1-11

Jesus enters Jerusalem as the crowd waves palm branches and shouts, "Hosanna!"

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord's Servant will stand firm, even when persecuted.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24

A cry for help to the Lord in the face of evildoers

Second Reading

Philippians 2:6-11

Christ was obedient even to death, and God has exalted him.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 26:14—27:66

Jesus is crucified, and his body is placed in the tomb. (shorter form: Matthew 27:11-54)

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today we begin Holy Week, the days during which we journey with Jesus on his way of the cross and anticipate his Resurrection on Easter. Today's liturgy begins with the procession with palms to remind us of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem.

The events of Jesus' Passion are proclaimed in their entirety in today's Liturgy of the Word. Those events will be proclaimed again when we celebrate the liturgies of the Triduum—Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Good Friday of the Lord's Passion, and the Easter Vigil. In communities that celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation with catechumens, these liturgies take on special importance because they invite the catechumens and the community to enter together into the central mysteries of our faith. These days are indeed profound and holy.

In Cycle A, we read the Passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Matthew on Palm, or Passion, Sunday. (On Good Friday, we will read the Passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John). The story of Jesus' Passion and death in Matthew's Gospel focuses particularly on the obedience of Jesus to the will of his Father. As Jesus sends his disciples to prepare for Passover, he indicates that the events to come are the will of the Father (Matthew 26:18). In Jesus' prayer in the garden, he prays three times to the

Jesus has demolished all boundary expectations. It is not social definitions such as class, religion, gender, or ethnicity that determines who is our neighbor. A neighbor is a person who acts with compassion toward another. The point becomes not who deserves to be loved as I love myself, but that I become a person who treats everyone with compassion.

When Jesus asks the lawyer who was the neighbor in the story, the lawyer can't bring himself to say it was the Samaritan. All he says is that it was "the one who treated him with mercy." Jesus' response was similar to that of the first discussion: "Go and do likewise." The lawyer, and we, know what is right. The key is to do it.

Pro Sanctity

7:15 PM Pro-sanctity Bible sharing in the Fr. Simonetti Parish Center every Thursday

Prayer for Vocations

Lord of the Harvest, we petition you as you have instructed us to ask for more laborers to serve in the vineyard of Your Church. You have told us that the harvest is rich and laborers are few and we experience this great need in the face of the challenge of the New Evangelization we ask the Holy Spirit to inspire

young men and women to seriously consider vocations for the priesthood and religious life. Help all of us to be effective instruments to encourage and support those whom you are calling to serve and lead the Church of Brooklyn and Queens in the future. Lord, you told the Apostles to put out into the deep. We ask for the grace and courage to accept your call as we pray and work for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life. We ask this in the Name of Jesus Christ, the Great High Priest, Amen.

Every First, and Third Sunday, of the month after each mass Fellowship is followed in the Parish Center all are welcomed

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Weekend Masses in the Canarsie Cluster Parishes:

Our Lady of Miracles

(E. 86th St. & Flatlands Ave.)

Sat. 5:30 PM (Eng.)

Sun. 8:30 AM (Eng.)

10:30 AM (Eng.)

12:30 PM (French/Creole)

Holy Family

(Rockaway Pkwy. & Flatlands Ave.)

Sat. 5:00 PM (Eng.)

Sun. 8:00 AM (Eng.)

9:15 AM (Creole)

11:15 AM (Eng.)

St. Jude

(Seaview Ave. & Canarsie Rd.)

Sat. 5:30 PM (Eng.)

Sun. 8:30 AM (Eng.)

10:30 AM (Family)

12:30 PM (Bi-Lingual)

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Please Pray for ALL Our Sick In Our Parish

Jadranka Knezevic, Frantz Darius, Marie Yvonne Darius, Melanie Peter, Donna Ann Burris, Angelia Agbi, Maureen Ming, Libera Kenia, Beryl Whyte

We will keep names on the sick list for three weeks. After that time, the family should call the rectory

To watch our facebook live stream masses visit our facebook page at facebook.com/olmrcchurch

Sunday 10:00 AM facebook Live Stream

Coming Up This Week

Sunday April 5th 2020

Fifth Sunday of Easter Live Stream Mass in English on Facebook.com To watch Our Lady of Miracles RC Church visit our facebook page at facebook.com/olmrcchurch

Your generosity and support is what allows us to sustain our parish during this time.

Please consider using our convenient electronic giving method.

You can access our Electronic Giving page at

<https://givecentral.org/olm-brooklyn>

Or simply text the word SUNDAY to 646-736-4700

Our Lady of Miracles RC Church will be doing Live Masses on Facebook every Sunday at 10AM

To watch the Live Stream Mass please visit Our Lady of Miracles Facebook at <https://facebook.com/olmrcchurch>

Please visit our website at <https://ourladyofmiracles-brooklyn.org/> for information about Our lady of Miracles RC Church and to also donate to our church.

Our Lady of Miracles will be taking Prayer Requests on the Our Lady of Miracles website if you would like to have a Prayer Request please visit our website at <https://ourladyofmiracles-brooklyn.org/mass-intentions-and-prayer-requests/> Or call the rectory at 718-257-2400

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Jesus "emptied himself, taking the form of a servant" (*Phil 2:7*). Let us allow these words of the Apostle Paul to lead us into these holy days, when the word of God, like a refrain, presents Jesus as *servant*: on Holy Thursday, he is portrayed as the servant who washes the feet of his disciples; on Good Friday, he is presented as the suffering and victorious servant (cf. *Is 52:13*); and tomorrow we will hear the prophecy of Isaiah about him: "Behold my servant, whom I uphold" (*Is 42:1*). God saved us *by serving us*. We often think we are the ones who serve God. No, he is the one who freely chose to serve us, for he loved us first. It is difficult to love and not be loved in return. And it is even more difficult to serve if we do not let ourselves be served by God.

But – just one question – how did the Lord serve us? By giving his life for us. We are dear to him; we cost him dearly. Saint Angela of Foligno said she once heard Jesus say: "My love for you is no joke". His love for us led him to sacrifice himself and to take upon himself our sins. This astonishes us: God saved us by taking upon himself all the punishment of our sins. Without complaining, but with the humility, patience and obedience of a servant, and purely out of love. And the Father *upheld* Jesus in his service. He did not take away the evil that crushed him, but rather strengthened him in his suffering so that our evil could be overcome by good, by a love that loves to the very end.

The Lord served us to the point of experiencing the most painful situations of those who love: *betrayal* and *abandonment*.

Betrayal. Jesus suffered betrayal by the disciple who sold him and by the disciple who denied him. He was betrayed by the people who sang hosanna to him and then shouted: "Crucify him!" (*Mt 27:22*). He was betrayed by the religious institution that unjustly condemned him and by the political institution that washed its hands of him. We can think of all the small or great betrayals that we have suffered in life. It is terrible to discover that a firmly placed trust has been betrayed. From deep within our heart a disappointment surges up that can even make life seem meaningless. This happens because we were born to be loved and to love, and the most painful thing is to be betrayed by someone who promised to be loyal and close to us. We cannot even imagine how painful it was for God who *is* love.

Let us look within. If we are honest with ourselves, we will see our infidelities. How many falsehoods, hypocrisies and duplicities! How many good intentions betrayed! How many broken promises! How many resolutions left unfulfilled! The Lord knows our hearts better than we do. He knows how weak and irresolute we are, how many times we fall, how hard it is for us to get up and how difficult it is to heal certain wounds. And what did he do in order to come to our aid and serve us? He told us through the Prophet: "I will heal their faithlessness; I will love them deeply" (*Hos 14:5*). He healed us by taking upon himself our infidelity and by taking from us our betrayals. Instead of being discouraged by the fear of failing, we can now look upon the crucifix, feel his embrace, and say: "Behold, there is my infidelity, you took it, Jesus, upon yourself. You open your arms to me, you serve me with your love, you continue to support me. And so I will keep



Scriptures For The Week

Monday April 6th

Is 42:1-7 Jn 12:1-11(257)

Tuesday April 7th

Is 49:1-6 Jn 13:21-33, 36-38(258)

Wednesday April 8th

Is 50:4-9a Mt 26:14-25(259)

Thursday April 9th (Holy Thursday)

Is 61:1-3a, 6a 8b-9 Rv 1:5-8 Lk 4:16-21(260)

Friday April 10th (Good Friday)

Is 52:13—53:19 Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9 Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday April 11th (Holy Saturday)

Easter Vigil Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 Ex 14:15—15:1

Our Lady of Trust Catholic Academy

up coming events

Open House for Pre-3, Pre—K4 & Pre K

9:00 to 11 AM

For more information call 718-241-6633

Record of PARISH contributions

If you use our church envelopes and need to have a record of your contributions to Our Lady of Miracles Church for the past year (2019) for income tax purposes, please contact the rectory during office hours or send a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request to

Our Lady of Miracles Church, 757 East 86th street, Brooklyn, New York 11236. We will be happy to forward the information to you.

Due to the Corona Virus we will not be serving the Precious Blood we will let you know when we will be serving the precious blood.

Haitian Prayer group meet every Monday night at 7:00 Pm in the church. All are welcomed

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Faith Formation Office announcements

Peace of the risen Lord to you all. Owing to Corona Virus pandemic that shook us to our core, I want to thank parents for the 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation classes for their cooperation. With no clarity on what tomorrow holds with regards to Religious Education in the fall, I request all parents and students be prepared to embrace the new changes that may come our way.

1st Holy Communion and Confirmation will continue remotely till mid-June to catch up with the time lost.

For the ongoing students, I will soon contact you and your parents on the way forward.

No one has any definite answer on when administration of these sacraments will take place, but as always, let us be optimistic. The future may hold a good promise.

Our office hours continue remotely. Please use the personal number I have given you below for any questions.

Tuesday: 10:00AM-4:30PM
Friday: 10:00AM-4:30 PM
Sunday: 10:00AM-1PM
Tel: 718-649-1006
Personal # 347-592-6145

Members of the English Prayer and Bible study meet remotely via zoom for daily recitation of the rosary and other spiritual exercises. Should you want to join them, please contact me via the **personal number** and I will connect you.

Pentecost is almost here. Let us get ready for the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Do not hesitate to call me via 347-592-6145 on Tuesday, Friday and Sunday between 9 am to 4 pm. I will be available for you, God willing.

**Sister Francesca Mumbua Simon, SSJ:
Director of faith formation (OLM).**

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

Every Friday, from 9:30 AM till 12:00 Noon, we have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and Benediction. We are looking for people to sit in church while the Blessed Sacrament is on the altar. Please come to the rectory to put your name down for an hour or two.

The only time we will not have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is if we have a funeral

Annual Catholic Appeal 2020 CATHOLIC APPEAL PRAYER

Loving Father, through Baptism you have made us members of the Body of your Son and His Priestly People. You have enriched us with the outpouring of the gift of your Holy Spirit. You continue to make your Son present among us through the Sacrament of His Body and Blood in the Eucharist.

We are ever grateful for what you do for us and we seek to respond by revealing your goodness through the witness of our lives.

Help us to nourish and support those members of the Body of Christ who are in need of our generous sharing of our time, talent and treasure.

We make this prayer through Christ our High Priest and Lord. AMEN

Annual Catholic Appeal 2020 goal at Our Lady of Miracles R.C is \$33,494

Thank for your generous support.

God bless you!

PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE WHEN YOU ARE ENTERING THE CHURCH. THIS IS QUITE DISTRACTING TO THE PRIEST AND OTHER PARISHIONERS THANK YOU.