



PALM SUNDAY OF PASSION OF THE LORD  
 APRIL 13, 2025



Dear Friends in Christ,

Today we celebrate Palm Sunday, or the Passion of the Lord Sunday, in which we welcome Jesus into Jerusalem where the prophecy of Isaiah would be fulfilled: *“I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheek to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting”* (Is 50:6).

People welcomed Jesus; they welcomed Him as their King, who came in the name of the Lord, who would bring true peace of heaven and the glory of God to people. What happened, however, a few days later? They condemned their King as their worst criminal: Crucify him! Crucify him! Barabbas was released instead.

There is a mixed feeling and reaction that people then, and even now, expressed to Jesus the King: Hosanna to the King who comes in the name of the Lord, and Crucify him! Crucify him!

*“Crucify him! Crucify him!”* Does that sound familiar to us? We might say: “No, it is not.” Yes, it is my dear friends! Isn’t that what we say to our King Jesus when we commit sins, particularly mortal sins? When we follow our own desires or will, not God’s? Is that how we *“repay”* our Redeemer who took all our guilt on Himself? We have shouted without mercy to Jesus many times, such as when we put on the *“double face”*- loving God, but not our neighbor, or loving other things more than loving God, or when we spread our hatred, anger, prejudice, untruthfulness . . . that hurts others (even ourselves!)

Let us take time to think about the ways we welcome Jesus. Is it true or fake? Is it from our sincere heart or from others’ pressure? May God give us courage and humility to look deeply into our heart and to change (if it is needed) the way we welcome Christ.

Friends, with this celebration we begin Holy Week, with its climax being the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday). And the climax of the Triduum is the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night. This is the night we, all Christians, await the *“big”* promise of God being fulfilled: The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Holy Saturday night (Easter Vigil) is proclaimed as the *“Holiest Night”* of the Church, the night that Jesus conquers death and darkness; the night that Jesus was raised from the dead, giving us hope of our own resurrection on the last day (hopefully) to be with God forever.

I hope and pray that you will follow the last days of our Lord Jesus Christ closely, before He gives Himself up on the cross for our salvation, by attending the Triduum, particularly the Easter Vigil on Saturday night.

By participating in the liturgy of the Triduum, we realize how sinful we are and how much love God has for us sinners. We also realize the meaning of all our sacrifices, prayers and almsgiving. That is our response to God’s love. Do not think about the *“length”* of the liturgy, think about the love that you want to show to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior and think about the joys on the *“Holiest Night”*.

Let us willingly sacrifice our time for our Lord. If we die with Christ, we will live with Christ.

Peace in Christ, Fr. Tien



The Priests from our Diocese will be gathering in Charlotte this Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, for the Chrism Mass.

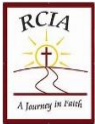


Envelopes are available at the entrances of the church for those wishing to donate towards our Easter flowers.



Thank you from our Food Pantry to everyone who supplied and help distribute food this past Wednesday. Because of your generosity we were able to supply 83 families their Easter dinner. Mark your calendars for May 16<sup>th</sup> for our next fundraiser – a spaghetti dinner!

The Parish Office will close at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> and will reopen on Tuesday, April 22 at 10:00 a.m.



There will be *no Adult Education classes* this Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> and next Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>.

Please support our seminarians. The seminarian education program is primarily funded through the DSA, the seminarian education major gifts campaign, and next weekend's second collection is an important part of educating our seminarians.



Palm Sunday, observed in the Christian tradition, marks the first day of Holy Week and falls on the Sunday before Easter. It celebrates Jesus Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Here are some key points about Palm Sunday:

1. **Significance:** On this day, Christians remember the event described in all four canonical Gospels where Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, and the crowd greeted Him by waving palm branches and cloaks in honor and celebration.
2. **Procession of Palms:** Many churches celebrate Palm Sunday with a blessing and procession of palm leaves (often from date palms or locally available trees). These palms symbolize the branches laid down by the crowd during Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.
3. **Passion Reading:** During the liturgy, there is a lengthy reading of the Passion, which narrates the story of Jesus' suffering and crucifixion. The congregation often takes home the blessed palms as sacramentals, and some are burned to create ashes for Ash Wednesday.

**Pray for healing:** Shirley Allegretti, Donna Barbaro, Chad Cook, William Crunkleton, Susan Darby, Lillianne Duong Davis, Tony Frede, Sarah Fricks, Dariel Hellerer, Wayne Hirsch, Sarah Holloran, Bill Holten, Guyla Ivers, Anette ML. Jigla, Sandra Kanter, Georgette Lee, Terry McConnell, Michelle Mercer, Dee Moffitt, Matthew Morgan, Delphine Moss, Monica Moya, Benjamin Nemeth, Mr. and Mrs. Ordaz-Rios, John Ontiveros, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Kathleen Rogers, Patricia Ruchle, Mike Scarborough, Bill Shaw, Roxanne Lumia Smith, Wanda Stamey, Irene Tisdale, Art Todesco, Alan Tucker, Ruby Christina Tucker, Joe and Charlene Youdell



## Mass Schedule and Intentions

### Saturday, April 12

5:00 P.M. †Margarita Ramos, †Miguel Ramos  
†Damaso Daniel Acevedo  
Doris Kelly by the Garbinski family

### Sunday, April 13

#### Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

9:00 A.M. Joyce Mielnik by Stanislava Michalik  
11:30 A.M. †Secilia Rios †Juan Acevedo,  
†Holy Souls in Purgatory, †Maria Izabel,  
†Martinez Pantoga, Tayde Bustos

### Monday, April 14

9:00 A.M. †John Mielnik by Stanislava Michalik  
†Robert Barnable by Pat Tuscani

### Tuesday, April 15

NO MASS

### Wednesday, April 16

NO MASS

### Holy Thursday, April 17

7:00 P.M. For all Priests

### Good Friday, April 18

12:00 Noon Stations of the Cross  
3:00 P.M. Good Friday Service

### Holy Saturday, April 19

8:30 P.M. Easter Vigil Mass for the Candidates

### Easter Sunday, April 20

9:00 A.M. Parish Peoples's Mass  
11:30 A.M. †Damaso Daniel Acevedo, †Juan Acevedo,  
†Cesilia Rios, †David Ruiz, Modesta Ordaz

Please pray for our parishioners and all men and women in the armed forces: Angel Avila, Stephen Fox, Lauren Richards, Christopher Richards, Jesus Rodriquez, Elizabeth Scoon



# PALM SUNDAY

