



Easter Triduum

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THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026



Dear Friends in Christ,

We are coming closer to the most important celebration of our faith: the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Next week we will follow Jesus and enter into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord). Then Holy Week with its climax of the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil/Holy Saturday). On Tuesday in the Holy Week (usually this event occurs in the morning of Holy Thursday, but because of travel time issue, it is moved to Tuesday of the Holy Week) every priest of the Diocese will gather together with the Bishop to celebrate the Chrism Mass at Saint Mark, Huntersville at 3:00 p.m. During this Chrism Mass, Bishop Martin will bless the oils (the oil of Catechumen; the oil of Anointing of the sick, and the Sacred Chrism) which will be used for celebrating the sacraments during the year at parishes. In this Mass the priests will renew their vows/promises to the Bishop which they took when they were ordained.

During the Triduum, on Holy Thursday, we will celebrate the Institutions of the Eucharist and Holy Orders which Jesus established at the Last Supper. On Good Friday, we will commemorate the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus which is "the peak" of God's unconditional love for us - the sinners (Christ died for our sins while we are still sinners).

Easter Vigil/ Holy Saturday will be celebrated after the sunset. On this night, together with all the believers, we will await and celebrate the Risen Christ who by His resurrection brings us hope, joy, and gladness. On this night the Church will joyfully announce: ***This is the Most Blessed of all nights.***

I invite and encourage each and every one of you to ***make time or sacrifice your time to attend and participate in the Liturgy of the Triduum which begins on Holy Thursday.***

We cannot really celebrate Easter joyfully without our preparation during Forty days of Lent. We cannot really celebrate the joy and gladness of Easter without knowing and acknowledging the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In the last two weeks we have heard about the Life-Giving water, the man born blind being cured, and this week the raising of Lazarus from death to life.

We cannot truly celebrate Easter with JOY and GLADNESS if we do not want to come to Jesus to drink His **Life-Giving Water**, if we do not want to go to "wash" our eyes in the Pool of Siloam - the Sacrament of Penance, and if we do not listen to the call from Jesus to **come out from "our tomb."**

Again, I invite each of you to come to the Triduum, particularly the Easter Vigil liturgy, to experience the richness of the liturgy of the Church and also to be present at the **Most Blessed of all nights.**

May God, who has been with you, continue to bless you and your family and bring you closer to the JOY and GLADNESS of the resurrection of His Son and our Lord. Amen.

Peace, Fr. Tien

Holy Week Schedule

Holy Thursday - April 2
7:00 p.m. Holy Mass - The Lord's Supper

Good Friday - April 3
3:00 p.m. Good Friday Service
5:30 p.m. Via Crucis

Holy Saturday - April 4
8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday - April 5
9:00 a.m. Holy Mass
11:30 a.m. Holy Mass - En Español



Please remember to keep Saint Francis Parish in your will.





The Sanctuary Lamp this week is in memory of
Min Galbrecht
by Charlene Swanson Galbrecht.

The envelopes are available at the entrances
of the church for those who would like to
contribute to our Easter flowers.



The Knights of Columbus Fish Fry will be this
Friday, March 27th, from 4:30 p.m. till 7:00 p.m.

OCIA-Adult Education on Monday night March 23rd
is Father Schmitz-*Pray the Mass like Never Before*
Reflections on Holy Week coming up and the
nature of the Triduum.
Deacon David & Education team



Our Women's Guild will be praying the Stations of
the Cross at 12 noon this Thursday, March 26th.
All are invited to participate.

The Food Pantry plans to add some Easter
candy to the March 25th food boxes. If
anyone wants to participate by donating some
Easter candy, please place them in the
designated box in the foyer.



Pray for healing: Shirley Allegretti, Donna Barbaro, Dolores Botti,
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,
Delphine Moss, Monica Moya, John Ontiveros, Freeman Robinson,
Josette Roisin, Kathleen Rogers, Mike Scarborough, Bill
Shaw, Roxanne Lumia Smith, Wanda Stamey, Irene
Tisdale, Art Todesco, Alan Tucker, Ruby Christina Tucker,
Joe and Charlene Youdell, Rosalie Perreault, David
Ramsey, Susie Lopez Pineda, Kamri Peck, Kathy Tallent,
Denise Burkart, Steve Keener, Connie Blackburn, Sharon Beals,
Josephine Jennings, Dominga Feria Lopez



Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, March 21

5:00 P.M. † Holy Souls, † Antonio Cruz Arango
Joyce Mielnik

Sunday, March 22 Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:00 A.M. † James R. Swanson
All Priests, living & deceased
11:30 A.M. † Holy Souls, † Jose Sanchez
† Alfonso Trujillo, † Guillermina Nunez

Monday, March 23

Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

9:00 A.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, March 24

Saint Oscar Romero, Bishop and Martyr
NO MASS

Wednesday, March 25

The Annunciation of the Lord

5:30 P.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, March 26

9:00 A.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory
Joyce Mielnik

Friday, March 27

9:00 A.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory, † Tim Jones

Saturday, March 28

5:00 P.M. † Holy Souls, † Antonio Cruz Arango
† Lisa Salas by Dee Moffitt

Sunday, March 29

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

9:00 A.M. † Flora M. Bandi by Martha Schroeder
All Priests, living & deceased
11:30 A.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory
† Alfonso Trujillo, † Guillermina Nunez

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



Rosary is prayed ½ hour before every Mass.

Adoration every Friday after our 9:00 a.m. Mass with the
Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 11:30 a.m. and benediction till noon.

Reconciliation ½ hour before Vigil Mass and Wednesday at 6:15 p.m.

Donations made easy! Here is our QR Code that you can scan with your phone.

