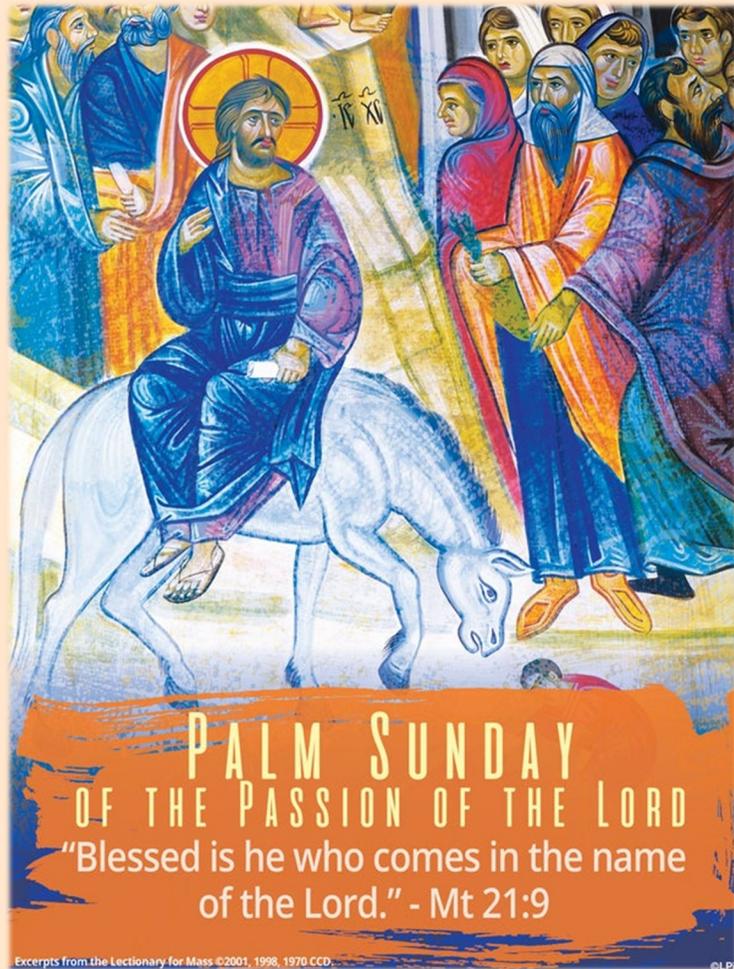


# PALM SUNDAY

## MARCH 29, 2026



### SACRAMENTS

#### Baptism:

Please contact Ellen Mady at MOS or Joann Giuffre at St. John and St. Mary at the Parish Office four months before the birth of your child.

#### Reconciliation:

Saturdays at 9:00 AM at MOS;  
 Saturdays at 12:00 NN at St. John;  
 Tuesdays at 5:00 PM at St. Mary;  
 OR by appointment.

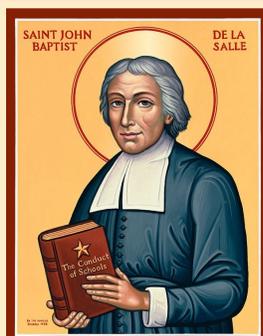
#### Marriage:

Please contact Monsignor Michael Begolly in the Parish Office at least one year in advance for information and scheduling.

#### Holy Communion

for those who are homebound:  
 Please contact the Parish Office.

New members are always welcome.  
 Please call the Parish Office to register.



**St. John Baptist de La Salle**  
 497 Athena Drive  
 Delmont, PA 15626  
 (724) 327-0647

Saturday anticipated Mass 4:00 PM  
 Sunday Mass 11:00 AM



**Saint Mary, Our Lady of Lourdes**  
 5900 Kennedy Avenue  
 Export, PA 15632  
 (724) 327-0647

Sunday Mass 9:00 AM



**Mother of Sorrows**  
 4202 Old William Penn Highway  
 Murrysville, PA 15668  
 (724) 733-8870

Saturday anticipated Mass 4:30 PM  
 Sunday Masses 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM & 6:00 PM

**Each a parish of the Diocese of Greensburg**

+

**Each a Pennsylvania Charitable Trust**

**Sunday, Mar 29, 2026**

**Find solace in the psalms**

In an interview after his release from captivity, Servite Father Lawrence Martin Jenco, one of the hostages held in Lebanon for 564 days in the 1980s, said that the prayers and psalms he had learned as a child gave him the greatest solace during a long incarceration filled with cruel and severe deprivations. Jesus found similar comfort during his torture and death. His last words from the cross, according to the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, were: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" a line from Psalm 22, one of the many psalms Jesus would have learned as a boy. Memorize a psalm today that will give you comfort in your hour of need.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD  
Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66 (37/38).  
*"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"*

**Monday, Mar 30, 2026**

**Do you have Jesus' back?**

The last time we saw Martha and Mary together, they were weeping at the tomb of their brother, Lazarus. But now all three of them are having a dinner party for Jesus and the disciples at their home in Bethany. They do not know the religious authorities are planning to put Lazarus to death because his second chance at life is leading many to believe in Jesus. Nor do Martha, Mary, and Lazarus suspect that Jesus is about to be betrayed to those same authorities by one sitting at their table. Sharing the cup with Jesus only signifies friendship with him if we back it up once we've left the table. Are you ready to stand by Jesus and stand up for radical love?

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK  
Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11 (257). *"I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice."*

**Tuesday, Mar 31, 2026**

**Put knowledge to good use**

What can be said about Judas, the apostle who committed the ultimate betrayal in history, handing over Jesus to his executioners for money? Like the other apostles, Judas knew the Lord—indeed, he knew Him well enough to identify Him to the authorities. But what did Judas do with that knowledge? He chose to exploit it. Ironically, had he used his knowledge of Jesus for the good of others rather than for a few meager silver pieces, he would have been glorified. Instead, he died by his own hand and lives in ignominy. Holy Week invites us to reflect on what we will do with our own knowledge of the Lord: whether we will allow it to transform us, or merely use it for our own ends.

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK  
Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38 (258). *"Amen, amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me."*

**Wednesday, Apr 01, 2026**

**Look for the signs**

If you're reading a suspenseful book or watching a scary movie, you can always tell when evil is about to intrude. In the moments of quiet before the unleashing of the stormy action, you'll normally find telltale signs—a foreboding phrase or an ominous change in the music. Wednesday of Holy Week is the moment of quiet before the events of Jesus' suffering, death, and Resurrection begin to rapidly unfold. The sign of what is to come is that Judas

agrees to betray Jesus and begins looking for opportunities to hand him over. What opportunities are you looking for today? Do they support Christ, or betray him?

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK  
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25 (259). *"From that time on he looked for an opportunity to hand him over."*

**Thursday, Apr 02, 2026**

**Your humble servant, Lord**

Today begins the Triduum (Latin for "space of three days"), during which we celebrate the central mystery of our faith: Christ's Passion and Resurrection. Jesus calls his disciples to do as he has done: namely, love and serve one another. But what does Jesus mean by service? For Jesus, service always involves humbling oneself for the sake of another's salvation. Jesus washes his disciples' feet so that they may come to understand what true discipleship is. Jesus suffers, dies, and rises so that each of us may know the path to eternal life. Now it is up to us to choose discipleship and follow that path of love and service.

THURSDAY OF HOLY WEEK (HOLY THURSDAY)  
Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15 (39). *"Master, are you going to wash my feet?"*

**Friday, Apr 03, 2026**

**Say a prayer for spiritual courage**

Sadder than the betrayal of a false friend is the denial of a true one. We might imagine that Judas had a false bottom in his heart: It's the place where he kept his money. But Peter's heart was full of genuine love and admiration for Jesus, so what went wrong in the courtyard of the high priest? Not bribery or a loss of faith, but something far simpler overcame Peter: fear. Many of us modern followers of Jesus might admit in an honest hour that fear is one of the greatest enemies of our own friendship with Jesus. Pray for spiritual courage, so that your witness may remain constant.

FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION (GOOD FRIDAY);  
DAY OF ABSTINENCE  
Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42 (40). *"They said to him, 'You are not one of his disciples, are you?' He denied it and said, 'I am not.'"*

**Saturday, Apr 04, 2026**

**Watch and wait**

Today the church does two things. It waits and fasts at the tomb of Jesus. Then, when night falls, it celebrates the vigil of his Resurrection. Tonight, we keep vigil around the Easter fire, and as we wait, we tell the stories of how we got here—in particular, how God got us here. Jesus' empty tomb unveils the deepest mysteries of faith and all we hope for as Christians. If you are able to participate in a vigil liturgy tonight, you'll be standing on the holiest ground: the place where we follow Christ into glory and welcome new and eternal life (and, in many communities, new members of Christ's risen Body, the church).

HOLY SATURDAY; EASTER VIGIL  
Genesis 1:1-2:2; Genesis 22:1-18; Exodus 14:15-15:1; Isaiah 54:5-14; Isaiah 55:1-11; Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4; Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Romans 6:3-11; Matthew 28:1-10 (41). *"He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay."*

*Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time*



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# STAFF DIRECTORY

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*mbegolly@dioceseofgreensburg.org*

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**Jacob Gindhart, Regional Director of Youth Ministry**  
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**Tom Octave, Director of Liturgy and Music**  
*toctave@dioceseofgreensburg.org*

## Pastoral Council

Chuck Bell, Dennis Coffen, Dina Colangelo, A.J. Fikejs, Shawn Lynch, Kirra Mediate, Erin Patterson, Kate Stevens, Marie Telford, Nancy Trabucco & Linda Wakefield

## MOTHER OF SORROWS

**Ellen Mady, Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation & Mission Integration**  
*emady@dioceseofgreensburg.org*

**Brooke Tognarina, Communications Coordinator & Office Manager**  
*btognarina@dioceseofgreensburg.org*

**Matt Russo, Maintenance**  
*mrusso@dioceseofgreensburg.org*

**Mother of Sorrows Finance Council**  
Holly Magister, Christine Pacifico, Paul Rockar & Lloyd Wolf

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### Office Hours

Monday through Thursday 8:30 AM-4:00 PM  
Friday 8:30 AM-3:00 PM

### Mother of Sorrows Outreach

724-594-5297 or [mos4outreach@gmail.com](mailto:mos4outreach@gmail.com)

## ST. JOHN AND ST. MARY

**Joann Giuffre, Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation and Parish Life**  
*jgiuffre@dioceseofgreensburg.org*

**Debbie Coffen, Parish Receptionist**  
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**Dee Caldwell, Custodian**

**Jason Eperesi, Facilities Maintenance**  
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**Marybelle Weber, Liturgical Music Assistant**  
*mweber@dioceseofgreensburg.org*

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### St. John Finance Council

David Alderson, David Bowersox,  
& Linda Livengood

### St. Mary Finance Council

Bill McHugh, Jerry Soles & Diana Tranchini

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### Office Hours

Monday through Thursday 9:00 AM-1:00 PM



**Mother of Sorrows Regional Catholic School**

**Darcie Gatti, Principal**

*dgatti@mosschool.org*

724-733-8840

TOPS scholarships available:  
[www.catholicschoolsguide.org](http://www.catholicschoolsguide.org)



## PARISH OFFICES CLOSED

The Parish Offices will be closed **Thursday, April 2 and Friday, April 3.** They will reopen on **Monday, April 6.**



### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Join us on **Sunday, April 12** at 3:00 PM at MOS for Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image and a Eucharistic Holy Hour with Benediction. The Holy Hour will include recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, scripture reading, and a homily given by Fr. Jay. All are welcome to attend.

### BAPTISM PREP

The next Baptism preparation session will be held in St. Mary Church on **Thursday, April 16** from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Please contact Joann Giuffre at [jgiuffre@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:jgiuffre@dioceseofgreensburg.org) or 724-327-0647 with any questions.

### PILGRIMAGE TO ST. ANTHONY CHAPEL

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring an evening at St. Anthony Chapel in Troy Hill on **Wednesday, April 29.** The evening will begin at 7:00 PM with Mass celebrated by Monsignor Michael followed by a tour of the chapel. Please plan to join us for this beautiful celebration.

There will be a bus available that leaves St. Mary at 5:30 PM. The cost of the bus is \$10 per family. If you plan to attend, please contact Joann at 724-327-0647 or [jgiuffre@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:jgiuffre@dioceseofgreensburg.org).

# MOS LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

## Saturday 3/28

4:30 PM † Adrienne Heinrich (Don & Peg Miller)

## Sunday 3/29

### Palm Sunday

7:30 AM Stephen Stoltz (*Mom & Dad, Billy, Randi, Jake & Joe*)  
 9:30 AM † John Petrush, Sr. (*Jeffrey Kerr*)  
 11:30 AM † Living & Deceased Members of the Romito Family (*Sarah & Dante Romito*)  
 6:00 PM For the Parish

## Monday 3/30

8:00 AM † Living and Deceased Members of the Pikus Family (*Brodbeck Family*)

## Tuesday 3/31

8:00 AM † Amelia & Frank Kajder (*Kathy Moyar & Family*)

## Wednesday 4/1

8:00 AM † Frances Mollica (*Daughters & Family*)  
 7:00 PM Tenebrae

## Thursday 4/2

### Holy Thursday

10:00 AM Chrism Mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral  
**7:00 PM Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper**  
 8:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration  
 12:00 MN Midnight Prayer

## Friday 4/3

### Good Friday

**1:30 PM Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion**

## Saturday 4/4

### Holy Saturday

12:00 NN Blessing of the Baskets  
**8:30 PM The Great Easter Vigil**

## Sunday 4/5

### Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

7:30 AM Special Intention  
 9:30 AM Special Intention  
 11:30 AM Special Intention  
**No 6:00 PM Mass**



We commend to your prayers Kathy Romagna, who died recently. May God welcome her to the joys of Paradise and bring comfort and peace to her family.

## OUR WEEKLY NUMBERS

### March 21 and 22

#### MOTHER OF SORROWS

Offertory \$ 40,366.12  
Outreach \$ 1,198.00



**Progress payment on sanctuary expansion and church renovation:**  
**\$ 118,553**

#### ST. JOHN

Attendance 1,010  
Offertory \$ 4,906.85



#### ST. MARY

Attendance 540  
Offertory \$ 4,253.50



## STEWARDSHIP NOTES

*"As they were marching out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they pressed into service to carry his cross." Matthew 27:32*

The Lord calls us to love God and to love our neighbor. Every day we are presented with opportunities to love our neighbor and help him "carry his cross." These opportunities aren't usually big events, they are usually ordinary occurrences like helping someone carry their groceries or holding the door open for them. The key is putting the other person's needs before our own and not expecting anything in return.



A **BIG thank you** to all who have responded to the Diocesan Lenten Appeal campaign! Thanks to your generosity, we have raised:

- MOS has raised \$152,709 of their diocesan goal of \$253,480.
- St. Mary has met their diocesan goal and all future pledges will be returned to St. Mary Parish tax free to help fund major capital improvements!
- St. John has raised \$25,620 of their parish goal of \$46,018.

As we approach Holy Week and reflect on the sacrifice that Christ made for us, consider how you might make a sacrificial gift to help our parishes. Online pledges and gifts can be made at: [www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/diocesan-lenten-appeal](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/diocesan-lenten-appeal). Pledge cards can be returned to the Parish Offices or dropped into the collection basket. Let us all come together in faith and generosity during this Lenten season to achieve this very important goal.

## A PEEK AT THE WEEK...

Sunday		March 29
8:30 AM	MOS	Faith Formation for those with special needs, Ave Maria Room
Monday		March 30
6:30 PM	MOS	Altar Server rehearsal for Good Friday, MOS Church
6:30 PM	MOS	Cub Scouts, Social Hall
7:30 PM	MOS	Altar Server rehearsal for Holy Thursday, MOS Church
Tuesday		March 31
10:00 AM	MOS	Staff meeting, Conference Room
7:00 PM	MOS	Altar Server rehearsal for the Great Easter Vigil, MOS Church

**GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION**

On Good Friday, a collection is traditionally taken for the support of services and facilities of the Church in the Holy Land. Money from this collection are also used for the education and social service support of our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land who are desperately in need of our help.

**DELMONT MEALS ON WHEELS**

In Delmont, Meals on Wheels are prepared and distributed on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Every five months our parishes provide the desserts. Volunteers are sent an email when our month is approaching and they choose a day that they will prepare and package a dessert for around 70 recipients. If you would like to be included in the email list, please send an email to Marybelle Weber at [dweber174@comcast.net](mailto:dweber174@comcast.net). No commitment is necessary.

It is our turn to do this in April and we currently have the following dates open: April 3, April 8, April 10, April 13, and April 29. If you'd like to volunteer for one of these dates, please email Marybelle Weber at the address above.

**SUPPORT MINISTRY**

Support Ministry welcomes recent widows or those who have been widowed for many years. All widows are invited to join us on **Tuesday, April 14** at 1:00 PM at DeeJay's Lounge in Murrysville. Please RSVP to Sandy Martin at 724-787-9305 or [sandymartin112@gmail.com](mailto:sandymartin112@gmail.com) by **April 9**.

**ST. JOHN AND ST. MARY  
LITURGICAL SCHEDULE**

<b>Saturday</b>		<b>3/28</b>
4:00 PM	SJ	Special Intention
<b>Sunday</b>		<b>3/29 Palm Sunday</b>
9:00 AM	SM	Special Intention
11:00 AM	SJ	Special Intention
<b>Monday</b>		<b>3/30</b>
8:30 AM	SM	†
<b>Tuesday</b>		<b>3/31</b>
8:30 AM	SJ	† Trisha Ciccocioppo (Mike & Peggy Ciccocioppo)
12:00 NN	SM	Eucharistic Adoration
5:00 PM	SM	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>
6:00 PM	SM	Benediction and Reposition
<b>Wednesday</b>		<b>4/1</b>
8:30 AM	SM	†
<b>Thursday</b>		<b>4/2 Holy Thursday</b>
10:00 AM		Chrism Mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral
6:00 PM	SM	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
7:00 PM	SM	Eucharistic Adoration
12:00 MN	SM	Midnight Prayer
<b>Friday</b>		<b>4/3 Good Friday</b>
12:00 NN	SM	Stations of the Cross
6:00 PM	SJ	Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion
<b>Saturday</b>		<b>4/4 Holy Saturday</b>
12:00 NN	SM	Blessing of the Baskets
8:30 PM	MOS	<b>The Great Easter Vigil at MOS</b>
<b>Sunday</b>		<b>4/5 Easter Sunday</b>
9:00 AM	SM	Special Intention
11:00 AM	SJ	Special Intention

## PALMS

Why are we given palms at Mass today? This is not just a reenactment of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. When we accept the palm branches and hold them high, we are making a promise to accept Christ everywhere, from the joy of Jerusalem to the cross on Calvary.

The palm branches are blessed with Baptism's water. Take the branches home and put them in a place of honor, where they can be a reminder throughout the year of our promise to follow the Lord faithfully.

## MOS CHRISM MASS BUS TRIP

Our parishes have the opportunity to attend the annual Chrism Mass Bus and Lunch Trip. We will travel to Blessed Sacrament Cathedral for the Diocesan Chrism Mass on **April 2**, in which the Bishop blesses the Holy Oils for our catechumens, candidates and those who will be anointed this year. This liturgy brings all of the priests of Greensburg together, with our Bishop and parishioners from across the diocese every year and is a powerful way to prepare to celebrate the Holy Triduum.

Please arrive at MOS by 8:45 AM for pick-up. The Chrism Mass begins at 10:00 AM and we will head to Pasqualino's in Murrysville for a catered lunch at 12:00 noon. The bus will take our party back to MOS around 2:00 PM.

The cost is \$20 a person, \$15 for a child, and \$50 for an immediate family. Cash or check due upon boarding the bus. Venmo at your convenience. Please RSVP by March 30 to <https://forms.gle/MZNSxrpcCznnUEaw9>. We hope to see you there.

## COME TO THE FEAST

What Sunday is to the week, the Triduum is to the year - namely, a veritable feast of riches that God provides for his people.

All are invited and encouraged to attend the liturgies of these holy Three Days as we are nourished by word, sacrament, and a sense of community with our brothers and sisters.

In a special way, we will welcome new members who will be celebrating Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

Following the Great Easter Vigil that begins at 8:30 PM on Holy Saturday night, we will have a special reception in the MOS Parish Social Hall in honor of our newest members. All are welcome!!

## TRIDUUM MASS SCHEDULE

### Holy Thursday, April 2

- 6:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper, St. Mary Parish
- 7:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper, MOS, followed by Adoration in the Social Hall until 12:00 MN prayer

### Good Friday, April 3

- 12:00 NN Stations of the Cross, St. Mary
- 1:30 PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion, MOS
- 6:00 PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion, St. John Parish

### Holy Saturday, April 4

- 12:00 NN Blessing of the Baskets, MOS
- 12:00 NN Blessing of the Baskets, St. Mary Parish
- 8:30 PM The Great Easter Vigil, MOS followed by a parish reception in the Social Hall

### Easter Sunday, April 5

- 7:30 AM Easter Mass, MOS
- 9:00 AM Easter Mass, St. Mary Parish
- 9:30 AM Easter Mass, MOS
- 11:00 AM Easter Mass, St. John Parish
- 11:30 AM Easter Mass, MOS

## THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

The Paschal Triduum begins on Holy Thursday evening with the Mass of the Lord's Supper. For Catholics these are our "high holy days," a single celebration of the Paschal Mystery spread out over three days, the center and high point of which is the Easter Vigil.

You have to scramble to get to the Mass of the Lord's Supper after work on Thursday. Then a lot of employers no longer allow time off on Good Friday. And, finally, the Easter Vigil can seem daunting by comparison to the much quicker and more familiar Mass of Easter Sunday. The Triduum is not made up of convenience liturgies. There's but one celebration of each of them. They take time. They are not an obligation.

There's a lot to be said, however, for taking the time and making the effort to participate in these non-obligatory events. There's a grandeur about these liturgies. They "tell the story" that stands at the core of the Christian faith. They tell it in the way that liturgy does best: through sign and symbol and with our own responses — through prayer, petition, lament, and praise — woven through them. We don't watch this on a screen. We're part of the action. Liturgy is not supposed to be a long-ago-and-far-away retelling of a sacred story, but rather a celebration of the abiding significance of these sacred events in the lives of people today.



## HOLY THURSDAY

The Holy Thursday liturgy begins the Triduum with the wonderful antiphon:

*We should glory in the Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection,  
through whom we are saved and delivered.*

The festive singing of the Gloria tips us off that this liturgy is not taking place as if Christ has not yet been raised. Rather, the whole paschal mystery is celebrated on each day of the Triduum. The church wears white. Bells ring. Lent is over.

The thematic focus of this liturgy is Eucharist in multiple dimensions, turning it over and over, like a jewel, to see its many facets. The institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper is remembered. Feet are washed as a sign of the call to humble service and charity, a central Eucharistic theme from St John's gospel. A special collection for the poor is taken up. And finally, the procession and reservation of the Eucharist are windows onto the abiding presence of Christ in the Eucharist, with his pilgrim people. The Holy Thursday liturgy does not end with "Go in peace," because the Triduum does not end there. It resumes the next day, in silence, as the three-day celebration continues.



## GOOD FRIDAY

Red is the color of Good Friday, the color of martyrs.

The choice of John's Passion is pivotal. Jesus reigns from the cross. His hour of glory is on the cross, for it is not simply an instrument of his humiliation and suffering but the access point of life and salvation for those who believe. The solemn intercessions are prayed, so to speak, in the shadow of the cross and in the power of the risen Christ.

For many, the individual veneration of the cross is the high point of the liturgy. Yet the "showing of the cross" at three stations, as it is brought into the church, is also a powerful ritual action. The triple showing of the cross, with its acclamations, will be paralleled by the three announcements of the light of Christ, as the paschal candle is brought into the church at the Easter Vigil.

The communion service that was added at the end, in recent times, was meant to counteract the distortion of thinking that on Good Friday Jesus is "gone" in some absolute sense. It is a very simple and modest addition to the rite. The liturgy ends in silence.



## THE EASTER VIGIL

The oldest annual liturgy in the church calendar, the Easter Vigil is today celebrated in four parts: light, word, baptism, and Eucharist. Others have observed, rightly I think, that these correspond to the four elements: fire, air, water, and earth, and so, in a sense, the Vigil becomes an icon of the cosmos itself.

The Service of Light begins with the lighting of the new fire. From the new fire the Paschal Candle is lit and processed into the church, where candles of all the participants are lit, and the Easter Proclamation (the Exsultet) is sung.

The Liturgy of the Word is generally considered the “vigiling” portion of the Easter Vigil. What are we waiting for? St. Augustine observed that we have no need to wait for the Lord to rise. We vigil, rather, as a sign and symbol of the Christian life itself. All of the life of faith is a vigil, he said, as we await Christ’s second coming. For one night in the year, we hold back the night as a sign of what is promised in the book of Revelation: that heavenly city in which there is no night because the Lamb is its light.

The Old Testament readings with their psalms and prayers tell the story of salvation. Creation, the sacrifice of Isaac, the crossing of the Red Sea, as well as the prophetic readings, are each explicitly linked to baptism. The reading from St. Paul’s Letter to the Romans brings baptism specifically to the fore, and the gospel of the resurrection then implicitly raises the question: how is Christ rising today in our midst?

The liturgy of Baptism, which follows the liturgy of the word, gives an answer to that question. The risen Christ gives life to his people. The assembly’s renewal of baptismal promises, an innovation of the reforms of Pius XII in the 1950s, has assured that the baptismal motif is given prominence.

The Eucharist of the Easter Vigil is the first Eucharist of Easter, and the climax of the three initiatory sacraments for the newly baptized and confirmed adults. The Masses of Easter day — an innovation of the fifth century to accommodate overflow crowds and still playing something of the same role today — continues to ring out the joy of the resurrection.



## CONCLUSION

Liturgy is ordered, but it isn’t always tightly constructed. It’s like poetry. It works as much through the senses of taste and touch and sight and smell as it does through hearing words or thinking thoughts or engaging in meditations.

But here’s the truth: This is just the beginning. If you want to understand the Triduum - come. Participating in the triduum is one of the best parts of the liturgical year. It is an extra commitment of your time, but that pales in comparison to the saving action of Jesus Christ that we celebrate this week. If the Institution of the Eucharist, the Crucifixion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ isn’t worth more hours of our week, I don’t know what is!

So hit ‘record’ on your TV shows, leave scrolling on the phone behind, and devote yourself to more time for encountering the Lord during Holy Week. Come to the Triduum liturgies, you will not regret it.

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Last Sunday, High School Youth Ministry met in the gym for another exciting game of dodgeball, with a twist! Jacob added the extra feature of using scooter boards to enter enemy territory, and it was a blast. After being treated to ice cream sandwiches and pizza, the teens were treated to a wonderful presentation by guest speaker Fr. John Kist entitled, *Holy Thursday and the Institution of the Eucharist*, that was both enlightening and interactive.

High School Youth Ministry will **not** meet on Palm Sunday, March 29 or Easter Sunday, April 5. We will meet on **Sunday, April 12** from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the lower narthex. All high school students are welcome to bring a friend!



## CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS

The Diocese of Greensburg has set forth clearance requirements for individuals who volunteer at Parishes throughout the Diocese. The following clearances must be renewed every five years: FBI Fingerprint Check, Volunteer Affidavit, Pennsylvania Criminal History Clearance, Pennsylvania Child Abuse Clearance and Virtus Protecting God's Children Training.

As of February 1, 2026, there are over 210 volunteers in our Parishes who will need to update their clearances on or before March 31. We are making every effort to simplify this process by having in-person training classes; having a notary available at the Mother of Sorrows Parish office; and meeting with individuals to assist with the renewal process. Both the Virtus Training and Mandated Reporter Training can be completed online or at an in-person training session.

Please note that the Diocese of Greensburg will perform an audit of all clearances on June 30, 2026. **If your clearances are not current as of June 29, 2026, you will be marked inactive and cannot volunteer until your clearances are brought current.** If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Linda at [lkuchar@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:lkuchar@dioceseofgreensburg.org) or 724-733-8870.

## BEREAVEMENT GROUP



The time of loss after a loved one has died can be difficult to navigate alone and be filled with sadness and grief. You may also feel overwhelmed. To assist you during this time, Mother of Sorrows Parish will hold a bereavement group called Breathing Room. It is our hope that the program will help you acknowledge the reality of your loss, begin to process your pain, and create meaning from your experience.

The group will meet for six consecutive weeks, beginning **April 28** on Tuesday evenings in the Ave Maria Room from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. (April 28 to June 2) The group will be facilitated by Nancy Matteuzzi, MA, BCC.

For more information and to register, please call the Parish Office at 724-733-8870 or email Nancy Matteuzzi at [nkmb33@gmail.com](mailto:nkmb33@gmail.com).

## BOOMERS AND BEYOND

Join us on **Tuesday, April 14** at 11:30 AM in the Mother of Sorrows Parish Social Hall for a presentation on “Enhancing Our Cognitive Health through Nutrition,” presented by Dianne Staso, MS, R.D.

Following a diet that contains foods that boost brain health can enhance memory, clarity and focus. Join Dianne Staso, MS, R.D., as she discusses the latest research about diet and brain health. She will review the Mediterranean, DASH, and Mind diets and how they have all been linked to a reduced risk of Alzheimer’s disease.

Dianne Staso is a Registered Dietitian with a master’s degree in nutrition and exercise physiology. Her background includes clinical hospital work, cardiac rehabilitation, health promotion, and digestive health.

Boomers and Beyond is a ministry serving the ‘baby boomers’ and all adults of Mother of Sorrows Parish and the surrounding communities. Topics are varied and reservations are not required. Participants gather at 11:30 AM and are encouraged to bring a ‘brown bag’ lunch and a friend. Presentations follow from 12:00 - 1:00 PM.



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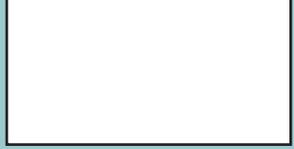
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