

## PALM SUNDAY

### Passion (Palm) Sunday

It is tempting to approach today's readings with "theological eyes" – to focus on Jesus' suffering as affirming the fullness of his humanity, on suffering as potentially graced and transformative, or to reflect on Eucharist and resurrection as an ever-present witness to Jesus' gift of self. Yet today's scripture draws our attention to the stark reality of suffering: to its difficulties, its cost.

We all know suffering. It is hard. It is painful: physically, emotionally, spiritually. Suffering is often lonely, a place of fear, isolation and vulnerability. Sometimes it takes all we have to endure, to get through it. Sometimes it seems unfair, unjust, more than we can or should have to bear. It is this *experience* of suffering we are invited to reflect upon during Holy Week.

In Luke's gospel we encounter a Jesus who chooses a painful journey. Because we know suffering, we are able to walk with him, to be one with him. As we enter his passion, our relationship with Jesus deepens. In wonder and gratitude we recognize anew that God too knows our darkness, our suffering. No one is ever alone, even there.

Jesus' passion invites our *com*-passion: our loving presence to his suffering. And Jesus' passion, Luke tells us, makes way for the coming of the kingdom of God. Let us witness to the divine presence in our world through our compassion. (*Reflection of Ella Allen, from Living with Christ*)

Dear Parishioners:

As we begin Holy Week, I invite you to spend time this week with the scriptures. Listen attentively to the liturgical movements of the Spirit. What is the Spirit asking of you this week?

I have often encouraged people to think of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday, as one liturgy. I encourage you to attend each day, and to follow Jesus from His Last Supper, to His suffering and death on the cross, to His burial, and to His Resurrection.

In attending these liturgies, and giving yourself over to the experience of faith, I am confident your relationship with the Lord will be renewed and strengthened.

Please know of my prayers for you and please pray for me.

Fr. Pat



### Mass Intentions

#### Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016

4:30 p.m. Special Intention of Thomas Callaghan

#### Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Palm Sunday

8:00 a.m. + Victoria Stang

9:30 a.m. + Francesco, Vincenzo and Nunziata De Santis

11:00 a.m. + Vincenzo Saracino

#### Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016

8:30 a.m. + Bienvenido Pangilinan

#### Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016

8:30 a.m. Birthday Wishes for Christopher Kim

#### Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

8:30 a.m. + Mary & Anne Picco

#### Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Holy Thursday

7:30 p.m. + Diago Gonzalves

#### Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Good Friday

12:00 Noon Lord's Passion

3:00 p.m. Lord's Passion

#### Lectio Divina and Gospel Study

Sr. Eva Janning, CPS will continue to facilitate prayer and study based on the gospel of St. John, Wednesdays from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in the parish hall, beginning February 3 until April 27. Everyone is welcome for part or all of the sessions. No registration required.

#### Children's Choir

A children's Choir is being introduced for the Sunday 9:30 a.m. Mass starting in March. Rehearsals will be held, at least for now, on Saturdays, from 10:00 – 10:45 a.m. Clea Soare will direct the choir. For more information or to contact Clea, email her at [cleaandcharlie@gmail.com](mailto:cleaandcharlie@gmail.com)

#### Thank You

Fr. Pat wishes to thank the Social Committee, under the leadership of Juliet and Archie Santos, for helping to organize the wonderful and lively St. Patrick's Day Dinner & Dance, held this past Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. The event was a sell-out and the music, food and live entertainment helped to make the evening a great success. The community truly came together to celebrate a great night in the parish hall.

MARCH 20, 2016



## Tiny Shroud Ministry

We have started this wonderful ministry at our parish. We, together with the knitting group, will be knitting blankets/shrouds, and bonnets that will wrap stillborn babies, and babies who pass away soon after birth. These shrouds and bonnets are knitted with prayers and will be carefully prepared into care packages that will go to local hospitals. You do not have to be a part of a knitting group to participate.

You may wish to do it from the quiet of your home and bring them to the church once completed or have them delivered (we will provide the patterns). We encourage everyone to spread awareness on these "silent births" by donating wool, knitting needles, ribbons and neutral-coloured baby fabrics, or by making a monetary donation to help us pay for the wool and supplies. As a garment is prepared, a special prayer is said for the child it might embrace in the future. For more information, contact Margaret at: 416-857-6220 ([TinyShroudMinistry@gmail.com](mailto:TinyShroudMinistry@gmail.com)).

Please keep our efforts in your prayers!

### **Totus Tuus is Coming!**

St. Edward's will host Totus Tuus this summer! The children and youth of the parish are invited to join us for Totus Tuus (Latin for Totally Yours) this summer from July 17 – 22, 2016. Totus Tuus is an Archdiocesan program whereby seminarians and college students travel to different parishes, spreading the Good News of Our Lord, through catechetical instruction, Mass, confession, songs and games!

The grade school program, for children entering grades 1 – 6, runs Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. The Intermediate/High School program for Grades 7 – 12 runs Sunday – Thursday from 7- 9 p.m. during the week of July 17 – 22 (only). The Day Camp Registration Fee is \$75 per child for the entire week. The Evening Program Registration Fee is \$20 per youth for the entire program. More information about the program itself can be found at: [www.totustuutoronto.ca](http://www.totustuutoronto.ca)

St. Edward's will begin Registrations after all Masses on the weekends of April 2/3 and 9/10. You may also contact Rosanna at: [delgrosso@sympatico.ca](mailto:delgrosso@sympatico.ca)

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE 2016

**Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**

**PALM SUNDAY**

Masses: 4:30 (Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>)  
8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM - Sunday

**Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**

**HOLY THURSDAY**

Mass of the Lord's Supper—7:30 PM  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight

**Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**

**GOOD FRIDAY**

Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
12 NOON  
and  
3 PM

**Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**

**HOLY SATURDAY**

Easter Vigil Mass—7:00 PM  
(No 4:30 PM Mass)

**Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

Masses at 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM

### **Assisted Suicide - Protect the vulnerable and those who care for them! [CanadiansforConscience.ca](http://CanadiansforConscience.ca)**

By June 2016, the Government of Canada is expected to pass legislation to legalize assisted suicide. Cardinal Collins encourages Catholics throughout the archdiocese to visit **[CanadiansforConscience.ca](http://CanadiansforConscience.ca)** and support the Coalition for HealthCARE and Conscience. The coalition represents a group of like-minded partners, including 5,000 doctors across Canada, who are committed to protecting conscience rights for health practitioners and facilities. You can use this website to write directly to your Member of Parliament, respectfully expressing your concerns. Given tight timelines for this legislation, please take action no later than April 1, 2016.

### **55+ Club Meetings**

Persons, 55+ and older, are invited to come out each Wednesday afternoon, 1 – 3 p.m. in the parish hall. Activities vary each week.

### **Swiecone**

Fr. Pat will offer the traditional "blessing" of the Easter Fare (Food) on Holy Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. in the church. All are welcome.