

March 25, 2018 - Passion (Palm) Sunday

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47 excerpts It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people."... Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him... When it was evening, Jesus came with the twelve. And when they [took] their places and were eating... While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many... They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated... he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him."... Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived... Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled... As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate... Pilate spoke to [the crowd] again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!"... So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd... handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers led him out to crucify him... When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"... Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"... When evening had come... Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council... went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus... Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.



"He humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross."

Jesus humbled himself and became the suffering servant for us all. We too, as stewards of the mysteries of God entrusted to us, may suffer from time to time. We may occasionally suffer rejection for sharing what we profess to believe. Jesus emptied himself in serving God's purpose and ultimately his suffering was rewarded. So, we pray this Holy Week that we too may empty ourselves of pride or fear. We call upon the Holy Spirit to give us the humility, wisdom and courage to live out our Christian faith and share the Gospel with whoever needs to hear it.

Ladies Faith Study Would you like to be more confident in talking to your friends and co-workers about hot button Catholic issues such as abortion, euthanasia or contraception? Join us every 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 pm in the rectory as we read through the book *How To Defend the Faith Without Raising Your Voice* by Austen Averleigh. Books are \$20 and every participant must have a book. For more information, call Denise Neilson at 604-417-5609.



Easter Lilies Easter will be here soon! We are accepting donations of Easter lilies so the whole church can reflect the glory of Christ's resurrection. If you would like to donate any lilies, large or small, please drop off them off at the parish office by Wednesday, Mar 28.

Way of the Cross at Queen Elizabeth Park Communion and Liberation is hosting the Via Crucis (Stations of the Cross) at Queen Elizabeth Park. We will proceed through the trails of the park with prayers, meditations and songs. Departure at 10 am at the fountain next to the Bloedel Conservatory.



Easter Triduum From sundown on Holy Thursday to sundown on Easter Sunday is the most sacred part of the liturgical year. These days of the Easter Triduum are one great event recalling the last three days of Jesus' life on earth - his crucifixion and resurrection - when the Lamb of God laid down his life in atonement for our sins. "Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery".

Thur Mar 29 7:00 pm Mass of Lord's Supper
 Fri Mar 30 11:00 am Family Stations of the Cross
 3:00 pm Passion of the Lord
 6:00 pm Italian Stations of the Cross
 Sat Mar 31 8:00 pm Easter Vigil
 Sun Apr 1 9:00 am Easter Mass (Italian)
 10:30 am Easter Mass
 5:00 pm Easter Mass

Chrism Mass All are welcome to attend the Chrism Mass at Holy Rosary Cathedral on Wednesday, Mar 28 at 5 pm. This is one of the most solemn and significant liturgies of our Church where the blessing of the holy oils used at Baptism, Confirmation and the Anointing of the Sick takes place. The priests from all over the archdiocese gather to celebrate together as a sign of their unity with the Archbishop.



The Catholic Faith Explained We may be familiar with different aspects of the Catholic Faith ... but how does it all fit together? And what difference does it make for our lives? Everyone is welcome to attend a DVD-based faith study starting April 16. Symbolon is a stunning video series that systematically presents the big picture of the Catholic Faith. Filmed on location in Rome, the Holy Land, and other locations, it is presented by acclaimed theologian Dr. Edward Sri and dozens of expert teachers. Mondays, from 7 to 8:30 pm.

Holy Land Collection on Good Friday Living the Christian faith in the Middle East is not at all easy. Christians are often subjected to forms of oppression and discrimination. The worldwide Church is called upon once a year, on Good Friday, to support Christians in the Holy Land. Please give generously as many Christians in the Holy Land depend on the collection for their lives.



Communion for Shut-ins The local church exists to look after the spiritual needs of all parishioners, including those who are shut-in and not able to get to Mass. From these needs arise the Church's ancient pastoral practice of visiting the sick. This practice includes taking the Eucharist to the elderly, the sick and the infirm. If you know of anyone who is shut-in and unable to get to Mass, please let the parish office know. We have Extraordinary Ministers who are available to bring them Communion on a weekly basis.

Mass Intentions and Parish Activities		
Sat Mar 24	5:00 pm	All Parishioners
Sun Mar 25 Passion (Palm) Sunday	9:00 am	† Domenico Di Tomaso & family † Paolo & Filomena Lucarino
	10:30 am	† Lina Floro † Feliciano Giacometti
	5:00 pm	† Bruno Corra † Ferrari family
Mon Mar 26	8:00 am	† Maria Maglio
Tue Mar 27	6:30 pm	Rosary
	7:00 pm	Perpetual Novena - St Anthony
	7:30 pm	Ladies' Faith Study
	8:00 pm	Knights of Columbus meeting
Wed Mar 28	8:00 am	† Eugene Chu
	6:45 pm	Gala meeting
	7:00 pm	Choir Practice - Sat 5 pm
Thu Mar 29 Holy Thursday	7:00 pm	† Deceased priests in RCAV
Fri Mar 30 Good Friday	11:00 am	Family Stations of the Cross
	3:00 pm	Passion of our Lord
	6:00 pm	Italian Stations of the Cross
Sat Mar 31 Holy Saturday	1:00 pm	RCA rehearsal
	8:00 pm	All Parishioners
Sun Apr 1 Easter Sunday	9:00 am	† Lepore family † Fiore Turco
	10:30 am	† Barrie Carlson † Vincenzo Brotto
	11:30 am	Easter Egg Hunt † Caterina Arcadi



Easter Egg Hunt All children, ages 10 and under are welcome to join our Easter egg hunt after the 10:30 Mass on Easter Sunday. Come rain or shine and look high and low, over and under, for those tasty Easter eggs!

New Website and Email We're pleased to announce we have a new website! It's full of parish news, archdiocesan information and international Catholic news and blogs. Check it out at sfaparish.ca. We also have a new email address: sfaparish@shaw.ca.

Baptisms Baptisms are scheduled at noon on Sundays. Parents, please call the Parish Office at 604-255-8855 to arrange a date for an appointment with Fr Eugenio.

Weddings Arrangements for weddings must be made at least six months in advance to allow enough time to complete the mandatory Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation classes and necessary paperwork. Please call the Office for more information.

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