

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
March 29, 2026



REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Today's Gospel before the blessing of the palms presents an exuberant scene. Imagine the large crowd just outside Jerusalem spreading their cloaks on the road, breaking off palm fronds, strewing them about and waving them as Jesus passes by. Hear the people shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David." As Jesus enters the city, the people there are asking, "Who is this?" The crowd accompanying him answers: "This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth of Galilee. This is the one who comes in the name of the Lord." A journey of joy.

But a few days later Jesus took his last journey: a winding walk from the upper room on Thursday night out to the garden of Gethsemane, then to the house of Caiaphas, on to Pilate's house and courtyard, and, finally, to the hill of Calvary. During this time, he was spat on and struck, stripped, scourged, and crowned with thorns; he was denounced, mocked, and ridiculed. Most likely some of the same crowd that cried out "Hosanna" cried out, "Crucify him!" It ended with his being nailed to a cross, and after three torturous hours, he died. At this journey's end, there was one final cry from a small group, a centurion and the men with him: "Truly, this was the Son of God!" (Matthew 27:54).

Allow some time to relive these two journeys. You might hear some things you haven't noticed before. Perhaps the words of one of the secondary characters or Jesus' response to a particular situation or his silence before another will speak to you this time.

—James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.
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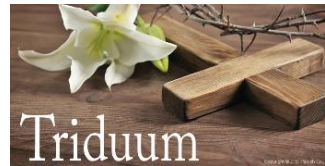
SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY – is the Sunday after Easter, April 12th. In three places in her Diary, St. Faustina records our Lord's promises of specific, extraordinary graces: complete forgiveness of sins and punishment: To receive these graces, the only condition is to receive Holy Communion worthily on Divine Mercy Sunday (or the Vigil celebration), by making a good confession beforehand and staying in the state of grace and trusting in His Divine Mercy.

On Divine Mercy Sunday, we will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and confession from 12 noon - 3:00pm, followed by The Divine Mercy Chaplet -- all here at Immaculate Heart.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17;
Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34;
Mt 26:14-25
Thursday: Chrim Mass: Is 61:1-3ab, 6a, 8b-9;
Ps 89:21-22, 25, 27; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21
Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14;
Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26;
Jn 13:1-15
Friday: Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17,
25; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42
Saturday: a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6,
10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-
22;
b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; Ps 16: 5, 8-
11;
c) Ex 14:15 — 15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18;
d) Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13;
e) Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-6;
f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; Ps 19:8-11;
g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or
Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19;
h) Rom 6:3-11;
i) Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;
Mt 28:1-10
Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9
or Mt 28:1-10 or (at an afternoon
or evening Mass) Lk 24:13-35

SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM Please plan to attend



the Liturgical celebration for the Triduum - Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil; the three-day Passover of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

ADORATION – until 12 Midnight on Holy Thursday after Transfer of the Most Blessed Sacrament; Immaculate Heart parish hall.

REMINDER – You can still get Holy Thursday candles from the parish office. They will be burning before the Blessed Sacrament during Adoration. Candles are \$5.00.

GOOD FRIDAY is a day of fasting from food and abstaining from meat.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - David Alvarez and the Confirmation Class will lead the Live Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at 12:00pm noon, Immaculate Heart church grounds. Soup/snacks will follow in the parish hall

BLESSING OF BREAD – on Easter Sunday after both morning Masses; 8:00 & 11:00.

The Parish office will be **CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY**, April 3rd.

HOLY SPIRIT CLEANING SCHEDULE

April 4 – Parish Council April 11 – Cursillo



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Saturday, March 28th - 5:00PM-IHM – +Daniel Grimaldo; +Belinda Gomez, Tomas and Guadalupe Morales; +Gavino Martinez and Eustacio Martinez

Palm Sunday, March 29th – 8:00AM – IHM - For our

seminarians Martin Luna y Camaron Moore;

+Cindy Conway;

In thanksgiving for the birthdays of Jesus Madrigal, Jr. & Kathrin Kelly

+Ezequiel, Albina, Delia y Teresa Gonzalez;

Rafael y Concha Acevedo; +Cindy Conway

11:00AM – IHM For the People of Nolan County

Tuesday, March 31st 7:00AM-HF

In Thanksgiving to St. Anthony

• **Wednesday, April 1st 9:00AM - IHM**

+Sarah Gomez, Eulalio y Sarita Olvera;

Ysidro y Elvira Navarrette

HOLY THURSDAY, April 2nd

6:30PM - IHM “Mass of the Lord’s Supper”

For all the priests who have served our Parish living and deceased

GOOD FRIDAY, April 3rd

6:30PM IHM “Celebration of the Passion of the Lord”

HOLY SATURDAY, Easter Vigil, April 4th -

8:30PM-IHM – Guadalupanas living and deceased;

+Antonio Villegas; Thanksgiving to St. Judas Tadeo

Easter Sunday, April 5th –

8:00AM – IHM Por la Gente de Nolan County

11:00AM – IHM For our seminarians Cameron Moore and Martin Luna; +Jaime Montealvo; +Vicky Soto

• **CCD - NO CLASSES:**

Sunday, March 29 & April 5–**Palm Sunday & Easter**

Wednesday, April 1st – **Holy Week**

Wednesday classes **resume** April 8th

Sunday classes **resume** April 12th

• **OCIA** – Will not meet on Holy Thursday, April 2nd.

Class will resume Thursday, April 9th.

DIOCESAN COLLECTION - Good Friday Collection is for the **HOLY LAND**. This collection offers all Catholics an opportunity to express our solidarity with Christians in the Holy Land. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

March 21/22, 2026 COLLECTION DATA

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| ENVELOPES/CHECKS..... | \$6874.00 |
| LOOSE PLATE..... | 1705.83 |
| Catholic Relief Services..... | <u>955.00</u> |
| TOTAL COLLECTION..... | \$9534.83 |

Thank you for your generosity!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS will be Holy Thursday, April 2nd, “Mass of the Lord’s Supper”. Thank you to the parents of the First Communion Class for their contributions for Altar Flowers “In Honor of the First Communion Children.”

MASS on Tuesday, will be moved up to **7:00AM**. Fr. Josh has a Priests’ meeting before the Chrism Mass. All are invited to the Chrism Mass @11:00am, at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in San Angelo.

WHY AM I CATHOLIC?- Deacon Bill’s sharing session every Tuesday at his home, @6:00pm.

• **WEDNESDAY MASS**, April 1st, this week, will be celebrated at Immaculate Heart @9:00AM. Adoration will follow immediately after Mass. Fr. Josh will be available for **CONFESSIONS** from 9:30am-5:00pm and also 6:30-8:30pm during our **LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE**.

ULTREYA MEETINGS

Sunday, March 29nd - 6:00pm (*English*)

Monday, March 30th - 7:00pm (*Spanish*)

Both at IHM Hall. All are welcome!

LENTEN OFFERING RICE BOWLS - may be turned in to the office during this coming week or at either of the Holy Week services.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAFFLE – The Guadalupana are selling Raffle tickets after the weekend Masses. Proceeds will go to the Scholarship Fund. Applications are available in the parish office.

Celebrate the Baby by Helping Babies!

The parish will be collecting baby items during the month of April to donate to the Women’s Pregnancy Crisis Center.

► **BABY DONATIONS to include:**

Diapers – Sizes 4-6, Wipes,

New or gently used Baby Clothes, preferably

12 months and up,

Baby Lotions, and Baby Shampoo.

You can bring your donations to any of the Masses.

¡Celebra al Bebé ayudando a los bebés!

La parroquia estará recolectando artículos para bebés durante el mes de abril para donarlos al Centro de Crisis de Embarazo de Mujeres.

► **DONACIONES PARA BEBÉS para incluir:**

Pañales - Tallas 4-6, Toallitas húmedas,

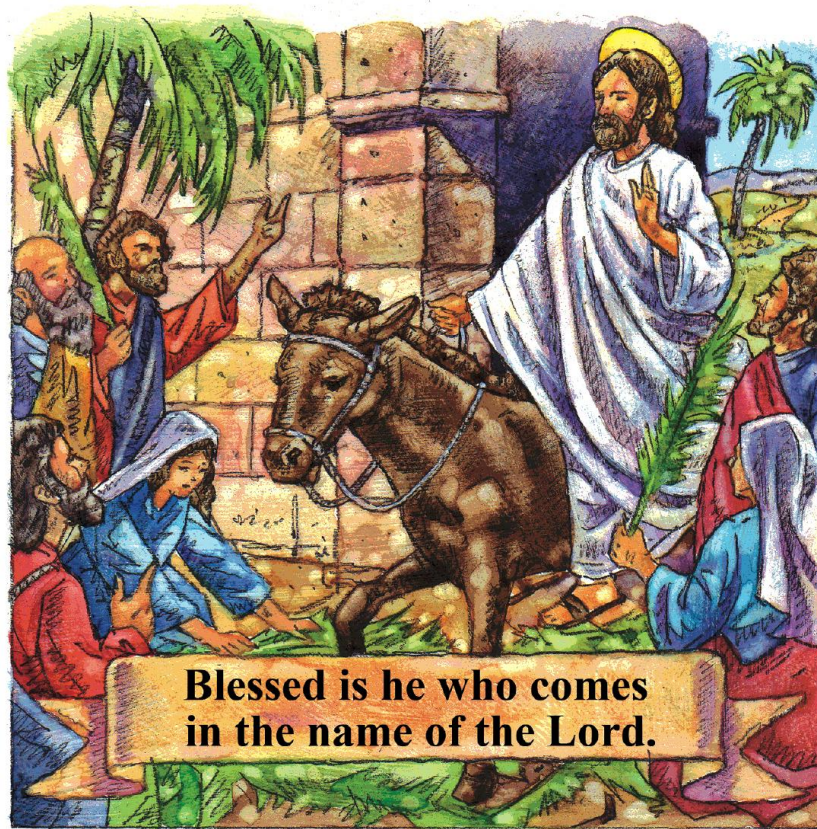
Ropa de bebé nueva o poco usada,

preferiblemente de 12 meses en adelante,

Lociones para bebés y Champú para bebés.

Puedes llevar tus donaciones a cualquiera de las Misas.

BLESSED OLIVE WOOD CREATIONS a Christian group from Bethlehem in the Holy Land will be selling handmade olive wood carvings after all Masses. Please show your support to this good cause.



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“Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord”

The Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, also called Palm Sunday, represents the gate through which we enter into Holy Week. This is a time in which we contemplate the last moments of the life of Jesus. We recall Jesus’s entrance into Jerusalem, welcomed by a festive crowd, and then we recall his Passion. As early as 400, a procession with palms took place.

The liturgy is entirely characterized by the theme of Jesus’s Passion. This is true particularly regarding the Gospel texts which, according to the liturgical year, present the passion narrative. The first reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (the Song of the Suffering Servant, Isaiah 50), becomes a prayer in Psalm 22 with the refrain “*My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?*” The terror that Jesus bore in obeying the Father “*to the point of death, even death on a cross*” is attested to in the Second Reading from the Letter to the Philippians. This is not so much the celebration of “grief” and “lament”, as much as a week that expresses the “heart” of the Paschal Mystery when Jesus gave His life for our salvation. Jesus became man because he loves us, and because of love He gives His life. It is through this obedience that Jesus loves the Father and loves the men and women He came to save.

On Palm Sunday, we are offered an interpretation of our life and destiny. All of our sufferings and grief find a response in Jesus. In the face of every question regarding why there is suffering, why there is death, why there are so many choices that are incomprehensible to the human mind, Jesus does not give us vague responses. With His life, he has told us that He is with us, at our sides. Until the end. We will never be alone – neither in our joys nor in our sufferings. Jesus is with us. It is a celebration that is understood through silence and prayer rather than through words, so as to enter into it with the heart.