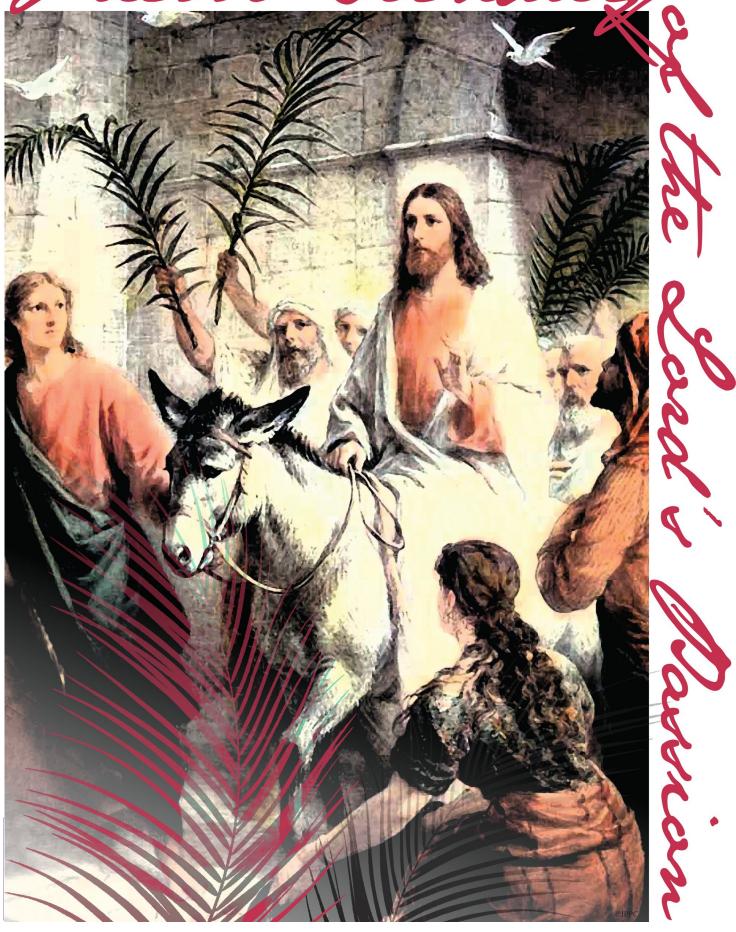
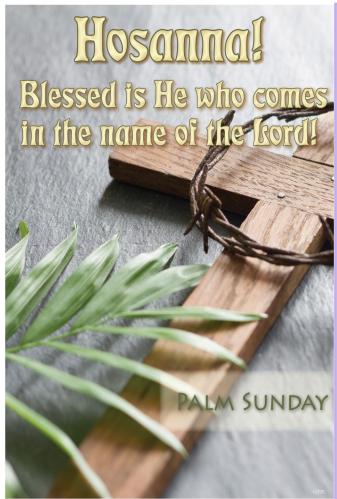
Palm Sunday





| Mass Intentions | | |
|-----------------|----------|--|
| Satu | rday | March 23 |
| _ | 4:00 PM | Walter Doyle by a friend |
| IJ | 6:00 PM | Theresa Labrie |
| | | by The Ladies of Ste. Anne |
| IJ | 7:30 PM | Mass in Portuguese |
| Sunday | | March 24 Palm Sunday |
| SJE | 8:30 AM | Richard Othot |
| | | by the family |
| IJ | 10:30 AM | Mildred & Paul Doyle by her family |
| <u>Tuesday</u> | | March 26 |
| IJ | 8:30 AM | In honor of St. Anthony |
| | | for a favor received |
| Wednesday | | March 27 |
| | 8:30 AM | All Souls Intentions |
| Thursday | | March 28 Holy Thursday |
| | 7:00 PM | Mass of the Lord's Supper (English) |
| | 8:30 PM | Mass of the Lord's Supper (Portuguese) |
| <u>Friday</u> | | March 29 Good Friday |
| | 3:00 PM | Stations of the Cross (English) |
| SJE | 7:00 PM | Good Friday Service (English) |
| IJ | 8:30 PM | Good Friday Service (Portuguese) |
| <u>Saturday</u> | | March 30 Holy Saturday |
| IJ | 7:00 PM | Easter Vigil (English) |
| IJ | 10:30 PM | Easter Vigil (Portuguese) |
| Sunday | | March 31 Easter Sunday |
| | 8:30 AM | Tim Coulter by his family |
| IJ | 10:30 AM | William & Florence Boudreau |
| | | by their family |

Weekly Readings Mar. 25– Mar. 31, 2024

Monday s 42:1-7 Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14 Jn 12:1-11 **Tuesday** Is 49:1-6 Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17 Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday Is 50:4-9a Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34 Mt 26:14-25

Thursday Chrism Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9 Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27 Rv 1:5-8 Lk 4:16-21

Thursday Night 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 Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13 -14, 24, 35 Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18;

Ex 14:15-15:1; Is 54:5-14; Is 55:1-11; Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Rom 6:3-11; Mk 16:1-7

Sunday Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 Col 3:1-4 Jn 20:1-9

Good Friday Collection

Once a year on Good Friday, our parish is called upon to support Christians in the Holy Land. Many Christians in the Holy Land depend on this collection for their lives. As a pontifical collection requested by Pope Francis, the annual Good Friday Collection offers a direct link for parishioners to be witnesses of peace and to help protect the Holy Places. Franciscans and others are housing and feeding the poor, providing religious formation and education, maintaining shrines and parishes, and conducting pastoral ministry. For more information, visit: MyFranciscan.org/good-Friday. .

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

| Week Ending ~ March 16 & 17 | 2024 |
|--|------------|
| Adult Envelopes (41) | \$2,157.02 |
| WeShare (Online Giving) (47) | \$690.00 |
| Loose Cash | \$789.00 |
| Offertory Total: | \$3,636.02 |
| Debt Reduction | \$50.00 |
| Easter Flowers | \$25.00 |
| May our loving God bless you j your continued generosity! | for |

Saint John XXIII Parish

PALM SUNDAY REFLECTION

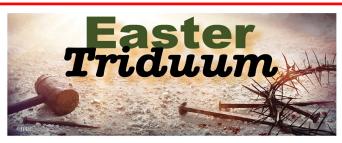
The overhead camera work used on a televised football game has something in common with an item needed for a family group photo. Both need perspective. The kind that can only come when the photographer steps back from his subject so that the viewer catches the whole scene.

I believe we can gain a better appreciation of the Lord's Passion account if we figuratively "step back" from the milieu our minds produce. Consider the many homilies we have heard over the years; the many movie versions of the events, and even the well-written New Testament commentaries we may have read, and how they influence our imaginations as we hear the words every Holy Week.

Why pull away from one or more of those? In order to gain a personal perspective of the well-known events. To be spiritually and physically alone in their presence, as if you were the only observer. Mark's version that we hear today is the major part of his shortest of the four gospels.

The whole gospel can be read in less than an hour. But what matters is your reaction just to the Passion account. Various lines will pop out, so to speak, and compel you to pause for reflection.

For me, there is a line that comes early on, when Jesus addresses His disciples by saying: "The poor you will always have with you, and whenever you wish you can do good to them, but you will not always have Me." Of course He meant His physical presence, with no reference to His miraculous presence in the Holy Eucharist. Yet we can wonder what His physical presence might mean. When we hopefully reach heaven we shall be blessed with it. But in the meantime wouldn't it be consoling? I think of saints like Mary Magdalene, or Sr. Faustina, all of whom had the privilege. Something to think about as we step back from our ordinary pondering of the words that we read or hear this week. Meanwhile we await the message of the event on the Third Day, trusting that our decision to live as He asked us to will yield the moment when He steps forward to give us a hug of welcome to eternal joy. Rev. Leonard N. Peterson



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper (English) 7:00 PM IJ Nashua Mass of the Lord's Supper (Portuguese) 8:30 PM IJ Nashua

Good Friday

Stations of the Cross (English) **3:00 PM IJ Nashua**Good Friday Service (English) **7:00 PM SJE Hudson**Good Friday Service (Portuguese) **8:30 PM IJ Nashua**

Holy Saturday

Easter Vigil (English) **7:00 PM IJ Nashua** Easter Vigil (Portuguese) **10:30 PM IJ Nashua**

Easter Sunday

Easter Mass 8:30 AM SJE Hudson Easter Mass 10:30 AM IJ Nashua

CHURCH CLEAN-UP FOR EASTER

Our Brazilian community is organizing a "Church Clean-Up" for Easter this Sunday, March 24th, beginning at 12:00 Noon at IJ Church in Nashua. The idea is to clean up inside as well as outside around the church. No sign up needed - just simply show up ready to help clean.

CHRISM MASS

Please join the Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci, Bishop of Manchester and the priests in the diocese, for the annual blessing of the oils at the Chrism Mass which will be held at St. Joseph Cathedral, corner of Lowell and Pine Streets in Manchester on March 26th, beginning at 6:00 PM. These oils will be distributed among the parishes and institutions of the Diocese of Manchester for use during the next year. At this special Mass, all priests will be given the opportunity to renew their priestly promises during the Liturgy. The Catholic faithful of New Hampshire are all welcome to attend the Chrism Mass.

BG - SEEKING HOST FAMILIES FOR 2024/25

Bishop Guertin High School is excited to welcome it's next group of international students to Nashua this August. Host families are needed to house students from countries around the world and will receive a monthly stipend of \$1,100. We would love to invite local community members to step up to this ministry opportunity by welcoming a student into their hearts and homes. For more information, please contact our International Program providers, Study Six by visiting www.studysix.com/host or email host@studysix.com.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Bishop Peter A. Libasci invites couples celebrating 5, 10, 25, 50, and 60+ years of marriage in 2024 to attend a Mass, followed by cake and coffee reception, in celebration of significant wedding anniversaries. The Mass will be held on Sunday, May 5th, at 2pm at St. Joseph Cathedral, Manchester. To register, contact our Parish Office (603) 882-2462 ext. 4 by April 7

UNITED WAY HOME REPAIR HELP APRIL 5TH

Along with building homes, greater Nashua Habitat for Humanity operates a Critical Home Repair program. The program provides home repairs to low to moderate income homeowners who are struggling to maintain their homes due to age, disability, or family circumstances. The program focuses on health, life, and safety code issues. Some examples of repairs that may qualify for the program include installing handrails or grab bars, installing handicap accessible ramps, small scale structural safety improvements, weatherization, and more. By working with a volunteer repair crew, we are able to keep repair costs for the families to a minimum, sometimes covering much of the costs through internal grants and fundraising. The fixit program provides volunteers to help seniors and/or disabled homeowners in Hillsborough County with home repairs. there is no charge for labor and the services provided are related to plumbing, carpentry, electrical, and other repairs related to safety. the program is designed to help homeowners remain safely in the ir homes. Fixit is under the umbrella of Ameri-Corps and is part of the retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). Join us Friday, April 5th from 10:30 AM -12:00 Noon at the Nashua Senior Center, 70 Temple St. Nashua.

You can register at the link below or contact us at info@unitedwaynashua.org or (603)882-4011. Sign up to help here: http://tinyurl.com/Apr-Coffee