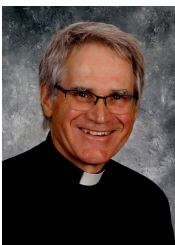




Know, Love, and Serve the Lord

WWW.STJOSEPHWACONIA.ORG • 41 EAST FIRST STREET WACONIA, MINNESOTA 55387 • 952-442-2384 • FR. STAN MADER, PASTOR



Welcome to Holy Week! This weekend, we celebrate Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday. As you know, we begin the service outside the regular church area, read the Palm Sunday story, bless the palm branches, and process into the church. This joyful event soon gets overshadowed by the reading of the Passion, this year from Mark. The reading of the Passion gives this Sunday the less familiar, but more appropriate, name of Passion Sunday.

Deacon Greg has written a detailed description of the Triduum, “three days” which makes up the heart of Holy Week. I encourage you to read it. Briefly, Holy Thursday celebrates the institution of the Eucharist along with the washing of the feet. Good Friday, we read the Passion according to John, have lengthy intercessions, venerate the cross, and have Holy Communion – but no Mass, the one day a year Mass is not celebrated. At the Easter Vigil, we will hear five readings from the Old Testament before the Gloria, and after the Easter gospel and homily, we will initiate the OCIA candidates and catechumens who are ready to enter the Church. There are many other things at that service – the blessing of fire, the inscription on the new

paschal candle, the blessing of water, the celebration of the Eucharist. Easter Sunday continues the celebration. As a parish, we do not have any activities during the Triduum. This is a holy time, and we should respect that and make sure everyone has an opportunity to attend these important services.

At 10:00 am on Holy Thursday, people gather at the Cathedral to celebrate the Chrism Mass with the Archbishop. The oils that are used throughout the year to anoint the sick, anoint the Catechumens, and the Chrism, which is used for baptisms, confirmations, and ordinations, are blessed. Priests renew their vows. The Cathedral is often near to capacity. It is a spectacular service, and if you are impressed with lengthy processions, stellar music, deep theology, and ancient rituals, I encourage you to carpool to attend it. I have the joy of Holy Thursday, a day so important to priests, to be the day my birthday falls on this year!

At 1:30 pm on Thursday, our school students will be presenting the Living Stations in the church. This is more like a play than a regular stations.

Continued on page 2...

MASS TIMES
 Mon: 6:30 pm | Tues, Wed, Fri: 8:15 am
 Sat: 5:15 pm | Sun: 8:30 am & 10:30 am

RECONCILIATION
 Mon: 5:30 pm | Sat: 4:00 pm
or by appointment

ADORATION
 Mon & Thur: 5:00-9:00 pm
 Tues: 9:00 am-9:00 pm
 Wed: 5:00-10:00 pm

HOLY HOUR | Thur: 4:00 pm

ROSARY
 Saturday - 4:45 pm | Sunday - 8:00 am

PRAYER CHAIN
 952-442-3718

New to the Parish? WELCOME!

Contact Cheryl Salz
 952-442-3712

csalz@stjosephwaconia.org

PARISH OFFICE

www.stjosephwaconia.org

(Located in the Education Center)

Mon-Thurs, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sandy Rosetter, Administrative Assistant

952-442-2384

churchoffice@stjosephwaconia.org

Fr. Stan Mader, Pastor

952-442-3700

frstan@stjosephwaconia.org

Deacon Greg Miller

952-442-3701

gmiller@stjosephwaconia.org

Chris Parker, Administrator

952-442-3702

cparker@stjosephwaconia.org

Bonnie Delaney, Financial Manager

952-442-3704

bdelaney@stjosephwaconia.org

Sean Barker, Liturgy & Worship

952-442-3707

sbarker@stjosephwaconia.org

Peg Schmaltz, Pastoral Care

952-442-3706

pschmaltz@stjosephwaconia.org

FAITH FORMATION

Julie Loscheider • 952-442-3703

jloscheider@stjosephwaconia.org

Kirstin Bularzik • 952-442-3705

kbularzik@stjosephwaconia.org

Sarah Richards, Communications &
 Safe Environment Coordinator (VIRTUS)

952-442-3715

srichards@stjosephwaconia.org

SCHOOL OFFICE

school.stjosephwaconia.org

Therese Rademacher, School

Administrative Assistant

952-442-4500

schooloffice@stjosephwaconia.org

Bruce Richards, Principal

952-442-3716

brichards@stjosephwaconia.org

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Chuck Walerius • 952-270-4706

(Fr. Stan's message continued...)

On Good Friday, there is a collection during the service for the preservation of places in the Holy Land. With travel there suspended since October, the Christians and the Holy Christian places there are facing trying economic times in addition to the danger. Please contribute as you see fit.

We have additional times for confession this week: The Parish Penance Service at 4:00 pm. There are six priests; I at least will remain until 6:00 pm. Monday, there will be confessions from 4:30-6:15 pm. Tuesday the 26th after the 8:15 am Mass until 10:00 am. Wednesday from about 9:00 (after the Mass with the school) until 10:00 am., and a final chance Wednesday evening from 7:00-8:30. That will conclude five consecutive days with confessions at St. Joseph. There will be no confessions on Saturday, March 30.

Registration is now open (as of March 21) for a trip to Greece June 3-15, 2025. I will be the spiritual director, and Andre Grasse, the music director at St. Joseph of the Lakes in Lino Lakes, will be co-hosting the trip. I had a wonderful time traveling with her and her husband and people from both of our parishes to Italy last fall, so we decided to go on another trip. This will include four nights in Athens and seven nights on a cruise ship. We will tour Athens, Corinth, Thessaloniki, Ephesus, and more. See magitravelinc.com and search the Greece trips for the one with our names on it. The Italy trip sold out very quickly. Costs can still fluctuate, but it is expected to be about \$5,100 plus airfare plus \$165 for port fees. Some meals will be on your own. There is a full refund if you cancel before February 3, 2025.

Fr. Stan Mader



ASK THE DEACON

*Triduum
 by Deacon Greg Miller*

QUESTION:

What is the holiest day of the year?

ANSWER: Many people think the holiest day of the year is Christmas, the day when we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Others think it is the Feast Day of the Annunciation, the day that the Holy Spirit comes down upon the Blessed Mother and makes her the mother of Jesus. Those who think either one of these two days is the holiest are thinking of the Incarnation of Our Lord, that is, the moment when Jesus takes on our humanity, either at the time of his birth or at the time of his conception in the womb of Mary. Others might think that the holiest day is Easter, the day Jesus rose from the dead, while others argue that it is Good Friday, the day Jesus died on the cross. While each of these days are very good candidates, the truth is much deeper and can be understood in light of the Easter Triduum.

As is commonly understood today, the three days of the Triduum are Holy

Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday. But wait, that's four days! Correct, but to fully understand the great mystery surrounding the Easter Triduum requires a more in-depth look at the events that occurred and how we celebrate them.

It becomes easy to understand how these days called the Triduum are considered to be the holiest when we simply look at the name of the week in which they are a part. It is called Holy Week, which begins on Palm Sunday and culminates on Holy Saturday with the Easter Vigil Mass.

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, which is officially called Passion Sunday. On Passion Sunday, the passion narratives found in the gospels of Matthew, Mark, or Luke are read during Mass, depending on which cycle year we are in. This year we are in cycle year B so we will read the passion of Jesus according to Mark's Gospel.

The Easter Triduum officially begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday Night. This time is also the official end of Lent. The Mass of the Lord's Supper commemorates the Last Supper of Our Lord here on earth, the institution of the Eucharist, and the establishment of the priesthood of the New Covenant. After Mass on Holy Thursday night, any

Triduum continued on page 3...



remaining consecrated hosts are removed from the Church with a solemn procession to a designated place where parishioners can spend time in prayer with Our Lord. This removal and procession recall the journey of Jesus and the Apostles to the Garden of Gethsemane after the supper. This is a solemn moment of prayer for Jesus when he invites the Apostles to pray with him. "He said to them, 'Sit here, while I pray.' And he took with him Peter, James, and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. And he said to them, 'My soul is very sorrowful even to death; remain here and watch.' And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. And he said, 'Abba, Father, all things are possible to you; remove this chalice from me; yet not what I will, but what you will.' And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, 'Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak'" (Mark 14:32-38). In like manner, we are invited to spend one hour in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament on Holy Thursday night. It is that night, while praying in the Garden of Gethsemane that Jesus is arrested and brought before the council of chief priests, elders, and scribes.

The second day of the Triduum is Good Friday. It is the day that Jesus stands on trial before Pontius Pilate and is condemned to death. He is scourged at the pillar, a crown of thorns placed upon his head and he carries his cross to Golgotha where he is then crucified. While hanging on the cross he speaks his "Seven Last Words." The "Seven Last Words" is a reflection of the last words that Jesus spoke just before he died that has been a part of Holy Week venerations for many centuries. The "Seven Last Words" are as follows:

1. "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34).
2. To the good thief Jesus says, "This day you shall be with me in paradise" (Luke 23:43).

3. "Woman, behold your son. Behold your mother" (John 19:27).
4. "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? Which is, my God, my God, why have you forsaken me? (Mark 15:34 & Matthew 27:46).
5. "I thirst" (John 19:28).
6. "It is finished" (John 19:30).
7. "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit" (Luke 23:46).

According to the writings and preaching of many scholars and saints, the meaning of these words are as follows:

1. God's mercy and forgiveness of sin. Jesus sets an example for us.
2. Salvation. God's promise of eternal life in heaven is real.
3. Jesus assigns Mary as our mother, the mother of the Church.
4. In his humanity, Jesus feels alone on the cross and must exercise his trust in his Father.
5. More than anything, Jesus thirsts for the salvation of souls. He thirsts for you and me.
6. Jesus' mission on earth is accomplished. The salvation of the human race is at hand.
7. Jesus places himself completely into his father's hands; the complete, ultimate act of trust, showing us the way to place all our trust in God thereby reversing the original sin of Adam and Eve.

After Jesus dies, his body is removed from the cross and laid in a tomb.

On Good Friday, we can participate in the Stations of the Cross in the afternoon and afterward, a very special ceremony to commemorate the death of Jesus where we listen to the Passion of Our Lord from the Gospel of John. During this ceremony, we have the opportunity to venerate the Cross and to receive Holy Communion. The church is left empty to remind us that Jesus has died and is buried and not present to us in the tabernacle as usual.

The next day is Holy Saturday, a quiet day and a time to reflect on Good Friday. It is a day filled with mystery. The Creed tells us that after he died on the cross, Jesus descended into hell. This is difficult for most of us to understand. How can God be in hell? The following is taken from an ancient homily for Holy Saturday.

"Something strange is happening - there is a great silence on earth today, a great silence and stillness. The whole earth keeps silence because the king is asleep. The earth trembled and is still because God has fallen asleep in the flesh and he has raised up all who have slept ever since the world began. God has died in the flesh and hell trembles with fear. He has gone to search for our first parent, as for a lost sheep. Greatly desiring to visit those who live in darkness and in the shadow of death, he has gone to free from sorrow the captives Adam and Eve, he who is both God and the son of Eve. The Lord approached them bearing the cross, the weapon that had won him victory. At the sight of him Adam, the first man he had created, struck his breast in terror and cried out to everyone, 'My Lord be with you all.' Christ answered him, 'And with your spirit.' He took him by the hand and raised him up saying, 'Awake, O sleeper, and rise from the dead, and Christ will give you light. I am your God, who for your sake have become your son. Out of love for you and for your descendants I now by my own authority command all who are held in bondage to come forth, all who are in darkness to be enlightened, all who are sleeping to arise. I order you, O sleeper, to awake. I did not create you to be held a prisoner in hell. Rise from the dead, for I am the life of the dead. Rise up, work of my hands, you who were created in my image. Rise, let us leave this place, for you are in me and I am in you. Together we form only one person and we cannot be separated. For your sake I, your God, became your son. Rise, let us leave this place.'" (Taken from the Liturgy of the Hours Office of Readings for Holy Saturday.)

Holy Saturday ends with the Easter Vigil Mass, a solemn Mass that ushers in Easter Sunday, the Feast of the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. It is during this Mass that individuals who wish to become full members of the Catholic Church are welcomed, some through Baptism, others with Confirmation, and others by a statement of faith and commitment. It is also during this Mass that the Paschal Candle for the new year is blessed and lit, and during this Mass, the lessons of the Paschal Mystery are proclaimed. This Easter Vigil Mass is the beginning of the Easter Season.

NEWS & EVENTS

RETURN OFFERING CUPS

Remember to return Lenten offering cups at Mass this week. Please give them to an usher or drop them off at the Parish Office during Holy Week. Proceeds will be divided between the Waconia United Food Shelf and our Venezuela Mission.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER MASS TIMES

Join us to celebrate Holy week with Mass of the Lord's Supper on March 28 at 7:00 pm, the Passion Liturgy on March 29 at 7:00 pm, and the Resurrection of Our Lord on March 31 at Mass at 6:30, 8:30 & 10:30 am. The Easter vigil Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 pm on Saturday, March 30.

ADORATION HOURS | *Holy Week*

On Holy Thursday, there will not be standard adoration hours. Instead, there will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning after the Mass of the Lord's Supper until 11:00 pm. Adoration will resume regular hours on Monday, April 1.

PONTIFICAL COLLECTION

The Holy Land collection is taken in parishes on Good Friday, March 29. Contributions help the Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land as they serve as a bridge between the Holy Land and Catholics all over the world. With your help, the Franciscans can continue to be a light of hope to those living in darkness in the Holy Land. Please contribute what you are able to on March 29. *Thank you!*

CEMETERY NOTICE

Please have all decorations removed from the cemetery by April 1. *Thank you!*

SEASONAL MISSALETTES

Seasonal Missalettes are available by the side (*ramp*) door, and in the Narthex. *Please take one!*

ADULT ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

We are in need of an Adult Altar Server (*or two*) to call on to serve at Funerals when school is not in session. Training will be provided! If you enjoyed serving as a young adult, here is an opportunity to do it again, or maybe you always wanted to serve and weren't given the opportunity. This is an "as needed" and "if you are available" ministry. Please contact Sandy in the parish office at [952-442-2384](tel:952-442-2384) or churchoffice@stjosephwaconia.org to learn more. Thank you for considering serving in this important ministry.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Have you ever thought about what unnatural birth control methods really do to your body? To your marriage? Natural Family Planning builds strong families. It is medically safe, morally acceptable by the Church, and highly effective. NFP is inexpensive and reversible. Couple to Couple League offers three different options for completing the NFP class series. Live onsite, live online, and self-paced online courses are now available to engaged and married couples. For more information, go to ccli.org/learn-nfp-from-ccl.

ST. JOSEPH C-STEM SCHOOL

St. Joseph Catholic STEM School

A nationally certified
STEM school!

Schedule a tour,
hear our C-STEM story,
and see the C-STEM difference!



ENROLL
TODAY!

PreK - Grade 8



CSTEM
SCIENCE | TECHNOLOGY | ENGINEERING | MATH




Join us for the
2024-25
school year!

St. Joseph Catholic School is now a nationally STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) certified school. At St. Joseph Catholic School, our mission is to inspire all learners through our Catholic and STEM education. We are now enrolling for PreK-8 grade. We work with families to find an affordable tuition rate, and financial aid is available. Check us out today!

SCHEDULE A TOUR

Contact **John Bannigan**
at [952-442-4500](tel:952-442-4500) or
[jbannigan@](mailto:jbannigan@stjosephwaconia.org)
stjosephwaconia.org

Learn more details and
enroll online at
[school.stjosephwaconia.org!](http://school.stjosephwaconia.org)



SPECIAL OFFERING
Easter Altar Flowers

Your Name: _____

Amount: \$ _____ Envelope #: _____

In Memory/Honor of: _____

Send to the parish office or place in the collection. Thank you!

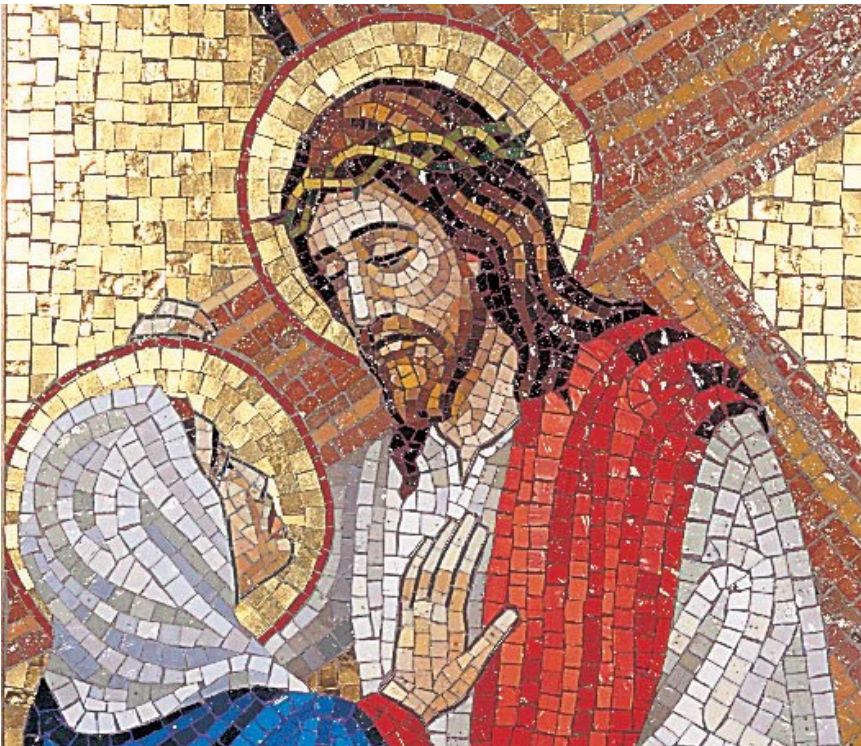
KC CORNER

SIGN OF FAITH

The KC 100 Year anniversary legacy gift committee is hosting a "Sign of Faith" event on April 16 at 5:00 pm to see a demonstration of the proposed LED sign at the corner of Main Street and Elm Street by the Food Shelf. With its powerful ability to draw interest, drive action, and foster connections, this sign will serve as a beacon of welcome and information for all who pass by. Come and join us to see a demonstration of what the sign looks like and why it is the most impactful way to reach community members in this location with 3.1 million annual impressions.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

All are welcome to join us for the “Living” Stations of the Cross on Holy Thursday, March 28 at 1:30 pm. Our 8th grade students will be re-enacting and performing the Stations of the Cross in a live performance. On Good Friday, March 29, Stations will be prayed at 3:00 pm.



OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

For February 2024

Weekend Offertory:

February 2024, 370 Donors, 721 Contributions \$ 90,058

February 2023, 383 Donors, 734 Contributions \$ 82,985

Contributions to Special Funds

Capital Repairs & Maintenance \$ 1,495

2nd Collection \$ 1,458

Year to Date (July 2023 - February 2024)

Year to Date

Total Offertory Contributions \$ 657,450

Last year, same period \$ 688,567



ELECTRONIC GIVING

Scan the QR Code to sign up today for electronic giving! Thank you for your prayerful support of St. Joseph Catholic Community! **Questions?** Contact Chris Parker at 952-442-3702 or cparker@stjosephwaconia.org.

VIRTUS



Learn more about VIRTUS, which is an Archdiocesan initiative for cultivating an environment of awareness for the protection of our children and vulnerable adults by going online to stjosephwaconia.org/virtus. If you have questions, please contact Sarah Richards at srichards@stjosephwaconia.org.

WHY DO WE KNEEL FOLLOWING MASS?

Please join us in our custom of kneeling down after Mass to pray an Our Father, a Hail Mary, and a Glory Be to the Father. For many years at St. Joseph, the Parishioners pause and kneel after Mass to say a prayer for the next person in our parish family to be born and the next to pass away and for vocations to consecrated life.



WHY DO WE REMAIN STANDING AFTER THE GOSPEL IS READ?

Standing for the proclamation of the Gospel is a sign of respect. It has been a common prayer posture since the early Christians. Here at St. Joseph, we remain standing until after the Gospel book, in which are found the words of Christ himself, is enthroned. Simply put, Jesus should be the first to sit down. Once He is sitting or enthroned, then we can sit.





A HISTORY

In the early Church, this great feast was not called Easter. The early Christians believed that Jesus' passion and resurrection were the central part of the whole story of God's saving activity in the world. These events were not seen as a single, isolated moment in history, but part of the great trajectory of God's providential interventions. The passion and resurrection of Jesus were understood to be a continuation and fulfillment of the events of the Passover and the Exodus. And not coincidentally, the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus happened at the time of the festival of Passover, so when the early Christians referred to the annual commemoration of Jesus' passion and the celebration of his resurrection, they simply called it Passover. It is similar to the way we use the term Pentecost which is the name of a Hebrew festival, even though it is given new meaning in the Church as the celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit. And so in the early Church, the feast day of the Resurrection of the Lord was simply called Passover. This is where we get the word "Paschal" as in "The Paschal Mystery." What this means is, "The Passover Mystery."

In the early days of the Church, this Passover Mystery was never a celebration of just one day, the Day of Resurrection. Rather, the celebration of the Pasch every spring was a way to relive the events of that week in a way that brings them back around so that we can participate in them – just like the celebration of Passover brought back the events of the Exodus for faithful Jews. "Past history made present mystery," as they say. In fact, in Hebrew theology, a recurrence of the Passover happens in providential ways at certain significant times throughout history. In the Rabbinic commentaries on the Torah, there is a poetic expansion on the Exodus that speaks of not one, but four Passovers – and all of them were said to take place on the same date in the Hebrew calendar: the 14th day of Nisan. This poem is called "The Poem of the Four Nights."

The first "Passover Night" is the

creation of the universe, and in Hebrew thought there is a specific date given for creation – the 14th day of Nisan. This idea of tracing God's saving acts in history all the way back to creation is why we start with Genesis when we read the whole story of salvation from the Scriptures during the Easter Vigil Mass.

The second "Passover Night" is the binding of Isaac, when Abraham was tested by God's command to sacrifice his son. The Church fathers saw this event as a foreshadowing of the passion of Christ. Just as a ram caught in the thorns became the substitute for the son of Abraham, so Jesus was the lamb in the crown of thorns who became the substitution for all of Abraham's children – both physical and spiritual. The Hebrew scholars also believed that this event took place on the 14th day of Nisan. We also read this account of Abraham, Isaac, and the Lamb during the Easter Vigil Mass.

The third "Passover Night" is the night of the Exodus, the main event remembered in the ongoing Jewish tradition of the Passover, which was always celebrated on the 14th day of Nisan. This Hebrew feast commemorates the night the angel of death passed over the homes of the Hebrews who obeyed the command of God given through Moses that each household was to prepare a lamb and spread some of its blood on the lintel of the doorposts so the angel of death would pass over thereby protecting the People of Israel. They were protected by the blood of the lamb (See *Exodus Chapter 12*). This scripture is also read during the Easter Vigil Mass.

From the perspective of the Hebrews, the fourth "Passover Night" was to be in the future. It would be the messianic banquet of the "Day of the Lord". This messianic banquet was partly fulfilled at the Last Supper on Holy Thursday when Jesus instituted the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

For the earliest Christians, who were primarily Jewish, the Pasch is not just one day, but a recurring cycle of God's past providential intervention in history, and the seasonal rhythm of our present participation in it. It is not just one feast day, Easter Sunday, but the entire Triduum, which although technically three days, actually extended beyond the three days beginning with sundown on

Holy Thursday. For them, the Pasch extended from the betrayal of Judas with the chief priests on Wednesday, through the Last Supper on Thursday, and the unjust condemnation of Jesus and all that he suffered on Friday, all the way to the end of the Day of the Resurrection. This was all considered to be a single "Holy Day" in which Christians participate in Christ's passion, death, and resurrection. In the bigger picture, for the early Church fathers, salvation was not just about the crucifixion, or even the cross or the empty tomb. It was the whole of the Incarnation and life of Jesus the Christ, starting with the Annunciation.

Of all the symbols that we Christians use today, it is the sign of the cross, whether worn around our neck or the blessing with which we begin and end our prayers. The sign of the cross is the sign that encompasses every aspect of the Incarnation – Christ's birth, life, death, and Resurrection. Saint Methodius, in a Paschal homily from the early fourth century, wrote that the cross is both a trophy of victory and a ladder to heaven. This is why we make the sign of the Cross on our bodies. In those days, Christians made the sign of the cross on their foreheads, and the Church fathers taught that the forehead of a person was like the lintel of the doorway to life. In other words, just as the sign in blood on the door lintels at the Exodus saved the children of Israel, making the sign of the cross on the "lintel" of our bodies is a sign of what saves us. But what saves us is not only the death of Jesus but his whole life. So the Resurrection was never disconnected from the Passion, and the Passion was never disconnected from the Incarnation. And this sign, just like the ashes we got at the beginning of Lent, which were in the shape of a cross, is a witness to the world that we "proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes again" (*Cor 11:26*).

(Portions of this article were adapted from an article entitled "Easter in the Early Church" that appeared in the April 9-15, 2023 issue of Our Sunday Visitor written by James L. Papandrea, Ph.D.)

God bless,

Deacon Greg Miller

MASS INTENTIONS

MON	MAR 25	6:30 pm	Patty & Merrill Kirsch †
TUE	MAR 26	8:15 am	Timothy Kalb †
WED	MAR 27	8:15 am	Zachary Marcotte †
THU	MAR 28	7:00 pm	Gordon & Alice Wickenhauser †
FRI	MAR 29	7:00 pm	xxx
SAT	MAR 30	8:00 pm	Collective: Carol Stahlke † Living & Deceased Members of the Eveslage & Lembeck Families
SUN	MAR 31	6:30 am	St. Joseph Parishioners
		8:30 am	Harlan Lemke †
		10:30 am	Margaret Eiden †

* Indicates the family has requested to take up the Gifts.

PRAY

Please pray for the following: Shawn S, Julie W, Art W, Denise F, Paul T, Joan H, Rene F, Jeff E, Emery K, Chuck P, Steve E, Peggy S, Aaron D, Nathan D, Stella W, Jeremy P, Marilynn P, Marilyn B, Diane V, Lori S, Judy R, Rick S, Barbara S, Jake W, Theresa T, Theresa L, Sandy M, Brian N, Sally W, Sarah R, and Ryan P. **And for St. Joseph loved ones in the Military:** Airman Riley M, Sergeant Ryan H, Sergeant Allyna S, PFC Dalton W, Sergeant Robin L, Staff Sergeant Weston H, Staff Sergeant Sean W, Tech Sergeant Michael S, Major Leah M, First Lieutenant Samuel M, Chaplain (*Lieutenant Colonel*) Lawrence B, Col. Mitch D, Lieutenant Commander Philip L, and SPC Justin S. **And for those in Law Enforcement:** Logan H, Adam M, Alex W, Andy F, Dennis F, Fred R, Tyler S, Eric W, Adam H, and Cory W. **And for those Discerning a Religious Vocation:** Seminarian: Mónico H.

LOOKING AHEAD

APRIL 7	Youth Group: 6:00 pm Parish Center Evening Mass: 7:30 pm Chapel
APR 11-15	Fr. Stan is Away
APR 13	Women of Joy Speaker Event 9:00 am Church & Parish Center
APR 14	Youth Group: 6:00 pm Parish Center
APR 21	Youth Group: 6:00 pm Gym
APRIL 27-28	First Holy Communions
APR 28	Confirmation 2:00 pm Cathedral of St. Paul
MAY 5	KC Faith, Family & Baseball with Dick Bremer 11:30 am-2:00 pm School Gym & Commons
MAY 5	Youth Group: 6:00 pm Parish Center

THIS WEEK

MONDAY, MARCH 25

7:00 am: Morning Prayer (*Chapel*)
4:30 pm: Confession
5:00 - 9:00 pm: Adoration
6:30 pm: Mass
7:30 pm: Parish Council Meeting (*Holy Family Conf Rm*)

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

7:00 am: Morning Prayer (*Chapel*)
8:15 am: Mass
8:45-10:00 am: Confession
9:00 am: Weekly Scripture Study (*St. Paul Conference Room*)
9:00 am - 9:00 pm: Adoration (*Chapel*)
3:00 pm: Children's Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Loft*)
6:00 pm: Bell Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Loft*)
7:00 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Loft*)
7:00 pm: OCIA (*School Media Center*)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

7:00 am: Morning Prayer (*Chapel*)
8:15 am: Mass with the School
9:00-10:00 am: Confession
5:00 - 10:00 pm: Adoration (*Chapel*)
6:00 pm: 2nd Grade Sacramental Prep (*School Media Center*)
6:00 pm: EDGE (*School*)
7:00 pm: Confirmation (*Church*)

THURSDAY, MARCH 28 Holy Thursday

7:00 am: Morning Prayer (*Chapel*)
10:00 am: Chrism Mass (*Cathedral of St. Paul*)
1:30 pm: Living Stations of the Cross
7:00 pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper

FRIDAY, MARCH 29 Good Friday

Parish Office Closed

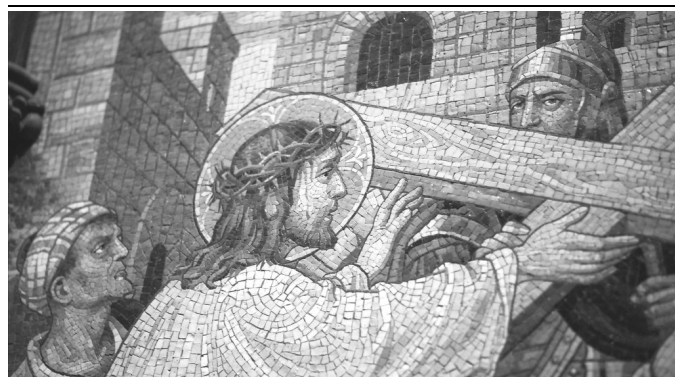
7:00 am: Morning Prayer (*Chapel*)
3:00 pm: Stations of the Cross (*Church*)
7:00 pm: Passion Liturgy

SATURDAY, MARCH 30 Holy Saturday

8:00 pm: Mass (*Easter Vigil*)

SUNDAY, MARCH 31 Easter Sunday

6:30 am: Mass
8:00 am: Parish Rosary (*Church*)
8:30 am: Mass
10:30 am: Mass



MATT BIRK

Confirmation Speaker

Last week, former Vikings player, Superbowl champion, and NFL Man of the Year award recipient, Matt Birk, spoke to high school students about his personal faith journey. Birk, who is well-known for his achievements in sports and his inspiring personal life, shared his journey of losing and finding his faith again after leaving his home, offering a new perspective to the students. He stressed the importance of religious practices like attending Mass, participating in Adoration, and praying the Rosary, and drew a parallel between faith and sports, stating that consistent practice of the basics can deepen faith. Birk also urged the students to choose to follow Christ daily, emphasizing that every new day offers a chance to live one's faith more fully. His visit provided not only a learning opportunity from a sports hero but also a chance to gain wisdom from someone who has personally experienced the highs and lows of a faith journey. *Thank you, Matt Birk, for sharing your extraordinary story with us!*



FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Early Bird Registration Fee is \$25 per family until June 8.



Family Formation:
K - Grade 5
September 4 - April 9

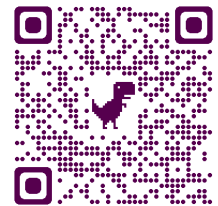
EDGE:
Grades 6-8
September 4 - April 9

Confirmation:
Grades 9-10
(Starts) August 28

Legacy:
Grades 11-12
September 18 - April 2

Register your child(ren) online today for our next year 2023-24 sessions! Faith Formation programs at St. Joseph are for students in grades K - 12.

We recognize that parents are the primary guides for their children, and these programs are secondary to the active faith life of the family. Parents are living examples and nurture their children by showing them the richness and beauty of lived faith. Within the home, the child receives the foundations for a life of faith: a sense of trust, freedom, and joy.



For more information, go to stjosephwaconia.org/ff-registration/.

JULIE LOSCHEIDER
Family Formation

KIRSTIN BULARZIK
EDGE & Confirmation

Interested in helping or have questions? Email us at faithforlife@stjosephwaconia.org



The Lightbulb Moment:

Middle Schoolers Making an Impact

Jayson Bohlken, Bria Loscheider, and Ashton Boll
Grades 7 & 8

What we are doing:

The Seventh and Eighth grade science class at St. Joseph CSTEM School is making a Solar Suitcase to send to a classroom in Uganda or Kenya that needs it.

Why this is important:

This is important because only 47% of people in Africa have access to electricity, but with the Solar Suitcase our goal is to give more people easy access to clean and renewable solar energy for places like schools and homes.

What problem are we trying to solve:

The problem our class is trying to solve is the problem that half of the people who live in Africa do not have access to electricity, but by making a Solar Suitcase we will be helping those who do not have access to electricity by giving them easy access to renewable energy.

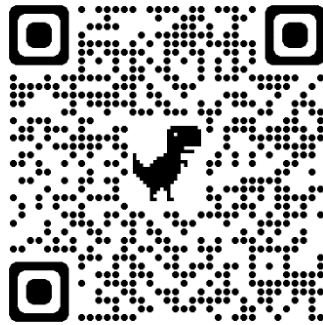
How it works:

The Solar Suitcase connects solar panels to a charge controller, which optimizes the solar charge into the battery. The charge controller also regulates the use of the energy stored in the battery to power lights and other appliances.

How you can help:

You can help too by donating to the We Share Solar website or by joining the We Share Solar movement to build more solar suitcases, or by ordering a solar suitcase of your own and building it!

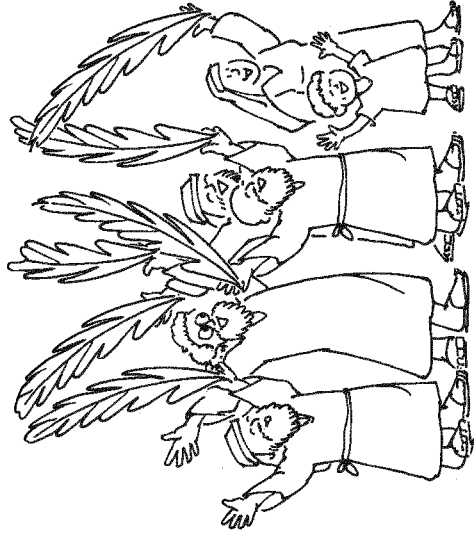
Learn more at the
[We Share Solar website](#)



The people walking before and after Jesus
shouted praises.

Trace the letters.

“ H O S A N N A
H I L A R I T Y
S H O U T I N G ! ”



Ages 3+

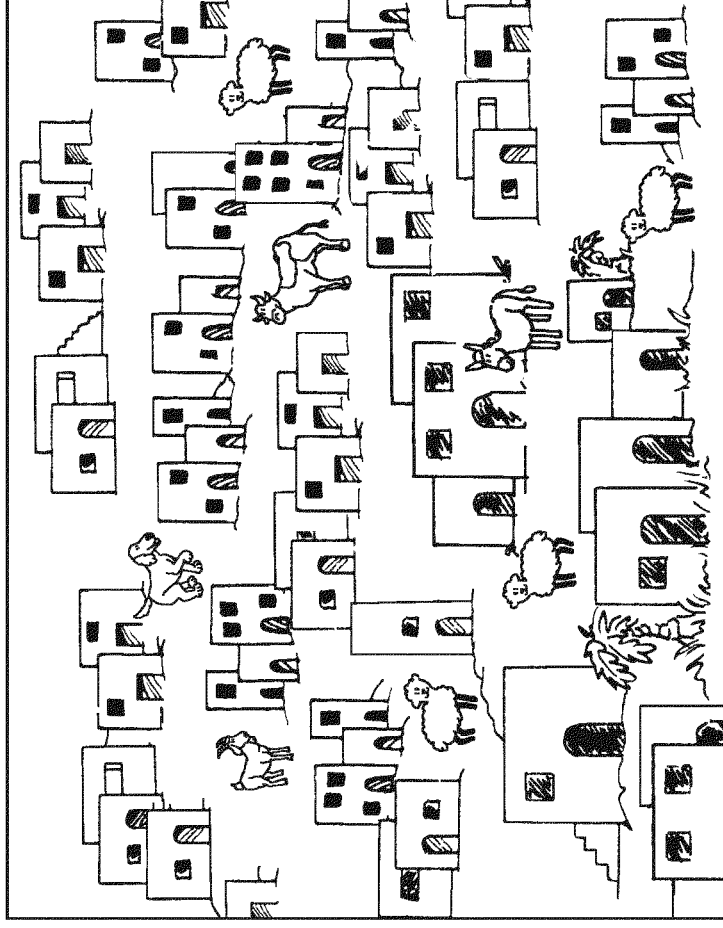
March 24, 2024 • Mark 11:1-11

Jesus' Triumphal Entry

Jesus sent 2 of His
disciples into the village to find a colt.



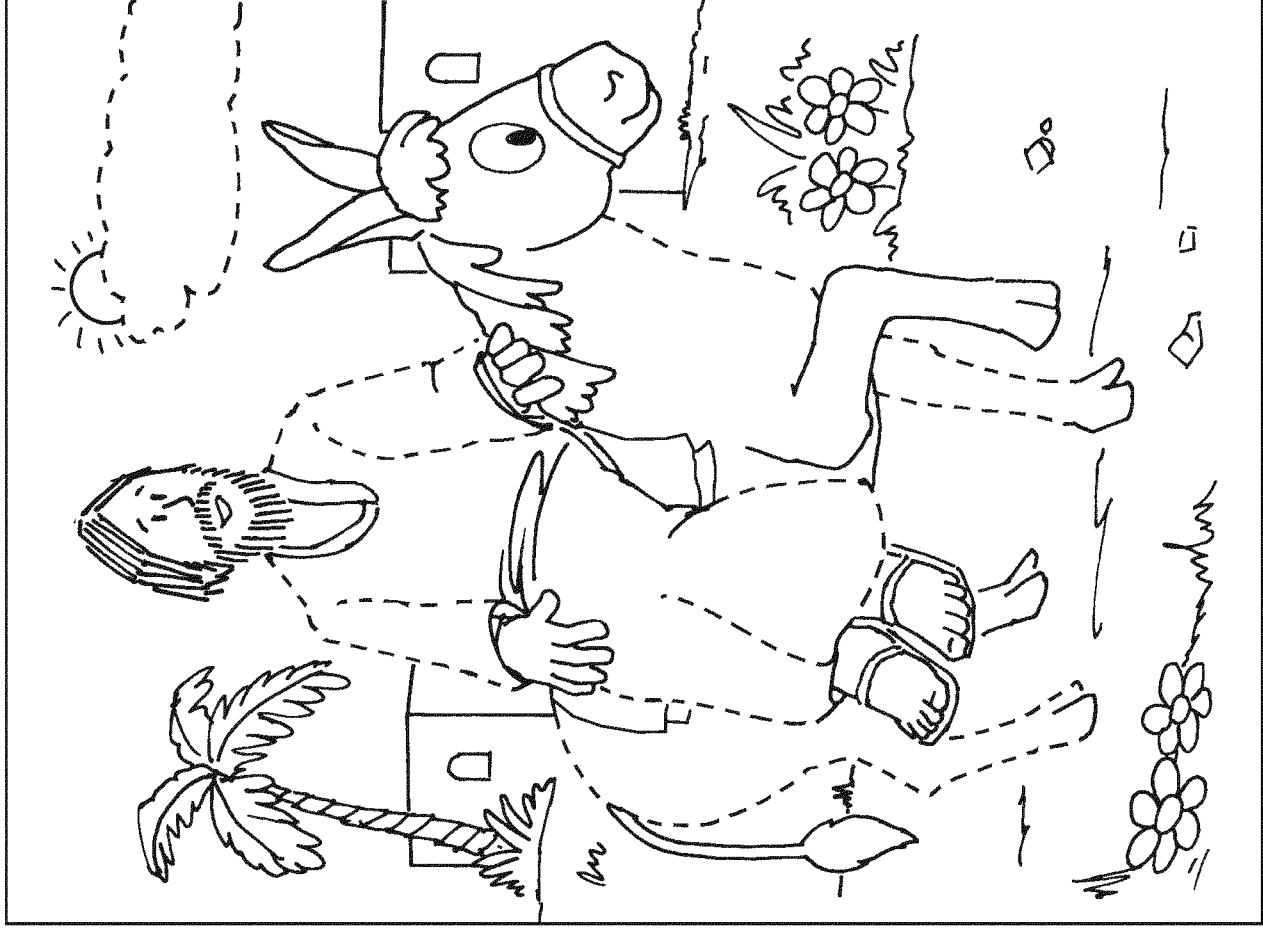
Find the colt in the village.



stJOSEPH
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
Know, Love, and Serve the Lord

The disciples brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it. Jesus sat on it.

Finish the drawing by tracing the dashed lines.



Jesus rode the colt into the city.
Many people spread cloaks and branches
on the road before Him.

Count the cloaks and branches.



5 or 6 ?



6 or 7 ?

