

## ✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

**APRIL 1, 2007 - PALM SUNDAY.**

Today is **Palm Sunday**. *Please feel free to take extra palm home for family and friends.* **Vespers** and **Benediction** are at **4:45 PM**.

### ☩ TENEBRAE

*Tenebrae*, Latin for "darkness" is a special Holy Week liturgy featuring passiontide music spanning medieval chant and Renaissance polyphony including Gregorio Allegri's sublime setting of Psalm 51, *Miserere* sung by the choir. The mood of the service is somewhat somber, quiet and reflective; its dramatic features are the gradual extinction of a fifteen branch candelabra in the sanctuary, as the church contemplates the temporary triumph of the prince of darkness over the world, and a loud noise at its conclusion, suggesting the earthquake described in the Passion narratives. *Tenebrae* begins at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evening. ***Because of the nature of this service, it is not recommended for children and infants.***

### ☩ MAUNDY THURSDAY

Holy Thursday is *the day* of the year to hear Mass and receive Holy Communion. Come even to part of this very special Mass which begins at 9:00 AM.

Come, bring your children. Let them experience the "Birthday of the Mass" with the bells and clackers, the *Pange Lingua* as Our Lord leaves the church, the sorrowful stripping of the Altar. *Parents, PLEASE bring your children to walk in the procession to the beautiful Altar of Repose, dropping rose petals along the way to show Him love and adoration.*

The Maundy (from Mandatum, or commandment in Latin) is a rich Sacramental of the church, although now performed but once a year, on Holy Thursday in honor of Our Lord who washed the feet of His Apostles.

This service is an ideal one for mothers with little children. It is short and the children can sit so as to see the ceremony. Combined with a visit to the beautiful Altar of Repose it makes for a good family observance of Holy Thursday. See you on Thursday at 1:30 PM.

On Maundy Thursday a parish

potluck luncheon follows the Mass. Please plan to bring a meatless dish to share: vegetable casseroles, salads, fruits and bread.

The Blessed Sacrament will be at the beautifully decorated St. Joseph's altar, the Altar of Repose or Sepulcher, for twenty-four hours, and should not go unvisited, or be left unattended.

The men of the Guard of Honor are asked to keep their customary hours to guarantee Our Lord is not left unattended during the hours of the night. Please come for at least one visit.

### ☩ HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion may be received on Maundy Thursday and Holy Saturday, but *not* on Good Friday. Those who have been making their Nine First Fridays should *probably* start over.

### HOLY SATURDAY

The magnificent Mass, and the whole of the Easter Vigil, is the most splendid and moving service of the entire year,—enhanced this year by the addition of the ordination to the sub-deaconate of Mister Markus Ramolla. The Vigil begins at 8:00 AM Saturday morning, we anticipate that Holy Communion should be at approximately 11:30 or 12:00 PM. You should adjust your fast to be able to receive Holy Communion at approximately this time. A special reception follows the Easter Vigil services to honor our newly ordained sub-deacon, Reverend Mr. Markus Ramolla. Everyone is invited. The Lenten Fast and Abstinence ends at Noon. Easter Water, a powerful sacramental, is available after the Holy Saturday Vigil.

The year, the Easter Matins and Lauds, usually sung at 4:30 AM Easter Sunday morning, will be anticipated at 6:30 PM, as a kind of joyful finale to *Tenebrae*. You are, of course, welcome to this shorter and rather splendid service.

### ☩ THE BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

Again this year we will observe the beautiful custom of blessing Easter food. Please bring: butter, meat, breads, candy and whatever other items you will use for your Easter feast to be blessed after Holy Saturday ceremonies.

## ✠ POETRY CORNER

### "I LOOKED FOR ONE THAT WOULD COMFORT ME"

BY ELIZABETH HART, R.C.

Wakeful before My altar of repose  
This sacred midnight hour, thou dost  
not see  
The gaunt gray olives of Gethsemani,  
The thorns that twined the fortress  
porticoes,  
But sweet-tinged buds of violet and rose  
Which a wise gardener fostered tenderly  
Through the chill Lenten days, to bloom  
for Me  
With all the glory summer could disclose.  
I am a Gardener of matchless art,  
And in My hothouse every flower's at May.  
Draw near if thou wouldst prove Me, cast  
thy heart  
Within the chalice where I deign to stay;  
When I bid blossom, withering winds  
are still—  
*Give Me the joy of loving to My fill!*



### WHAT WE BELIEVE

Body, Blood, Soul,  
Divinity,  
Second Person of the  
Blessed Trinity,  
Transubstantiated  
by Christ, for us,  
Through the actions  
Of His Priest, the  
Alter Christus.

*Thank You "Sweet Jesus"  
for loving us so.*

JOHN SEYFRIED



APRIL 2, - APRIL 8, 2007

### SERVERS

• WED 03/28 6:30 AM LOW: C. & T. Simpson

**SERVERS:** The Holy Week Schedule is posted in the servers' vesting area. Please check the posted schedule for your Holy Week assignment. The ceremony MC's will contact you regarding practice times, as needed.

### Collection Report

SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 2007 ..... \$ 5700.52  
FRIDAY NIGHT IN LENT ..... \$ 372.00

*Thank you for your generosity!  
Remember St. Gertrude's in your will!*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT'D.)

**Hshffs**

HOLY THURSDAY — APRIL 5, 2007

9:00 AM J. Wiesman, Kirby Bischel, Jim Kolenich, M. Lotarski

GOOD FRIDAY — APRIL 6, 2007

11:00 AM Dale Wilker, Kirby Bischel, Jim Gebel, Richard Smith

HOLY SATURDAY — APRIL 7, 2007

8:00 AM Dale Wilker, Richard Smith, Kirby Bischel, M. Lotarski

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 8, 2007

6:00 AM J. Wiesman, Volunteer

7:30 AM J. Andreotta, Tom Kamphaus, Joe Bayer, Kent Maki

9:00 AM Dale Wilker, Richard Smith, Jim Gebel, Bernie Brueggemann

11:30 AM R. Uhlenbrock, J. Seyfried, Dennis Hille, Kirby Bischel

## †EASTER NOVENA / MEMORIAL FLOWER OFFERINGS

Envelopes for the Easter Novena of Masses and Flower donations are available in the pews and in the vestibule. The Novena of Masses will be said daily beginning with Easter Sunday. Names of loved ones for the Memorial Flower Offerings will be listed in the Easter bulletin. *Tomorrow is the last day envelopes for the Memorial Flower Offerings* may be returned to be included in the Easter bulletin. *Offerings must be returned by tomorrow Noon.* Please be generous.

## †NEXT SUNDAY

The beautiful Easter Sunrise Mass is at 6:00 AM. Easter Vespers are at 4:00 PM. Please note, there will be **NO 5:45 PM evening Mass on Easter.**

*Set your missal:* April 8th. *Easter Sunday, Vidi aquam* sung instead of *Asperges*.  
**SEQUENCE. PRF: Easter. CANON: Proper Communicantes & Hanc igitur.**

## †LENTEN FOLDERS

There will be a box at each end of the Communion rail on Good Friday to receive the Lenten Offering folders which were given out on Ash Wednesday.

## †VOLUNTEERS, PLEASE!

Volunteers are needed this Tuesday and Wednesday night after Tenebrae; but especially Friday night after Tenebrae and Saturday after the vigil service, when all the decorations for Easter must be put up. Even if you can only offer an hour, please come and help.

## †HOLY HELPER VOLUNTEERS...

APRIL 2ND - APRIL 7TH

SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR

HOLY WEEK/EASTER PREPARATIONS!

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday; Holy Thursday afternoon & evening; and

## Good Friday afternoon and evening

### HOLY WEEK PREPARATIONS

Rose Kuebler; Becky & Mary Rose Uhlenbrock; Katie Bischak; Kathy Cozzens; Theresa Hill; Gerry Keaveney; Wilker Family;

*Ironing - Nathalie Andreotta, Mrs. Mattingly, Linda Cardamon; sewing/mending - Rita Ferguson.*

### Saturday, April 7th:

### HOLY SATURDAY PREPARATION FOR EASTER

Katie Bischak; Rose Kuebler; Rita Ferguson; Jeanne Hille; Jean Bischel; Wilker family; Gerry Keaveney; Chris Ritze.

*Ironing - Nathalie Andreotta, Mrs. Mattingly, Linda Cardamon; sewing/mending - Rita Ferguson.*

**Volunteers, please contact Katie Bischak, or Sr. Mary Magdalen and let us know when you could help during Holy Week.**

*A sincere thank you to all who helped with the cleaning, ironing and sewing this past week. Hang in there...one more week - the big push - and we can all breathe a big sigh of relief, and enjoy our beautiful church, resplendent in magnificent Easter white. May God bless and reward all of you.*



## †THE PASCHAL SACRAMENTS



### First Testing & First Confessions: Saturday, April

21st. (Baptismal Certificate must be presented before testing, and form filled out.)

• **Obligatory Day of Recollection for all First Communion Children:** Thursday, May 24th.



**Confirmation:** Saturday, May 26th.



**First Holy Communion:** Sunday, June 10th.

Parents, please remember, you must submit to the Office the Baptismal certificates of children not baptized at St. Gertrude the Great. If your child is not enrolled in the school or Sunday School, please let us know if you are planning on bringing him to be tested in April. Unless we have the Baptismal certificate, we will be unable to do the necessary testing. Sometimes it is difficult to tell if a child is ready for the Sacraments. Please consult the priest. The Church earnestly desires all children to receive Our Lord as soon as possible.

## †OUR FIRST ANNUAL JOG-A-THON

*"Know you not that they that run in the race, all run indeed, but one receiveth the prize? So run that you may obtain."*

**Time is growing short.** By now, you should have forms that have been filled out and some checks and/or cash. Please turn in all forms and money to the church office or give them to Marlys Arlinghaus or Connie in the Book Store.

**Saturday, April 14th and 21st,** the Beckett Ridge Krogers is also allowing us to set up tables to solicit sponsors.

We need parental supervision - moms and dads - to supervise these tables. There will be a sign-up sheet in Helfta Hall. We need parents to participate with the children and take an hour or two to help out.

Our list of participating sponsors is growing! Their names are on a sign near the entrance doors in the vestibule. Have you contacted anyone we could add to this list???

This can be a *really great fund raiser* if everyone takes part, and a wonderful source of *outside* revenue. If you need additional sponsor forms or flyers you will find them in the Book Store.



Dear St. Gertrude Parishioners,

Employers and companies are often willing to contribute to or sponsor charitable fundraisers that their employees are involved in.

• Ask your employer if he's willing to be a Jog-a-Thon sponsor. Corporate forms are available in the Church Office.

Thanks for your enthusiastic support!

-- FATHER CEKADA

## †KNIGHTS OF THE SACRED HEART

Due to Fr. Saavedra's travel plans, the Knights of the Sacred Heart and St. Angela Merici Girls' Group will *not* meet for the following Monday afternoons: **April 2, 9 and 16th.** See you on the 23rd!

## †LUMEN CHRISTI

For the next fortnight the Sanctuary Lamp will burn before the Blessed Sacrament for:

†**CHERYL MAKI**  
**KENT MAKI**

# ✠ THE CALENDAR

# ✠ BISHOP'S CORNER



- MON 04/02/07 MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK - FAST**  
 St Francis of Paula, C  
**11:30 AM High Mass** †Charles & Elinor Richardson (M/M Mark Lotarski & Family)  
**12:30 PM** Vespers
- TUES 04/03/07 TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK - FAST**  
**8:00 AM Private Masses**  
**11:30 AM High Mass** *The Larry Kunkel Family (Tom Kunkel Family)*  
**12:30 PM** Vespers  
**6:30 PM** Choir Rehearsal
- WED 04/04/07 SPY WEDNESDAY - FAST - St. Isidore of Seville, BpCD**  
**6:30 AM Low Mass** *The Conversion of My Children & Grandchildren (Timothy Hopkins)*  
**8:00 AM Private Masses**  
**9:00 AM High Mass** *In Thanksgiving for the Friends & Family that Helped Us Move (The Tom Kunkel Family)*  
**10:00 AM** Vespers  
**6:30 PM** The Office of Tenebrae  
**9:30 PM** Church Decorating
- THUR 04/05/07 HOLY THURSDAY - FAST - FIRST THURSDAY**  
**9:00 AM Pontifical High Mass** *Alter Christus - For Our Priests and Seminarians (Bishop Dolan)*  
 BLESSING OF THE OILS, PROCESSION TO THE ALTAR OF REPOSE, VESPERS, STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR - POTLUCK LUNCHEON  
**1:30 PM The Maundy (Washing of the Feet)**  
**2:15 PM** Church Decorating  
*ADORATION CONTINUES ALL AFTERNOON*  
**6:30 PM** The Office of Tenebrae  
**11:00 PM** Holy Hour  
*ADORATION CONTINUES ALL NIGHT*
- FRI 04/06/07 GOOD FRIDAY - FAST & ABSTINENCE**  
**11:30 AM** Stations of the Cross  
**12:00 PM** Tre Ore  
**12:15 PM Mass of the Presanctified;** Adoration of the Cross  
**2:15 PM** Tre Ore Devotions & Sermon  
**3:00 PM** Blessing with the Relic of the True Cross  
*It is a fine tradition to keep silent from Noon to Three O'Clock on Good Friday.*  
**3-4:00 PM** Confessions  
**6:30 PM** The Office of Tenebrae  
**9:30 PM** Church Decorating
- SAT 04/07/07 HOLY SATURDAY - FIRST SATURDAY**  
*LENTE FAST AND ABSTINENCE ENDS AT NOON*  
**8:00 AM Easter Vigil** *Bishops' Intentions*  
 Blessing of the Fire, Prophecies, Blessing of the Font, First Mass of Easter, *Ordination to the Sub-Deaconate of Mister Markus Ramolla*, Vespers, Blessing of Easter Food. You are invited to the Reception/Luncheon for Reverend Mr. Ramolla following the services.  
**4-5:00 PM** Confessions  
**6:30 PM** The Easter Office of Matins and Lauds

The blessed date of March 25th was a truly blessed one for us at St. Gertrude the Great. This Passion Sunday was duly prepared not only by the "Purple Veil team" on Saturday, but also by that day's excellent series of talks on the Kingship of Christ. Truly "The Banners of the King go forth," as we sing at Vespers in Passiontide.

The Sunday itself was just about a perfect parish family day, with Holy Mass, a fine Spaghetti Dinner, and a very well attended and thought provoking play, one perfect for Lent, Everyman. Several of our students surprised me — pleasantly so! — with the excellent quality of their performances. We even got a good crowd for Vespers! Needless to say, I was ready to sing my "Nunc Dimittis"! Thanks to all who participated in and made possible this beautiful Sunday.

Monday, too, was a special day and although our "crowd" was thinner, all was done in due order for our Blessed Lady's Annunciation, with some chosen souls almost having Our Eucharistic Lord in the Monstrance to themselves.

Today we begin the greatest week of the year, a week which calls upon all of us to be faithful to Our King, to exhaust ourselves, at least these days, in His Holy Service. I thank you all in advance.

Again this year Bishop Sanborn and his fine seminarians will be with us for these blessed days, including Fr. Disposito and Fr. Palma, both newly ordained. Please give them a warm welcome, and pray for their perseverance.

Perseverance! That's the Key... whether it be in lending a hand, praying quietly, or imitating the meekness and goodness of the Sacred Heart these days. May He grant you perseverance through His Mother's prayers.

Have the best Holy Week of your life!  
 I send a blessing to this affect,

**Bishop Dolan**

A LENTEN PLEDGE	LENTE REWARD
O Sacred Heart of Jesus,	His, pierced with a lance,
O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary,	Her's pierced with a sword,
Enter and beat within my breast,	Both tightly entwined,
Hasten, please, and do not tarry.	by a crown full of thorns,
My sufferings, my joys, all my understandings, we'll share,	When united with ours —
And Your crosses, I'll help carry.	is true compuncions' reward.

—JOHN SEYFRIED

- SUN 04/08/07 EASTER SUNDAY**  
**6:00 AM Mass of Dawn** *Easter Novena I*  
**7:30 AM Low Mass** *Vivian Bloemker's Intentions (Charlene A. Bloemker)*  
**9:00 AM High Mass** *For the People of St. Gertrude the Great*  
**11:30 AM Low Mass & Benediction** †Rosemary & Clifford Breitenstein & All Poor Souls (Steve & Becky Hammor Family)  
**4:00 PM** Vespers  
**NO 5:45 PM MASS**



# ❖ THOUGHTS ON THE HEART OF JESUS

## "HE SENT HIS SON"

Christ crucified carried out on the cross the most loving and most religious worship possible, and at the same time, as the Lamb of God, bearing the sins of the world, He accomplished the supreme act of mercy. In His Heart worship and mercy were untied in the fullness of charity.

Conflicts in the mind are indeed left entirely behind, absorbed by love. Christ's mercy on the cross consists above all in pardoning sinners, in making amends, in giving satisfaction, in their name. Now sin, in its most mysterious aspect, is an offense against the sovereign majesty of God. Hence in order to satisfy for sin, the absolute rights of the sovereign majesty of God must be recognized, and this can be done fully only in an act of sacrificial worship in which the whole victim is offered, consumed, in order to declare the greatness of God.

Further, sin is above all pride, leading to disobedience, revolt against the law and the will of God. When the revolt fully develops and is all-embracing, it turns into a declaration of atheism. Then man, in order to be first, takes the place of God, calling himself his own master, depending on no one but himself. Instead of worshiping God and serving Him, man worships man and serves him, denying God, killing Him in heart and mind.

In order to make amends for this atheism and idolatry, which is the final stage of human pride, the Son of Man freely agreed, through love for men and in order to glorify the Father, to make Himself as nothing in the depths of His Heart and mind — the mystery of the agony — while this annihilation of self was expressed in the flesh and finally pierced His Heart. To satisfy for the exaltation of the super-man, who desires his absolute independence, his entire freedom, the true King of men, the Perfect man, wisest of all, the Supreme man, had to accept responsibility for His brethren, and to choose the freedom of the Father before His own freedom.

—THE MAGNIFICAT



## HEART OF JESUS, BRUISED FOR OUR OFFENSES...

To be falsely accused is a trial against which our nature instinctively rebels. Even if the accusation be not false, we shrink from the charge as from a cruel injustice. We have our virtues as well as our failings and we resent any attention paid to the latter and any oversight of the former. Indeed we are very sensitive creatures extremely jealous of our honor.

And all the while we seem to forget a very humiliating truth: Jesus, our all-holy God, was "bruised for our sins." It will take a deal of the conceit out of my life and cure me of my proud sensitiveness if I will only pause from time to time and reflect on the words of the Prophet: "He is wounded for our iniquities; He is bruised for our sins."

Bruised for my sins! Humiliating thought! Jesus, the sweet, gentle Master, Whose life was one of infinite perfection, Who never knew the slightest breath of fault or failing, is punished for my sins. I sinned and went free and Jesus was crushed with terrible agony in the Garden of Olives to atone for my sinning. I sinned and went free and Jesus was unmercifully scourged to repair my offenses. I sinned and went free and Jesus was crowned with thorns, spat upon, cudged and kicked and blasphemed as the price of my wickedness. I sinned and went free and Jesus was nailed to the cross and died thereon to save me from the penalty my sins justly merited.

In the face of such humiliating truths shall I not strive to be at least a little less sensitive, a little less jealous of my honor?

*Heart of Jesus, bruised for our offenses, have mercy on us.*

REV. J. E. MOFFATT, S.J.

## I SAW HIS BLOOD

BY PAUL F. SPECKBAUGH, C.P.P.S.

I PROCLUS, saw

And from the shriveled sinews of a hated Man  
A thin, red Stream leaped forth and under rocks It ran,  
But with a strength that wrenched by twisted iron soul;  
It throbbed and shook the very bowels of the whole  
Dull earth, and marked this one and crooked moment, deathless.

And, I, Myrenne,

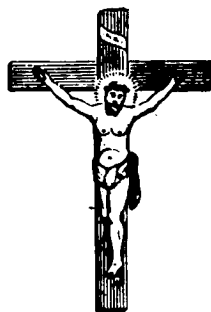
Who shyly sell the dusty beauty of a rose,  
Who cup the red remembrance of the day's dark close  
Within my hands, I saw a beauty set its mark  
On three dull nails and on a blacker wood; quite stark  
It shone—to hold me and a surfeited world, breathless.

And Mary, I,

Who cradled once His lightsome Strength in Bethlehem,  
Who watched His secret Beauty flower on the stem  
Of Youth in Galilee, I saw then only bright  
And cleansing fire that blinds the world with limpid light  
To make man long to be consumed with It—His Love.

## CONSECRATION TO THE CROSS

MY JESUS, I consecrate myself this day to Thy Holy Cross. Just as Thou didst take upon Thyself that great cross for the sake of all humanity, so I vow to embrace the crosses in my life. Everything I suffer, I give back to Thee, my Sweet Jesus, to atone for my sins and those of all the world. I will begin and end each day at the foot of Thy Cross, together with Our Most Blessed Mother and St. John, our brother. My only pleasure will be to comfort Thee, my Sweet Savior. Amen.



# ☩ HOLY WEEK 2007 AT SAINT GERTRUDE THE GREAT

4900 RIALTO ROAD • WEST CHESTER OH 45069 • (513) 645-4212

## SPY WEDNESDAY

DAY OF FAST

- 6:30 AM LOW MASS
- 9:00 AM LOW MASS
- 6:30 PM The Office of Tenebrae
- 9:30 PM Church decorating for Holy Thursday

## MAUNDY THURSDAY

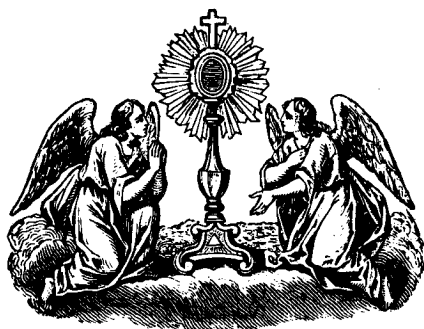
DAY OF FAST

- 9:00 AM PONTIFICAL HIGH MASS  
Blessing of the Oils, Procession to the Altar of Repose,  
Vespers, Stripping of the Altar, Potluck Luncheon

*Adoration continues at the Sepulcher until 12:00 o'clock Noon on Good Friday.*

- 1:30 PM The Maundy (Washing of the feet.)
- 6:30 PM The Office of Tenebrae
- 11:00 PM Rosary Confraternity Holy Hour

ALL NIGHT ADORATION



## GOOD FRIDAY

DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE

*Adoration at the Sepulcher continues till Noon*

- 11:30 AM Stations of the Cross
- 12:00 PM Tre Ore
- 12:15 PM MASS OF THE PRESANCTIFIED;  
Adoration of the Cross
- 2:15 PM Tre Ore Devotions and Sermon
- 3:00 PM Blessing with the Relic of the True Cross
- 3-4:00 PM Confessions
- 6:30 PM The Office of Tenebrae
- 9:30 PM Church decorating for Holy Saturday  
*Come when you can; leave when you must.*

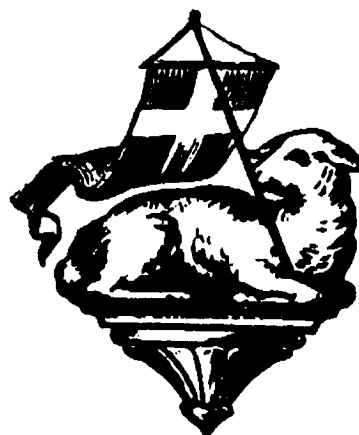
## HOLY SATURDAY

FAST AND ABSTINENCE ENDS AT NOON.

- 8:00 AM EASTER VIGIL:  
Blessing of the Fire, Prophecies,  
Blessing of the Font, Holy Baptism,  
*Ordination of Mister Markus Ramolla to the Sub-Deaconate*  
First Mass of Easter, Vespers, Blessing of Easter Food

*Everyone is invited to the complimentary Luncheon in honor of  
Reverend Mister Ramolla's Ordination to the Sub-Deaconate -  
immediately following Mass.*

- 4-5:00 PM Confessions
- 6:30 PM The Office of Easter Matins and Lauds



## EASTER SUNDAY

- 6:00 AM HIGH MASS (Gregorian Chant)
- 7:30 AM LOW MASS
- 9:00 AM SOLEMN HIGH MASS
- 11:30 AM LOW MASS WITH BENEDICTION
- 4:00 PM Vespers

*No evening services on Easter.*

## CONFESSION SCHEDULE

- GOOD FRIDAY 3:00 - 4:00 PM
- HOLY SATURDAY 4:00 - 5:00 PM

PLEASE LIMIT YOUR INCOMING CALLS TO THE CHURCH TO ONLY  
ESSENTIALS DURING HOLY WEEK. THANK YOU.