

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ MARCH 21, 2010 • PASSION SUNDAY •

• ST BENEDICT • You are welcome to Helfta Hall for refreshments after Mass, or to visit our gift shop. **Catechism** and **Adult Education** classes are at **10:40** this morning and **Lenten Vespers** and **Benediction** are at **4:45 PM**.

✠ THIS WEEK:

The last of our Lenten weeks before the Great Week itself opens with the American feast of a Spanish Saint, patron of farmers, **St. Isidore**. **St. Gabriel** comes **Wednesday** to usher in the great feast of the Incarnation, the **Annunciation**. **Pontifical High Mass** of ordination to the Diaconate is sung at **10:00 AM**. This important function replaces the other services customarily conducted on this day. Pray with us at one of the Masses. Another feast of **Our Lady**, now her **Sorrows**, comes for the last of our Lenten **Friday** programs, which features a brief lecture, during supper, on the Holy Shroud. **Sorrowful Mother Stations** will begin at **7:45 PM**, and conclude with her **Novena** and **Benediction**.

✠ NEXT SUNDAY:

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday. Palms are blessed and distributed at **7:15 AM** as well as at the moving Blessing Ceremony and Procession at **9:00 AM**. Be sure to bring your children for the procession that will include a live donkey. There are no Adult Religion or Children's Catechism Classes. Palms are available at every Mass. Vespers and Benediction will be at **4:45 PM**.

Set your Missal: Palm Sunday, Preface of the Cross.



Wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

PASSIONTIDE/HOLY WEEK VOLUNTEERS

Katie and her crew welcome all helpers the next two weeks to assist with cleaning, ironing and set up for the ceremonies. Keep in mind our general need for many helpers Spy Wednesday and Good Friday evening after Tenebrae.

God bless you!

✠ EASTER NOVENA / MEMORIAL FLOWER OFFERINGS

Envelopes for the Easter Novena of Masses and Flower donations are available in the vestibule and in the pews. 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. Envelopes for the flower offerings must be returned by Monday of Holy Week to be included in the Easter bulletin. Please be generous.

✠ PLEASE PRAY

For the repose of the souls of Verna Stentz, aunt of the VandeRyt family, and Francisco Carión Vázquez, cousin of Ina Harpen, both of whom died this past week.



For Relatives and Others

My Jesus, by that copious sweat of Blood, with which Thou didst bedew the ground in the garden, have mercy on the souls of my nearest relatives who are suffering in Purgatory. Our Father, Hail Mary, Eternal Rest.

Collection Report

Sunday March 14th\$3,762.00

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

✠ POETRY CORNER

Short Litany with the Angel of the Agony

JESU! by that shuddering dread which
fell on Thee;
Jesu! by that cold dismay which sickened
Thee;
Jesu! by that pang of heart which thrilled
in Thee;
Jesu! by that mount of sins which crippled
Thee;
Jesu! by that sense of guilt which stifled
Thee;
Jesu! by that innocence which girdled
Thee;
Jesu! by that sanctity which reigned in
Thee;
Jesu! by that Godhead which was one with
Thee;
Jesu! spare those souls which are so dear
to Thee;
Who in prison, calm and patient, wait for
Thee;
Hasten, Lord, their hour, and bid them
come to Thee,
To that glorious home, where they shall
ever gaze on Thee.

—Cardinal Newman



Ushers

MARCH 28, 2010

7:30 AM Kent Maki, Scott Pepiot, Volunteer, Volunteer
9:00 AM Mike Briggs, Mark Lotarski, Steve Weigand, Paul Puglielli
11:30 AM Bob Uhlenbrock, Dennis Hille, Kirby Bischel, Volunteer
5:45 PM John Seyfried

Servers

MARCH 26, 27 AND 28, 2010

•FRI 3/26 5:45 PM LOW: Simpsons
7:30 PM STATIONS AND BENEDICTION:
Simpsons and A.D. Kinnett
•SAT 3/27 7:30 AM LOW: Simpsons
8:00 AM LOW: Mike Briggs
•SUN 3/28 7:30 AM LOW: A. & S. Brueggemann
9:00 AM HIGH: R. VandeRyt, John Lotarski
R. Hill, B. Lotarski, T. & J. Simpson, S. Richesson
J. Lacy, N. McClorey, S. Arlinghaus, A. Arlinghaus
11:30 AM LOW: A. D. Kinnett, F. & N. Puglielli
4:45 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller
5:45 PM LOW: A. Beaver

✠ THE CALENDAR

MON	3/22/10	ST ISIDORE THE FARMER, C ST CATHERINE OF GENOA
	11:20 AM	Low Mass Poor Souls - Favors Received (<i>Darlene Rentschler</i>)
	12:20 PM	Vespers
	5:00PM	Low Mass The Forgotten Poor Souls (<i>R. VandeRyt</i>)
TUE	3/23/10	FERIAL DAY
	8:00 AM	Low Mass In Thanksgiving (<i>Mary Flowers</i>)
	11:20 AM	High Mass Fr. McGuire's Intentions (<i>Lacy Family</i>)
	12:20 PM	Vespers
	5:00 PM	Low Mass Mary Montello (<i>Karen Puglielli</i>)
WED	3/24/10	ST GABRIEL, ARCHANGEL
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Conversion of our families (<i>John & Rhonda Lynch</i>)
	11:20 AM	High Mass †Ralph Patton (<i>Wanke Family</i>)
	12:20 PM	Vespers
	3:00 PM	Children's Stations
	5:00 PM	Low Mass Poor Souls - nearest release (<i>JES</i>)
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
THUR	3/25/10	ANNUNCIATION OF THE BVM
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Gabriel Urling (<i>Bishop Dolan</i>)
	10:00 AM	High Mass of Diaconate Ordination †Rosemary Dolan 1st Anniversary (<i>Bishop Dolan</i>)
	5:00 PM	Low Mass Dorothy Gates (<i>Jim Gates</i>)
FRI	3/26/10	SEVEN SORROWS OF THE BVM
	8:00 AM	Low Mass Poor Souls (<i>Nick and Rose Manna Family</i>)
	11:00 AM	Confessions
	11:20 AM	High Mass To strengthen the faith of my family (<i>Patsy McConnell Family</i>)
	12:30 PM	Vespers
	5:15 PM	Confessions and Rosary
	5:45 PM	Low Mass †Jose Abella (<i>Mike Briggs Family</i>)
	6:45 PM	Parish Lenten Supper with special guest speaker and talk on the Shroud of Turin
	7:45 PM	Stations of the Sorrowful Mother and closing of her Novena, Blessing of the Sick and Benediction with Sacred Heart Novena, Holy Communion, Confessions
SAT	3/27/10	ST JOHN DAMASCENE, CD
	7:15 AM	Confessions
	7:30 AM	Low Mass †Catherine Ewing (<i>Dave Ewing</i>)
	8:00 AM	Sermon, Low Mass The most forgotten Souls in Purgatory (<i>Frances Mattingly</i>) Confessions
SUN	3/28/10	PALM SUNDAY ST JOHN CAPISTRAN, C
	7:15 AM	Blessing of Palms and Distribution Low Mass †Verna Stentz (<i>Mr. & Mrs. Victor Ritze</i>)
	9:00 AM	Blessing of Palms and Procession High Mass For the people of St. Gertrude's
	11:30 AM	Low Mass Special Intention For those who persecute priests (<i>Joan Bischel</i>)
	4:45 PM	Lenten Vespers and Benediction
	5:45 PM	Low Mass The most forgotten Souls in Purgatory (<i>Frances Mattingly</i>)

✠ BISHOP'S CORNER

This year's Spring is as splendid as it is sudden, and so, so welcome. It seems only a fortnight ago that all was dark and chill, and now the sun has coaxed the crocuses into bloom. I write this on a beautiful St. Patrick's Day, both within and without. After a hard winter and in the midst of a truly sacrificial Lent, we were ready for a little celebration, and celebrate we did. The sanctuary was all shining and green for the well sung High Mass, and our sacristan, Katie, treated the children (and others!) to her "green chocolate" fountain at lunch which, with the sunshine and the story, made for such a pleasant day. Many thanks!

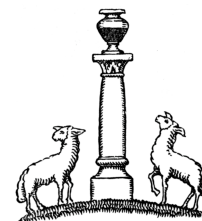
I thank you for your concern and prayers for my Mexican trip. It is true that it grows more dangerous each year, but God is good. I prayed for you all to the Holy Doctor Jesus, and Our Lord of the Expiration. This year's trip was simpler (and cheaper) and left me more time for prayer as I stayed in Fr. Siordia's new convento, like ours a house for extra clergy and guests, right on the grounds of the church. We had a wonderful visit together, as well as with several other priests, and the faithful, and the eight Franciscan Sisters at Atlalauca.

Please keep Fr. Siordia, and all of our priests, in your prayers. He was thrice attacked by the devil this winter. The last of these was a familiar sounding attempt to remove him as pastor of his parish. His enemies went door to door with a calumnious letter (the old way; poor Mexicans are blessed not to have internet), accusing him of vile sins, as once people accused the Curé of Ars. Bishop Sanborn says it is as though there was lately a council of demons in hell who planned these attacks on our clergy. Exactly.

Meanwhile, Fr. Siordia goes on offering Mass at more and more places, healing the sick and driving out demons, and burying the dead. He gives a good example, and much wise counsel, to his brother priests, and all of the faithful.

Let us redouble our zeal these blessed days of Passiontide, both to celebrate Christ's saving passion, and to pray for the Poor Souls, the sick, and all under Satan's sway. May Our Lady of Sorrows make it so, and with her virginal spouse St. Joseph, bless and protect us all. A Blessed Passiontide!

—Bishop Dolan



✠ HOLY WEEK 2010 AT SAINT GERTRUDE THE GREAT ✠

PALM SUNDAY

7:15 AM Blessing of the Palms, distribution and Low Mass

9:00 AM Blessing of the Palms, Procession and High Mass

N.B. The Beautiful Procession and High Mass of Palm Sunday is magnificent, and well worth the extra time. Remember to bring the children to the Procession. If you are late leaving the 7:30 Mass (around 9:30 or so, say) or arriving early for the 11:30 Mass, please note:

Be so kind as not to start or drive your car in the parking lot during the Procession or the ceremony outside the doors of the Church.

Thank you for your cooperation.

11:30 AM Low Mass

4:45 PM Vespers and Benediction

5:45 PM Low Mass

SPY WEDNESDAY

DAY OF FAST

6:30 PM The Office of Tenebrae

8:30 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 Noon on Good Friday.*

1:30 PM The Maundy (Washing of the feet.)

6:30 PM The Office of Tenebrae

ALL NIGHT ADORATION GOOD FRIDAY

DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Adoration at the Sepulcher continues till Noon

11:25 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, Vespers

3-4:00 PM Confessions

6:30 PM The Office of Tenebrae

8:30 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,
First Mass of Easter, Vespers, Blessing of Easter Food

Everyone is invited to the complimentary Easter Luncheon following Mass.

4-5:00 PM Confessions

EASTER SUNDAY

6:00 AM Solemn Matins and Lauds

7:30 AM EASTER SUNRISE MASS

9:00 AM SOLEMN HIGH MASS

11:30 AM LOW MASS WITH BENEDICTION

4:00 PM Vespers

No 5:45 PM Mass 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.**

Prayer of St. Clement Maria Hofbauer

Oh Father of mercy, look into the face of Thy anointed one, who pleads for His bride and our mother, the Holy Church, with a loud voice and tears. See, oh my Father, the bloody sweat, the terrible crown of thorns, the hands and feet that have been pierced by nails, the wounds of our brother Jesus Christ: hear, oh Father, the sobs of Thy much beloved Son on the cross. They have moved the heavens, split the rocks. Should Thy mercy remain unmoved? Keep everyone who recognizes Thee with a sincere heart within the holy faith, protect everyone from false prophets who go about in sheep's clothing but are ferocious wolves on the inside; keep their power away so that their attacks may fail and they be destroyed. Merciful God, grant to those who believe in Thee the grace to love Thee continually in unity and charity, to follow Thee loyally unto death and there to praise and honor Thee for ever. Amen.

St. Clement Maria Hofbauer - Pray for us!

✠ A VISIT TO A SOUL IN PURGATORY

The Holy Souls

The prison in which I seem to myself to be is the world, my chains the body, and it is my soul enlightened by grace which knows the grievousness of being held down or kept back and thus hindered from pursuing its end. This gives my soul great pain for it is very tender. By God's grace it receives a certain dignity which makes it like unto God; nay, rather He lets it share His goodness so that it becomes one with Him. And since it is impossible that God suffer pain, this immunity too befalls the souls who draw near Him; the nearer they come to Him, the more they partake of what is His.

Therefore to be hindered on its way, as it is, causes the soul unbearable pain. The pain and the hindrance wrest it from its first natural state, which by grace is revealed to it, and finding itself deprived of what it is able to receive, it suffers a pain more or less great according to the measure of its esteem for God. The more the soul knows God, the more it esteems Him and the more sinless it becomes, so that the hindrance in its way grows yet more terrible to it, above all because the soul which is unhindered and wholly recollected in God knows Him as He truly is.

As the man who would let himself be killed rather than offend God feels death and its pain, but is given by the light of God a zeal which causes him to rate divine honor above bodily death, so the soul who knows God's ordinance rates it above all possible inner and outer torments, terrible though they may be, for this is a work of God who surpasses all that can be felt or imagined. Moreover God when He occupies a soul, in however small a degree, keeps it wholly busied over His Majesty so that nothing else counts for it. Thus it loses all which is its own, and can of itself neither see nor speak nor know loss or pain.

But as I have already said clearly, it knows all in one instant when it leaves this life.

Finally and in conclusion, let us understand that God who is best and greatest causes all that is of man to be lost, and that Purgatory cleanses it away.

—Saint Catherine of Genoa
Saint Catherine (†1510) was the director of a hospital that cared for victims of the plague.



Intercession for the Departed

*Ye Souls of the faithful,
Who sleep in the Lord
But as yet are shut out
From your final reward!
Oh! would I could lend you
Assistance to fly
From your prison below
To your palace on high!*

*O Father of mercies!
Thine anger withhold;
These works of Thine hand
In Thy mercy behold;
Too oft from Thy path
They have wandered aside;
But Thee, their Creator,
They have never denied.*



THE HOLY SOULS

A certain person prayed very earnestly, yet simply, to God for suffering souls.

God showed her Purgatory's terrible cleansing fire, and the many sinners whose torments were equal to the number of their sins.

Her spirit was so moved by such suffering that she seized all Purgatory in her arms.

She endured all the suffering, but asked Love to help her.

Then God spoke: "Do not hurt yourself by carrying a burden too heavy for you."

Her spirit replied sadly: "Lord, I pray that you will set some free."

He said: "How many would you like me to free?"

She said: "As many of those for whom, by Your mercy, I may make atonement."

Our Lord said: "Take a thousand souls."

Then the poor creatures raised themselves out of Purgatory, and they were burned, bleeding, and dirty. The spirit spoke: "Lord, what will happen to these creatures now? For they cannot enter your kingdom in this awful state." Then in His mercy God spoke a comforting word: "You shall bathe them in the tears of love that flow from your eyes."

All at once they saw a great basin. The unhappy beings dove into it and bathed in Love as bright as the sun. The spirit felt inexpressible joy and said: "All creatures will praise You for ever. Now these are fit to enter Your kingdom." Our Lord bent down from on high and placed on their heads the crown of Love which had redeemed them and said: 'You shall wear this crown forever so all in my kingdom will know that you have been released by tears of love nine years before your proper time.'

—Mechthild of Magdeburg
Mechthild of Magdeburg (†1282) was a Beguine and later a nun in Helfia, Germany.
