

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

626 4th Street • Alexandria, Louisiana 71301 • Phone: (318) 445-1451 • www.sfxcathedral.org

Volume XXXV, No. 13

March 24, 2024

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Monsignor James Ferguson, JCL, Rector

Deacon Richard Mitchell • Deacon Jason Lavergne • www.sfxcathedral.org

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday of Holy Week, March 25:

12:05 p.m. Lois Laborde

Tuesday of Holy Week, Mar. 26: Mass of Holy Chrism

11:05 a.m. (there is no 12:05 pm Mass)

Wednesday of Holy Week, March 27:

12:05 p.m. Carline LaCaze

Holy Thursday Mass, March 28:

The Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at 5:30 p.m. & will be live-streamed. Following Mass, there will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9:00 p.m. in the Cathedral. (There is no 12:05 p.m. Mass)

Good Friday Service, March 29:

Friday of the Passion of the Lord; the reading of the Passion, veneration of the cross and distribution of Holy Communion, will be held at 3:00 p.m. & will be live streamed. (There is no 12:05 p.m. Mass.)

Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil Mass, March 30:

The only Mass on Holy Saturday is the Easter Vigil Mass, which will be celebrated at 8:00 p.m. & will be live streamed. (There is no 4:00 p.m. Mass.)

Easter Sunday, March 31:

9:00 a.m. Gilchrist & White Families (living & deceased), Paul Smith, Louis Joseph, Todd Mizell, David & Stacey Lachney, Jared Price & Family, Blaine Rabalais, Doris Foster, Jimmy Bell, Jr., Paul Voelkel, Lizzie Floyd, Preston L. Stemann, Terry Cooley

11:00 a.m. People of SFX Cathedral Parish

5:30 p.m. Justin Neal Bates

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The Sanctuary Light will burn in memory of Gloria Rabalais & Family, please remember them in your prayers.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

Weekly Budget	\$ 9,500.00
Last Weekend's Collection	\$ 6,952.00
Over or (Short)	\$ (2,548.00)

Thank you for your generosity!

REMEMBER A LOVED ONE THROUGH A MEMORIAL GIFT OF EASTER LILIES



Provide the name of the person to be remembered and place it with \$13.00 in an envelope marked "Easter Flower Offering."

Envelopes are located on the tables at the entrances of the Church. You can drop the envelope in the Mass collection basket or bring it to the parish office.

TODAY IS CALLED PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

The first name comes from the fact that it commemorates Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, when the crowd had palm branches (John 12:13). The second name comes from the fact that the narrative of the Passion is read today. The blessed palm is known as a sacramental. Palms are kept in the home as a witness to faith in Jesus Christ, messianic king, and in his Paschal Victory.

HOLY WEEK

This week we begin the most sacred and solemn season of the church year because the Passion of Christ is the inspiring theme to which the Church directs our hearts and minds. **Why do we cover crucifixes and statues during the final weeks of Lent?** First of all, we use veils to alert us of the special time that we are in. When we walk into church and notice everything covered, we immediately know that something is different. These last days of Lent are meant to be a time of immediate preparation for Holy Week and these veils are a forceful reminder to get ready. Secondly, the veils focus our attention on the words being said at Mass. When we listen to the Passion narrative, our senses are allowed to focus on the striking words from the Gospel and truly enter into the scene. Crosses remain covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday; images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Fasting is to be observed on Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age to 59. Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to each one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

Monday, March 25

- 12:05 p.m. Mass

Tuesday, March 26: Chrism Mass

- 11:00 a.m. only (There is no 12:05 p.m. Mass)

Wednesday, March 27:

- 12:05 p.m. Mass

Thursday, March 28: Holy Thursday

“Mass of the Lord’s Supper”

- 5:30 p.m. only (There is no 12:05 p.m. Mass)

Friday, March 29: Good Friday

“The Passion of The Lord”

- 3:00 p.m. only (There is no 12:05 p.m. Mass)

Saturday, March 30: Easter Vigil Mass

- 8:00 p.m. only (There is no 4:00 p.m. Mass)

Sunday, March 31: Easter Sunday

of the Resurrection of the Lord

- Masses at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 5:30 p.m.

(The oil for the Chrism Mass was donated in Memory of the Deceased Members of the Cathedral Choir)

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND THE CONSOLATION OF THEIR FAMILIES

Preston L. Stemann, Terry Cooley

7 WEEK “JESUS AND THE EUCHARIST” GROUP STUDY – TUESDAY, MARCH 26

Join us for the “Jesus and the Eucharist” seven-week Small Group Study which will be held on Tuesday, March 26 at 6pm in Xavier Hall.

• *Session 7 Bread for the Journey.* Just as manna was the bread for the Israelites on their journey to the Promised Land, so the Eucharist is the bread for our journey to heaven. The Eucharist is our daily bread, our sustenance, and our source of every grace and blessing. As Pope Francis highlighted in a homily on Corpus Christi in 2021: “To celebrate the Eucharist, we need first to recognize our thirst for God, to sense our need for him, to long for his presence and love, to realize that we cannot go it alone, but need the Food and Drink of eternal life to sustain us on our journey” (Corpus Christi, June 6, 2021).

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, MARCH 29 AND MONDAY, APRIL 1

The Church Office will be closed **Thursday, March 28 at 12:00 p.m., Friday, March 29 & Monday, April 1.** (There will be a 12:05 p.m. Mass on Monday, April 1.)

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

Thank you to everyone who made a pledge to the Annual Diocesan Appeal last weekend. If you have not had the opportunity to make your pledge to the ADA there are pledge envelopes available in each pew. Please take the time to make your commitment to the larger Church, knowing your gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal makes a real difference in the lives of the laity of the Diocese. **The goal for St. Francis Xavier Cathedral this year is \$40,313.00.**

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND - MARCH 29

The Congregation for Eastern Churches is urging Catholics worldwide to support the Good Friday collection for the Church in the Holy Land.

Among projects supporting the holy places are the renovation of the Sanctuary of Bethany next to the tomb of Lazarus, the renovation of St. Catherine’s Church next to the Grotto of the Nativity in Bethlehem, and the planning of restoration works at the Shrine of the Transfiguration at Mount Tabor. Please support the Church in the Holy Land.

SPECIAL COLLECTION – INFIRM PRIESTS EASTER WEEKEND, MARCH 30 - 31

“Come follow me”, Christ challenged His Disciples. They did, and men have accepted the challenge and followed Christ in His priesthood to this day. Having left family, when their health fails our priests must turn for assistance to the people they have served. And the cost of medical care continues to rise. The **Infirm Priests Fund** looks to the generosity of the laity of the Diocese for its resources. In gratitude, the priests who receive help respond in prayer for your needs as they continue to accept Christ’s challenge, “Come follow me”. **Next weekend, at all Easter Masses, a special collection will be taken up for the infirm priests of our diocese.**

BIRTHDAYS – March 24 - March 30

Nicholas Antoon, Robert Antoon, Carla Couvillon, Loyd Lee, LeAnne Raines, Chris Roy, Jeremy Simmons, Connie Stemann

NECROLOGY – March 24 - March 30

Rev. Robert Henry DeVriendt	+Mar. 27, 1951
Rev. Emeric Benedict Scallan	+Mar. 27, 1990
Msgr. Julius Gerard Walle	+Mar. 28, 2004
Msgr. Joseph Francis Xavier Kidd	+Mar. 29, 1963
Rev. John Garvan Cavanagh	+Mar. 29, 1974
Msgr. Allen Mark Chenevert	+Mar. 29, 1987
Rev. Peter Cooney	+Mar. 30, 1893
Rev. Quirinius Vanderburg	+Mar. 30, 1926
Rev. Michael Pfister Kammer	+Mar. 30, 1979

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FOR OUR MILITARY

If members of your family have been called to active military duty, or are already on active duty, please let us know, and we will place their names for prayer in the church bulletin. Please call the church secretary at telephone 445-1451, ext. 14, or you may email her at aryder@parish.diocesealex.org.

Known military are: Gerard A. Abair, Jr., Brent Marcus Barbour, Byron P. Barbour, Quincy Bordelon, Ashton Brouillette, Kevin Burnett, Delaney Byard, James Domzalski, II, Christopher Fraser, Mason Gremillion, Brick Hazel, Andrew Hill, Kenneth Jeansonne, Daniel Koury, Jeffrey Kelso, Chance Ryland Lavergne, James Madden, Chad McCann, Co. G-2-238, William Purdion, Jr., Kaneon Rachal, Daniel Raines, Kevin Raines, Matthew Raines

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Ansley Bellino, Janet Bordelon, Patrick Braquet, Mike Briggs, Carol & Bob Brossett, Janice Brossett, John Broussard, Ann Marie Bruner, Pam Saucier Buerlew, Jerry Byles, Daisy Bynog, John Cain, Cheyenne Carmack, Patrick Charles, Willis Coco, Barbara Cole, Alfred Cook III, Alfred Cook, Jr., April Cook, Sara Dacdac, Jeramie Davidson, Amanda Nugent Divine, Jim Domzalski, Sr., Elray Dubois, Brenda Ducote, Cecile Ducote, Harold Ducote, Norris Ducote, Robert Duggan, Clyde Ray Eli, Caleeah Fontenot, Carolyn Fontenot, Cathy Grant, Rosemary Gremillion, Richard Hall, Carolyn Harger, Melisa Henry, Ai Ming Herrington, Anna Hooper, Clara Hubbard, Jesse Johnson, Tiffany Johnson, Patrick Jones, Cody & Scott Lachney, James Lachney, Tracey Lawrence, Jimmy Lachney, Carla Lee, Lloyd Lee, Pam Lloyd, Audrey Luczak, Melissa McGlothlin, Peggy McNeely, Bernice Medica, Sam Medica, Tiffany Metrejeun, Fran Monk, Matt Owen, Clyde Peterson, Diane Rabalais, Thomas E. Richards, Bryan Ryder, Jimmie Sanchez, Antonio Sandoval, Kemal Sanli, Ursula Schramek, Trudy Schuurmans, Marianne Julie Sober, Stephanie Simmons, Sam Terracina, Gary Wagers, Sharon Walker, Stephen V. Waters, Katina Watson, Dee & Bailey Wilson, Kitty Wilson, Lee Arthur Wilson, Leonard Wilson, Tony Wilson, William Joel Wood

Before someone's name is placed in prayer, be sure to have permission from that person to publicize his or her name in the bulletin.

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