

# *Saint Joseph Catholic Church*

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Father Andrew Royals, Pastor

## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

March 25, 2018

CCD Information – Please contact the Rectory Office

St. Joseph Parish Outreach – 301-475-6533

Parish Secretary – Mrs. Nancy M. Russell

Office Assistant – Mrs. Pam McCutchen

Saturday Evening Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Weekday Masses: 8:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday

Confessions: 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Saturday and Sunday following the 6 p.m. Mass.

Baptisms: Please call the Rectory to make arrangements. Parents must be practicing Catholics in this Parish or able to provide a letter of permission from the the proper parish for Baptism here. Godparents, if not St. Joseph parishioners, must provide a letter that they meet the requirements: a practicing Catholic, at least 16 years old, have received Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion and, if married, in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church.

Marriages: Please contact the Pastor prior to making wedding arrangements.

Sacrament of the Sick: Those hospitalized or home-bound to receive the Sacraments, call the Rectory.

Rectory Office Hours 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday

# *Father's Thoughts*

My Dear Parish,

When Jesus dies on the cross we are born. When the only son of God lays down his life we become sons and daughters of God. Jesus' death brings us life. The life-giving power of the death of Christ is huge. It renews the world. But have you ever wondered why death? God could have saved us in any number of ways. He could have snapped his fingers or waved his hand. He could have spoken—as he did in creating the world—and we could have been redeemed. But he chose the death of his only-begotten Son on a cross. Why?

As we wonder at this, we must be careful. If we aren't careful we may give in to the temptation of thinking God is mean. As if to say, "Only a cruel God would require his son to die." And if God is mean then the foretelling of Christ's death throughout the scriptures—Abraham's offering of his son Isaac; the sacrificing of the passover lamb; the prophetic cry of the psalmist "My God, My God, why have you abandoned me?"—all these would only tempt us to think further that God is really mean.

But there is a big difference between being mean and being serious. Being mean is to be without a heart. It is to lack all love. It is to refuse any kindness to someone in need. It is the opposite of being generous. When God offers his own son for our salvation, he is not being mean. He is being serious.

The seriousness of God shows us that he respects our freedom. It shows us that the sinful abuse of our freedom can have dreadful consequences. God's seriousness also shows us how highly he prizes our returning to him, with hearts contrite and humbled. He sets the value of our being rescued at nothing less than the precious blood of His Only Son, whom he rewarded for his obedience by raising him from the dead.

God chose the death of his Son so that we might prize the joy of our salvation above everything else in the world. For the joy of our salvation is indeed the most wonderful thing in the world. And for it we owe our eternal gratitude to God, and His Son who loved us and gave himself up for us.

Please join us in observing these solemn mysteries this coming Holy Week.

With paternal affection,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Drew". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and personal.

**Mass Intentions for March 26<sup>th</sup> through April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Monday	8 a.m.	Rev. Msgr. James G. Gillen
Tuesday	8 a.m.	Chandler Johnson (Living)
Wednesday	8 a.m.	Judy Lee Earp
Holy Thursday	7 p.m.	For Priests
Good Friday	7 p.m.	<i>Liturgy for Good Friday</i>
Holy Saturday	8 p.m.	John Granger
Easter Sunday	8 a.m.	Douglas & Daniel Brown and Joshua Holton
	10 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>

**Mass Schedule for March 31<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>**

	<i>Lectors</i>	<i>Altar Servers</i>
Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	See Sign Up Sheet	
Sunday, 8:00 a.m.	See Sign Up Sheet	
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.	See Sign Up Sheet	All Servers



*Please pray for those who are sick in our parish especially, James Holt, Antoinette Nelson, Sandy Branson, Winnie Merson, Ann Young, Sara Custer, Thelma Russell, Gary Lewis, Yvonne Lennon, James Nelson, Elizabeth Adams, Alan Burch, Bernadette Herbert and Thomas Lionel Herbert.*

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*Offertory, March 18<sup>th</sup>*    Envelopes \$2,228.00    Loose \$2,825.00  
*Church in the Developing World*    \$1,074.00    *Easter Flowers* \$198.00    Thank you for your generosity.

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**Holy Week 2018**

Monday of Holy Week – Mass at 8:00 a.m.  
 Tuesday of Holy Week – Mass at 8:00 a.m.  
 Wednesday of Holy Week – Mass at 8:00 a.m. Confessions from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**The Sacred Triduum**

**Holy Thursday**

Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7:00 p.m.  
 Adoration at the Repository until 10:00 p.m.

**Good Friday**

Stations of the Cross at 3:00 p.m. Confessions following Stations  
 Liturgy for Good Friday – 7:00 p.m.

**Holy Saturday**

Confessions from 11:00 a.m. to Noon  
 Solemn Easter Vigil – 8:00 p.m.  
 No afternoon Confessions or 5:00 p.m. Mass on Holy Saturday

**Easter Sunday**

Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. (No 6:00 p.m. Mass)

***Outdoor Stations of the Cross*** – Father Drew will lead the devotion of the Way of the Cross in the St. Mary’s Queen of Peace Cemetery, Helen, MD. The devotional will begin 12:00 p.m. on Good Friday, March 30, 2018 and all are welcome to participate. For more information or directions, please call the Catholic Cemeteries Southern MD Regional office at (301) 475-5005 or (301) 932-1766 or email at qop@ccaw.org.

***Join us to pray the Rosary*** – The Blessed Mother said at Fatima that anyone who prayed the Rosary for 5 first Saturdays, she would be with you and you will die a happy death. The Rosary will be recited again after the 8 a.m. Mass on Saturday Apr 7 and May 5.

***Mother’s Rosary Group*** – Join us for a weekly Mother’s Rosary group. We will pray the Rosary with meditations focused on Mothers. Babies in arms & toddlers are welcome to join in honoring Our Lady. We will meet each Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the Hall. For further information please contact Megan Monahan at mega\_mo@yahoo.com.

***2018 Annual Jubilarian Mass*** – The annual Jubilarian Celebration of marriage honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years will be held Sunday, June 17, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Cardinal Donald Wuerl will preside at the Mass. Please call the parish office or use the sign up forms in the back of the Church to register. Names of jubilarians need to be turned in to the parish office by Monday, April 16th.

### ***Upcoming Events & Reminders***

*The office will be closed Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Monday*

***Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup>*** – Choir practice in the Church at 5:30 p.m. No Catechism in the Church.

***Holy Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>*** – Mass at 7 p.m. Adoration until 10 p.m.

***Good Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>*** – Station of the Cross at 3 p.m. Liturgy at 7 p.m.

***Holy Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>*** – Confessions from 11 to Noon. Solemn Easter Vigil at 8:00 p.m.

***Easter Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>*** – Mass at 8 & 10 a.m. No 6 p.m. Mass.

***Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>*** – No Catechism in the Church.

***Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>*** – No CCD.

***Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup>*** – Preparation class for anyone in need of the Sacraments of Christian Initiation at 6:30 p.m. in the Church.

***Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>*** – CCD at 6:45 p.m. at MCA (Assessment Testing)

***Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>*** – Confirmation Rehearsal in the Church at 10 a.m.

***Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>*** – Confirmation at 10 a.m.

***Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>*** – Last CCD class at 6:45 p.m. at MCA.

***Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>*** – Rehearsal for First Holy Communion at 10 a.m. in the Church.

***Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>*** – First Holy Communion at 10 a.m.