

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

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

Volume XXIX, No. 11

March 25, 2018

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Father James Ferguson, JCL, Rector • Father William Gearheard, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Richard Mitchell • Deacon Cliff Pelto

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday OF Holy Week, March 26:
12:05 p.m. Lee Bond

Tuesday of Holy Week, March 27:
Mass of the Holy Chrism
11:00 a.m. (there is no 12:05 pm Mass)

Wednesday of Holy Week, March 28:
12:05 p.m. Robert & Yolanda Pence & Family

Holy Thursday Mass, March 29:
The Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at 5:30 p.m. Following the Mass, there will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 p.m. in the Cathedral. (There is no 12:05 pm Mass)

Good Friday Service, March 30
The Good Friday service, reading of the Passion, veneration of the cross and distribution of Holy Communion, will be held at 3:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday, Vigil of Easter, March 31:
The only Mass on Holy Saturday is the Easter Vigil Mass, which will be celebrated at 8:00 p.m. Six adults will be received into full communion of the Catholic Church and three will be confirmed into the Catholic Church. (There is no 4:00 pm Mass)

Easter Sunday Mass, April 1:
9:00 a.m. Gilchrist & White Families (living & deceased), R.J. Ducote, Gordon S. Ducote, Carl T. Ducote. Deceased member of the Altar Society, Ingrid & David Newell, David & Stacey Lachney, Mock Family
11:00 a.m. People of SFX Cathedral Parish
5:30 p.m. Grace & Peter Burleigh (living)

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The Sanctuary Light will burn for Earnest & Fern Wilbert, please remember them in your prayers.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

Weekly Budget	\$8,500.00
Last Weekend's Collection	\$8,806.26
Over or (Short)	\$306.26

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 - DEAR PARISHIONERS

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.

The practice of the Church has been to empty the Holy Water fonts on the days of the Sacred Triduum, beginning on Holy Thursday, in preparation of the blessing of the water at the Easter Vigil. ~ Fr. Ferguson

LENTEN REGULATIONS FOR GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday, April March 30, is a day of fast and abstinence. This means that we do not eat meat, and we only have one full meal.

The obligation to abstain from meat binds Catholics 14 years of age and older. The obligation to fast, limiting oneself to one full meal and two lighter meals in the course of a day, binds Catholics from age of 18-59.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED MAR. 30 & APRIL 2

The Church Office will be closed on **Friday, March 30 and Monday, April 2.**

(There will be a 12:05 p.m. Mass on Monday, April 2.)

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

A collection box for the Baby Bottle Campaign supporting the Cenla Pregnancy Center will be present in the vestibule at all masses this weekend. For more information on returning the baby bottles, please call 318-314-3061.

COLLECTION ON GOOD FRIDAY FOR THE HOLY LAND - MARCH 30

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.

2018 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL



"You shall not covet" is perhaps a difficult commandment to keep in our consumer-oriented society. But as Christian stewards, we know that we are the recipients and caretakers of God's many gifts. May this understanding that all we have is a gift from God and may this understanding help us be generous to our parish and to the Annual Diocesan Appeal.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Nicholas Antoon, Robert Antoon, Carla Couvillion, Loyd Lee, Martha Lee, LeAnn Raines,

NECROLOGY

Rev. Robert H. DeVriendt	+Mar. 25, 1951
Rev. Emeric Benedict Scallan	+Mar. 27, 1990
Msgr. Julius G. Walle	+Mar. 28, 2004
Msgr. Joseph E. Kidd	+Mar. 29, 1987
Rev. Quirinius Vanderburg	+Mar. 30, 1846
Rev. Michael Pfister Kammer	+Mar. 30, 1979

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DEACON CANDIDATE

Luke White

SPECIAL COLLECTION - INFIRM PRIESTS FUND MARCH 31 & APRIL 1

"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.

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, Christopher Fraser, Bryce Gadway, Garrett Gilchrist, Andrew Hill, Jeffrey Kelso, Evan Nugent, Natalie T. Wall.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Rebecca Alexander, Brittney Arabie, Loraine Barham, Betty Battalora, Helen Bellino, Richard Brazil, Jerry Brodnax, Irene Broussard, Georgia Brown, Ann Marie Bruner, Kimberly Ann Bryant, Patricia Briggs, Marie Burns, Anna Cannella, Rosa Cannella, Brent Caplan, Elise Coco, Wayne & Barbara Cole, Charles "Buddy" Cosenza, Daren Coutee, Joann Cumella, Kathy Cumella, Kevin Jude Cumella, Angelo R. "Brother" D'Angelo, Bob Descant, Rose Marie Francis, Bernard Fontenot, Velma Galardo, John Gallent, Barbara Goff, Gloria Goff, Bobby Grant, John Gremillion, Robert Hunter, Cody & Scott Lachney, Sabastian Lachney, Gill Murrell, Evan Nugent, Philip Paige, Clea Perry, Bea Phillips, Tammy Rachal, Patsy Rayner, Mark & Alma Reitzell, Barbara Ponthier, Lou Ann Rigby, Kemal Sanli, Preston Stemmann, Jackie Storer, Janelle Struble, J. B. Theriot, Linda Vaughn, Ruby J. Williams.

We encourage our parishioners to call with the name of family members who are ill and wish to be remembered in prayer in the weekly church bulletin. Their names will remain on the list for approximately one month. Please notify the church secretary by the 1st Wednesday of the Month at 318-445-1451 x 14 so they can be included for the upcoming weekly church bulletin. If we do not hear from you, we will assume that your family member may be taken off the list.

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Graham Kramer, Parishioner

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