

REFECTION ON HOLY WEEK BY DOM GUÉRANGER

The past four weeks seems to have been but a preparation for the intense grief of the Church during these two. She knows that men are in search of her Jesus, and that they are bent on His death. Before twelve days are over, she will see them lay their sacrilegious hands upon Him. She will have to follow Him up the hill of Calvary; she will have to receive His last breath; she must witness the stone placed against the sepulchre where His lifeless Body is laid. We cannot, therefore, be surprised at her inviting all her children to contemplate, during these weeks, Him who is the object of all her love and all her sadness.

But our mother asks something more of us than compassion and tears; she would have us profit by the lessons we are to be taught by the Passion and Death of our Redeemer. He himself, when going up to Calvary, said to the holy women who had the courage to show their compassion even before His very executioners: 'Weep not over Me; but weep for yourselves and for your children' [St. Luke xxiii. 28]. It was not that He refused the tribute of their tears, for He was pleased with this proof of their affection; but it was His love for them that made him speak thus. He desired, above all, to see them appreciate the importance of what they were witnessing, and learn from it how in exorable is God's justice against sin.

Let us, therefore, do our utmost to receive these strong impressions, too little known, alas! by the superficial piety of these times. Let us reflect upon the love and affection of the Son of God, who has treated His creatures with such unlimited confidence, lived their own life, spent His three and thirty years amidst them, not only humbly and peaceably, but in going about doing good [Acts i. 38]. And now this life of kindness, condescension, and humility, is to be cut short by the disgraceful death, which none but slaves endured: the death of the cross. Let us consider, on the one side, this sinful people, who, having no crimes to lay to Jesus' charge, accuse Him of his benefits, and carry their detestable ingratitude to such a pitch as to shed the Blood of this innocent and divine Lamb; and then, let us turn to this Jesus, the Just by excellence, and see Him become a prey to every bitterest suffering: His Soul sorrowful even unto death [St. Matt. xxvi. 38]; weighed down by the malediction of our sins; drinking even to the very dregs the chalice He so humbly asks His Father to take from Him; and lastly, let us listen to His dying words: 'My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?' [Ibid.



SAINT JOSEPH ORATORY

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HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES

- ◆ **Today, March 29th: Palm Sunday**
Blessing of Palms, followed by Mass at **7:30am**.
No confessions will be heard after Mass on Palm Sunday.
- ◆ **Thursday, April 2nd: Maundy Thursday**
Sung Mass at **1:00pm**.
- ◆ **Friday, April 3rd: Good Friday**
Sung Mass of the Presanctified at **1:00pm**.
- ◆ **Saturday, April 4th: Holy Saturday**
Sung Liturgy of the Easter Vigil at **1:00pm**.
- ◆ **Sunday, April 5th: Easter Sunday**
Sung Mass at **9:00am**, followed by the blessing of Easter bread, eggs and other foods.

No confessions will be heard after Mass on Easter Sunday.

CONFESSIONS WILL BE HEARD PRIOR TO ALL SERVICES, EXCEPT MAUNDY THURSDAY.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Sunday, April 12th:** Blessing Sunday, Blessings of religious articles will be given after Holy Mass.
- **Sunday, April 19th:** Good Shepherd Sunday. Annual Collection for the International Seminary of the Institute of Christ the King.
⇒ Checks should be made payable to Institute of Christ the King.
- **Sunday, April 19th:** Social Hour after Mass at Millennium Hall.
⇒ **Please consider a \$2 donation per person to help cover expenses.**
- **Friday, May 1st:** First Friday of the Month. Confessions at 6:00 pm and Holy Mass at 6:30 pm followed by Benediction.
- **Thursday, May 14th:** Ascension Thursday. Sung Mass at 6:30pm.

EVENING DINNER SOCIAL

Saturday, April 25th Millennium Hall

- **5:30-6:30 pm Dinner** of a fresh cooked meal by the Polish women of Millennium Hall.
- **\$13 adults** (meat dish, salad, veggies, potatoes or dumplings, dessert and coffee)
- **\$6 children** (chicken fingers and french fries)

**For more information and to sign up,
<https://eveningsocial.weebly.com/>**

Signup information will be shared via the Oratory's Flocknote.

ST. JOSEPH SUPPER CLUB

The deadline for participation is Sunday, April 19th

The St. Joseph Supper Club is starting its second cycle of 2026, which will run from May through August. Participants (single adults or couples) are placed in small groups who take turns hosting one another for a total of three meals over the course of four months.

For more information and to sign up, please contact Augusta Taylor at stjosephsupperclub@outlook.com. Guidelines and signup information has also been shared via the Oratory's Flocknote.

WISDOM OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES



"It is useless to confess a sin, even of little consequence, unless one is determined to correct oneself. Human prudence is nothing but an anthill of lies and empty talk."

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES TO ST. JOSEPH

Glorious St Joseph, spouse of Mary, grant us thy paternal protection, we beseech thee by the heart of Jesus Christ. O thou, whose power extends to all our necessities and can render possible for us the most impossible things, open thy fatherly eyes to the needs of thy children.

In the trouble and distress which afflict us, we confidently have recourse to thee. Deign to take under thy charitable charge this important and difficult matter, cause of our worries. May its happy outcome be for God's glory and for the good of His devoted servants. Amen.

JOIN OUR FLOCKNOTE

Flocknote is voluntary and you will not be added automatically.

If you'd like to sign up, text SJOM to 84576 from your cell phone and follow the instructions. If you don't have text messaging, you can sign up from your computer by visiting this website:

<https://stjosephoratorymerrill.flocknote.com/StJosephOratoryP>

Please contact Mrs. Neupauer at rneupauer@institute-christ-king.org or 773-363-7821 x 2 should you have any questions or need further assistance.

To ensure receipt of messages please add flocknote to your contact list, preventing messages from spam and trash files.

BURSAR'S BOX

Sunday, March 15th: \$3, 722.00

Total for the Month of March: \$ 18, 768.00

Please make checks payable to "Institute of Christ the King" with Oratory on the memo line.

All checks made out to "Our Lady of Czestochowa" are given to the Salvatorian Fathers. By order of the bishop, **\$1200/ week** is given in rent to the Salvatorian Fathers.

Thank you for your generosity!