

St. Mary's Parish

900 Central Ave., Coon Valley, WI 54623



Fr. Matt Marshall

Pastor

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - April 5, 2020

Fr. Matthew Marshall

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St. Mary's, Coon Valley

Weekend Masses:

Cancelled until further notice

Weekday Mass:

Cancelled until further notice

Local Parishes—Mass Times

Annunciation of the BVM, Viroqua

Cancelled until further notice

St. Joseph, St. Joseph Ridge

Cancelled until further notice

St. Peter, Middle Ridge

Cancelled until further notice

Holy Day Mass: Please check the bulletin for times.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Before Mass on Saturday; other times as announced or by appointment, request appointment by calling Fr. Matt or via our website under the Sacraments tab.

New Parishioners: Welcome to our parish! Please introduce yourself to Fr. Matt and contact the parish office for registration and information.

Sacrament of Baptism: Please submit a Baptism registration by mail, or e-mail to both stmaryscv@mwt.net AND fmattmarshall@gmail.com. You will be contacted by the parish office to finalize your requested date. The registration form can be found here: <https://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments>.

Sacrament of Anointing / Visitation of the Sick: Please contact the parish office when someone you know is in need of either the sacrament or a pastoral visit, or call Fr. Matt. Requests may also be made from our website under the Sacraments tab.

Mass Intentions: Please use the Mass Intention envelopes available in the back of church and at the side door.

Book of Prayer Requests:

Located in the back of church. Feel free to add your own prayer requests. The requests will be included in the Mass intercessions.

St. Mary's Parish, Coon Valley, WI

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2020

Procession with the Palms

- 1) Matthew 21:1-11

Mass Readings

- 1) Isaiah 50:4-7
- 2) Philippians 2:6-11
- 3) Matthew 26:14-27:66
or 27:11-54

FOCUS: We recall and commemorate the events of our salvation as we begin Holy Week.

As we remember the suffering and death of Jesus, we are drawn more deeply into the mystery of God's steadfast love for all humanity: God so loved the world that he sent his only Son that all may be saved.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Saint Matthew writes of Jesus' celebrated entry into Jerusalem, where some of *the very large crowd ... cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road*. Isaiah prophesies of one who will *speak to the weary a word that will rouse them*. Paul writes to the Philippians about the total self-giving of Christ and his exaltation by the Father. In the Gospel, Matthew gives his account of the last hours of Jesus, including their Passover meal, his betrayal, and his passion, death, and burial.

Giving Last Week		Week 13	3/29/2020
Adult Envelopes	\$2330.00	Needed Weekly	\$1,900.00
Offertory	\$300.00	Received This Week	\$2,700.00
Good Friday	\$70.00	YTD Needed	\$24,700.00
Total	\$2,700.00	YTD Received	\$24,553.00
22 Env. Received		Difference	(147.00)

Annual Appeal 2019-2020		
As of 04/03/2020	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$15,447.50	\$14,887.50
Target Amount	<u>\$11,755.00</u>	<u>\$11,755.00</u>
Under Target	\$3,692.50	\$3,132.50
Percent Pledged: 131.41%, Percent Received: 126.65%		
Number Contributing:	40	
WE HAVE REACHED OUR TARGET!!! ALL DONATIONS FROM THIS POINT FORWARD WILL BE RETURNED TO THE PARISH!		
Thank you all who have donated! Extra cards and envelopes are located at the church doors, or you may give online at: https://diolc.org/donate-online , under Designation, choose: 2019 (445) St. Mary Parish. Keep in mind that any money donated beyond the goal is returned to the parish untaxed by the Diocese.		

Upcoming Events/Calendar

All Scheduled Events/ Religious Education /Mass are Cancelled until further notice

- **Church will be open for private prayer during from 9AM until 7 PM.** (please practice good social distancing and Maximum of 10 persons)
- If you are currently homebound or under quarantine and need assistance, please call Fr. Matt at 608-738-6806 or 452-3841. We have people ready and willing to help.

Amazon Smile is the charitable arm of Amazon.com.

If you order on Amazon, use Amazon Smile the same as you would as regular Amazon, and choose St. Mary's Parish as your charitable organization.



Log in to: amazon.com/smile and click the word "supporting" under the search bar. You can search for St. Mary's by typing, "St. Mary Parish Coon Valley" or simply click the link on our parish website: stmarvcv.org

Thank you for continuing to support our parish, during these unprecedented times. Your contributions received by dropping off at the parish, by mail, by bill pay and now online at: www.diolc.org/st-mary-coon-valley are sincerely appreciated. Do not mail cash, checks only please.

Intentions

Intentions will be prayed for privately by Father Matt on the day scheduled, please add these intentions to your own, in your prayers from home.

Apr. 04 ~ Our Parish Family

Apr. 05 ~ †Deceased members of the Fleming and Ollendick Families

Apr. 07 ~ Our Parish Family

Apr. 08 ~ Our Parish Family

Apr. 09 ~ Holy Thursday - †Bernard Humfeld

Apr. 10 ~ Good Friday

Apr. 11 ~ Holy Saturday - †Audrey Bissen

Apr. 12 ~ Easter Sunday - †Alex and Rose Roningen

FROM FR. MATT

Voting Information

The time has passed to request an absentee ballot for the April 7th election. The Village Hall will be significantly rearranged to accommodate voting in the time of COVID-19. That being said, the Village also heartily encourages everyone to register as absentee voters for the Aug 11th and Nov 3rd elections. This can be easily done at myvote.wi.gov. We have to work extra hard to maintain the collaborative spirit of a democracy in these unusual times. Please register to vote absentee in the coming two elections either by calling Village Hall for more details, or by visiting the State's voting website. If you vote in person on Tuesday, please be careful to observe the health guidelines established by our State in its "Shelter in Place" order.



Birthdays Thank You's

Though my birthday was unusually quiet this year, it was still a beautiful one. Thank you to the many people who called, sent cards, and expressed so much love and encouragement. Because of my heart condition I've been told to not expect a long life. One of the lower estimates I have heard marks this birthday as my life half done. It made this one a bit more solemn in some respects, but I somehow felt remarkably light. I am grateful for and proud of my last 32 years of life. I look forward with lots of hope to what this latter half will bring. I am so very grateful that I get to walk with you all during this time. You have been a blessing to me these past two years. Thank you, everyone! I love you all very much.

Way to go, St. Mary's!!!

We can be very proud of how our collections each week have been going during this COVID time. Other parishes in our area have taken a big financial hit, but thankfully our parish has been giving very generously still even in such a fearful time. No one else will give us a high five for this. We have to acknowledge it for ourselves. Our parish is staying strong! Way to go, St. Mary's!!! Let's give as we are able, of ourselves and from our hearts. Most of all, let's keep praying for one another every day. Just like our God, we believe we are all in this together.

General Absolution on Good Friday

General Absolution is an experience of the Sacrament of Confession without individual confession before a priest. It is something typically not experienced by a parish, in fact, most people will never have an experience of the Sacrament in that way during their whole lifetime. But these are unique times! Pope Francis has opened up the possibility for General Absolution during these times of COVID-19 because for many it would be an imprudent choice to approach the Sacrament in person. **I will offer a General Absolution for our whole parish on Good Friday at 3 PM.** You may participate anytime that day using the prayers laid out in next week's Bulletin. We will e-mail that Bulletin and place some in the mail on Wednesday. I hope sacramental absolution experienced even from a distance will be a very consoling experience for us all. The encouragement with general absolution is that if anything truly grave would have been confessed that you consider confessing it later (in person) to a priest for the sake of your own peace of mind. If you have questions, please let me know.

Televised Masses:

WXOW CH 19 La Crosse – Sunday: 9:30 AM
EWTN (cable/sat.) – Sunday: 7 AM & 11 AM Daily: 7 AM & 6 PM or **online at stmarycv.org** or at <https://diolc.org/sacredworship/televised-mass/>.

Catholic Broadcasting:

EWTN Catholic Cable Television Vernon Telephone Cable – Chan. 143
MediaCom Chan 15 – Coon Valley
Chan 74 – La Crosse also available via satellite

Parish Announcements

Your Continued Support is much appreciated!

If you are able, please continue to support the parish financially. Our parish will continue to have financial obligations such as utilities, repairs, maintenance, supplies, payroll, education and obligations to the Diocese of La Crosse for Catholic Schools.

We are accepting **donations through the mail** and if you use online banking, please consider adding St. Mary's Parish to your **Bill Pay** by setting up St. Mary's Parish as payment and it will be mailed directly to the parish office (if possible, use your envelope number as the account number). Online services now available: diolc.org/st-mary-coon-valley.

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Online giving to St. Mary's Now Available

<https://diolc.org/st-mary-coon-valley/>

Bulletins—lets stay connected!

- The parish bulletin will continue to be available on our Website—www.stmarycv.org
- We are mailing the bulletin to those over the age of 80 (if their age is recorded in our database)
- Copies of the bulletin will also be available in the church for pickup during private prayer times.
- **If you know of someone who does not have internet and could benefit from having the bulletin mailed to their home, please contact the parish office with the person(s) name(s).**



Diocesan/Local Announcements

Free online access to the following is now being offered:

- Daily Mass with the Pope!
<http://catholictv.org/shows/pope-francis-daily-mass>
- A variety of other daily and Sunday Masses:
<http://catholictv.org/masses>
- <https://giveusthisday.org/Digital#>
- <https://us.magnificat.net/free>
- <http://www.livingwithchrist.us/e-ressource/>
- <https://wau.org/meditations/>

Cathedral Live Stream Mass Schedule

The Cathedral Live Stream Schedule is available at diolc.org/live

Live Palm Sunday with Bishop Callahan – 9:30am
Live Holy Thursday with Bishop Callahan – 5:00pm
Live Good Friday with Bishop Callahan – 12:00pm
Live Holy Saturday with Bishop Callahan – 7:00pm
Live Easter Sunday with Bishop Callahan – 9:30am
Live Daily Mass (Monday-Saturday) from the Cathedral
Mass in English – 8:00am
Mass in Spanish – 8:30am

At Home Sunday Prayers

(With your palm leaves in hand, pray)

Increase the faith of those who place their hope in you, O God, and graciously hear the prayers of those who call on you, that we, who today hold high these branches to hail Christ in triumph, may bear fruit for you by good works accomplished in him. Who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus and the disciples drew near Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tethered, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them here to me. And if anyone should say anything to you, reply, ‘The master has need of them.’ Then he will send them at once.” This happened so that what had been spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled: Say to daughter Zion, “Behold, your king comes to you, meek and riding on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.” The disciples went and did as Jesus had ordered them. They brought the ass and the colt and laid their cloaks over them,

and he sat upon them.

The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road.

The crowds preceding him and those following kept crying out and saying:

“Hosanna to the Son of David;

blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest.”

And when he entered Jerusalem

the whole city was shaken and asked, “Who is this?”

And the crowds replied,

“This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Reflection

Often overshadowed by the lengthy reading of the Passion at Mass, this short Gospel passage which begins the Palm Sunday celebration is worth paying attention to. Have you ever considered what Palm Sunday might have felt like to Jesus? On the one hand, maybe it felt great. It might have been a first time that the crowd was responding positively to him. Yes, people had in groups stopped and listened to him before. And yes, one on one Jesus had a great number of uplifting experiences of people's faith in God and his own self. But Palm Sunday the crowd at last wasn't passive. Now they responded with a full-

At Home Sunday Prayers Continued

throated cry, Hosanna! (i.e. "Save us!") And they honored him, and celebrated...but, oh no! They were so wrong.

I wonder if, in fact, Palm Sunday felt terrible to Jesus. That it truly was the beginning of his Passion and Death. Sure people were praising, but what? Sure people cried out to be saved, but how? What people asked of Jesus, what they expected of Jesus, was all off target. The crowd wanted Rome overthrown. The crowd maybe wanted their old religion torn down. The crowd maybe, in a word, wanted to be free from suffering. And that is not what Jesus offered. What Jesus was offering would be, on the whole even by his disciples, rejected. I don't know that Palm Sunday felt that great for Jesus. Others were celebrating what to Jesus, didn't even matter. Others were celebrating, what to Jesus, missed the point. We've been there, right? Or, how often have we missed the truth standing right before us? How often have others missed what was so important to us even when we've tried to explain again, and again, AND AGAIN! Jesus' disappointing ride into Jerusalem gives us hope though. Yes, sometimes we miss the point. And sometimes others do. Sometimes our expectations are out of whack. But someone always hears us out. Someone always catches our drift. Someone, thank God!, sees what even we miss. And that is God. God sees. God cares. The God who beckoned Jesus to ride forward and later this week, even to break the bread, **giving thanks** despite so much seeming to have gone wrong.

Today, this Palm Sunday, we ask God to **help us examine our expectations?** Are they on target? Do they really make us happy? God asks us to **consider others expectations?** Are they realistic? God invites us to consider that there is more going on in every situation than just our eyes see. That prayer made famous by Alcoholics Anonymous fits so right:

*God give me the serenity to accept things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.
Amen.*

Here is a prayer exercise that I hope will be helpful throughout the week. Give it a try! May it be a blessing to you and your family!

This week try to place yourself in the shoes of Jesus. When have you felt misunderstood? Have you ever missed the point someone is trying to make? Are there victories or losses you have had to carry alone? Remember that God is with you, God sees your point of view! Remember to ask God to help you see more than you even know to ask for. Then pray this Psalm and ask Jesus to help you keep moving. Ask God to help you keep living with faith and love!

Psalm 55

O God, listen to my prayer,
do not hide from my pleading,
attend to me and reply;
with my cares, I cannot rest.

I tremble at the shouts of the foe,
at the cries of the wicked;
for they bring down evil upon me.
They assail me with fury.

My heart is stricken within me,
death's terror is on me,
trembling and fear fall upon me
and horror overwhelms me.

O that I had wings like a dove
to fly away and be at rest.
So I would escape far away
and take refuge in the desert.

I would hasten to find a shelter
from the raging wind,
from the destructive storm, O Lord,
and from their plotting tongues.

For I can see nothing
but violence and strife in the city.
Night and day they patrol
high on the city walls.

It is full of wickedness and evil;
it is full of sin.
Its streets are never free
from tyranny and deceit.

If this had been done by an enemy
I could bear his taunts.
If a rival had risen against me,
I could hide from him.

But it is you, my own companion,
my intimate friend!
How close was the friendship between us.
We talked together in harmony
in the house of God.

As for me, I will cry to God
and the Lord will save me.
Evening, morning and at noon
I will cry and lament.

He will deliver my soul in peace
in the attack against me;
for those who fight me are many,
but he hears my voice.

At Home Sunday Prayers Continued

God will hear and will humble them,
the eternal judge;
for they will not amend their ways.
They have no fear of God.

The traitor has turned against his friends;
he has broken his word.
His speech is softer than butter,
but war is in his heart,
His words are smoother than oil,
but they are naked swords.

Entrust your cares to the Lord
and he will support you.
He will never allow
the just man to stumble.

But you, O God, will bring them down
to the pit of death.
Deceitful and bloodthirsty men
shall not live half their days.

O Lord, I will trust in you.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, you were rejected by your people, betrayed by the kiss of a friend, and deserted by your disciples. Give us the confidence that you had in the Father, and our salvation will be assured. You live and remain with us forever and ever. Amen.



Daily Readings

Monday of Holy Week

Isaiah 42:1-7

The crucifixion of Jesus was a real challenge to the first Christians. When trying to understand the “what” and the “why”, they went back to their Bible (our “Old Testament”). Four poems in Isaiah, called today the Songs of the Suffering Servant, were very helpful to them and today we hear the first of these poems.

John 12:1-11

The role of Judas — always fascinating to people — becomes darker in the later New Testament. Here his character is blackened further by his desire for money. The Gospel established the drama of Holy Week.

Tuesday of Holy Week

Isaiah 49:1-6

Today, the lectionary gives us the second of the Suffering Servant Songs. This particular one echoes the call of a prophet and portrays the great trust of God’s messenger.

John 13:21-33, 36-38

In John’s Gospel, there is an arresting contrast between Judas and Peter. Both will betray, but one will never recover. The wording of the Gospel is significant: “night had fallen.” But we know from the prologue that darkness cannot overcome the light.

Wednesday of Holy Week

Isaiah 50:4-9

The third Song of the Servant is very striking. There is a wealth of “body” language (ear, back, beard, face) but the real message is spiritual: listening, non-violence and faith.

Matthew 26:14-25

We move to Matthew’s Gospel for a second account of the betrayal of Judas. In the midst of the proper preparations for the Passover, the dreadful judgement of Judas is given.

Holy Week

Did you know that this week is the most important one in the whole year? Holy Week has Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. On these days we remember and celebrate the most important things that Jesus did before His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

On Holy Thursday Jesus said the first Mass and made his apostles the first priests. Go to Mass on Thursday if you can, and think about what Jesus did- He made bread and wine into Himself so that He could still be with us after He went back into Heaven.

On Good Friday Jesus suffered terribly and then died on the cross because of our sins. He offered up His life, even though He had never sinned, so that all of us could go to Heaven. That's why we call it "Good" Friday. Can you offer some sacrifice to Jesus in return for what He did for you?

On Holy Saturday Jesus' body was in the tomb. His friends were all shocked by what had happened and were afraid and sad. They did not remember what was going to happen next... Do you remember what happened after Holy Saturday?



Answer to Puzzle on Front: This is my Blood of the New Covenant which will be shed for many.
Answer to Word-Find: He died for sinners.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Palm Sunday / Passion Sunday
April 5th, 2020

T A H B I C S D I E S F M G Y H B I L J
O K O L D M O N F O T P H Q E R N S
E T W U C W O X V Y E Z N A A B N C T
D W E H F I G C H H I W J I K L L L M
B N E O S P H Q E R D S F T O U R V
M W A X N Y Y Z



Use every second letter to fill in the blanks.

T H _____

Palm Sunday



ON PALM SUNDAY EVERYBODY CHEERED FOR JESUS, BUT A FEW DAYS LATER THEY SHOUTED AT HIM AS HE WAS LED TO HIS DEATH. WE MUST BE FAITHFUL TO JESUS WHEN IT'S EASY AND EVERYONE AROUND US IS, AND WE MUST ALSO BE FAITHFUL WHEN IT'S REALLY HARD AND EVERYONE ELSE IS AGAINST HIM.

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com



Good Friday Word-Find

H H W E D B H E A V Y
 D I E P C A R R I E S J I V E
 J O L T A R I O S I N R O
 S E S A L V E D F N S C I O
 E P I L A T O S S E F R O I C
 H I N C Y R E N S E T E A
 N N A I L S J O H N E S S
 M A G D A L E N E S S

See if you can find all the words in CAPITALS in the puzzle.

Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks:

What did Jesus do on the cross?

On Good Friday JESUS was taken before King HEROD and the governor, PILATE. Even though He had not committed any crime He was scourged and condemned to die on the CROSS. He CARRIED the cross as far as He could up CALVARY hill, but when He got too weak a man named SIMON of CYRENE was forced to help Him. On the way He met His mother, MARY, who WEPT at seeing her Son in such pain. A woman named VERONICA wiped the blood and sweat from His face with a cloth. At the top of the HILL Jesus was thrown onto the cross and His HANDS and FEET were fastened to it with NAILS. They raised the cross, where Jesus hung for three hours before He DIED. He did all this to SAVE us from Hell. At the cross were JOHN, Mary MAGDALENE, His mother, and some other women. At the moment He died the curtain of the old Temple was TORN in half. When His body was taken down from the cross JOSEPH of Arimathea and NICODEMUS BURIED Him in a new TOMB and rolled a HEAVY STONE in front of the door.

