

PASTOR’S COLUMN

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

We continue our support of and prayers for **John Cetrone, Bobbie Costas, John Bates, Chuck and Julie Forrest, Carol Fowler, Kari Lape, and Ryan White**. Your faith-filled journey through RCIA will reach its fulfillment at the Easter Vigil this Saturday!!

Reflecting on the Word

In Luke’s Passion narrative, Jesus says: “Let the greatest among you be as the youngest, and the leader as the servant.” Jesus lives as one who serves. He feeds the disciples with his body and blood. He heals those who arrest him. He prays that God’s will be done. He continues to teach while in agony in the garden. He prepares Peter before his betrayal of Jesus. He is neither defensive nor combative before Herod and Pilate. He attends to the women of Jerusalem and welcomes the so-called good thief. Finally he commends his spirit into God’s hands. Throughout is passion Jesus serves others and God. Like the servant of God in Isaiah who did not turn back but set his face like flint to speak God’s word, Jesus empties himself, like God’s self-emptying in becoming human.

Unlike Jesus, the disciples serve themselves out of fear that they might suffer the same fate as Jesus, and out of fear of the crowd’s reaction. Herod and Pilate do not want to

lose power. Simon must be forced into service, and even Joseph of Arimathea comes to Jesus’ aid only after the crucifixion. It is the centurion who announce Jesus’ innocence.

I want to have Jesus’ other-centeredness in the face of rejection and ridicule. But when I’m honest I know that I keep quiet too often in order to avoid both. I am more concerned about defending myself than humbly submitting to the example Jesus offered. During this week we call holy, watch Jesus. Listen to his words. Note his example and let the Lord God be our help so that we might commend our spirits to God and learn to serve in all circumstances.

from Living the Word, Year C

Stewardship Thought

“I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows this day, you will deny three times that you know me.” Lk 22:34

How many times have you heard someone make a disparaging comment about Jesus or the Catholic faith? How do you react? Do you remain quiet not to cause a disturbance or worst yet, because you don’t want your friends or family to think negatively about you? Pray for the courage to speak up and enter into a respectful dialogue.

Pope Francis has asked Catholics around the world to support Christians in the Holy Land, to stand in solidarity with the Church of the Holy Land, through the annual Good Friday collection. Please be generous.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 20

- 9:00 a.m. Peter P. Rossi Sr. (Family)
- 11:30 a.m. Andrew Zofko (Family)

Monday, March 21

- 8:30 a.m. Kenneth West (Family)

Tuesday, March 22

- 5:30 p.m. Sam Dann (Greg & Cathie Lazor)

Wednesday, March 23

- 8:30 a.m. Connie Ciolli (Jay & Joyce Austin)

Thursday, March 24

- 7:00 p.m. For an increase of priestly vocations

Saturday, March 26

- 8:30 p.m. Charles J. Richards (Chris Richards)

Sunday, March 27

- 9:00 a.m. Mac Rozzano (Frances Rozzano)
- 11:30 a.m. Erminia Paolucci (Dominic & Barbara Paolucci);
All Parishioners Living & Deceased

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Anointing of the Sick took place after the 4pm Liturgy on Saturday, March 19, because there will not be a 4pm Mass on Saturday, March 26. *Anointing of the Sick will take place on the fourth Saturday of the month, on April 23, following the 4pm Mass.*

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER
ALL THOSE ON OUR PRAYER CHAIN**

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SESSION

Next Baptismal Preparation Session will be held Sunday, May 15, 2016, at 1pm in the parlor. Please contact the parish office to register for the session.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Acts 10: 34a, 37-43 / Col 3: 1-4 / Jn 20: 1-9

IN MEMORIAM

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Walter “Ed” Landor**, husband of Joanna; of **Kathleen Guerin**, aunt of Katie Spencer; and of **Francisca Gonzales**, sister of Guerrero Quinones. May they rest in peace.

BAPTISMS

Next Sunday, we welcome **Ragan Edward Lutz**, son of Athey & Maggie Lutz, through the sacrament of Baptism. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

VOCATIONS

COME & SEE WEEKENDS ...

St. Mary’s Seminary, Cleveland, Apr 8-10

ST. ANDREW DINNERS ... for men to come for prayer and dinner in an informal setting to find out more about the priestly life. Free and open to men high school - 50 years of age. Join Bishop Murry WED 4/20, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at St. Joseph Parish in Alliance.

PRAY & PLAY ... A chance for Diocesan youth to attend an afternoon to enter into Eucharistic Adoration, then have time for food, fellowship & games. 4/8 Regina Ceoli, Alliance; 4/10 Blessed Sacrament Parish, Warren, 4-7pm; 4/17 Holy Family, Poland.

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

Interested in joining Blessed Sacrament Parish?! Members of our Welcoming Committee will register your family after Masses this weekend, March 19 & 20...

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| 4pm | Al & Brenda Crouse |
| 9am | Diane Seman, Susan Blank |
| 11:30am | Linda Orsinelli |

THE WEEK AHEAD**Sunday, March 20**

- 10:00 a.m. Troop 101 set up & host Coffee & Donuts (RH)
 10:15 a.m. Faith Formation Sessions (JFKCS rooms)
 12:00 p.m. Troop 101 Pasta Dinner (RH)

Monday, March 21

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast (Panera)
 10:30 a.m. AA Meeting (Providence Center)
 1:30 p.m. JFKCS-LC Parent mtg (Parish Library)
 5:30 p.m. Zumba (RH)
 6:00 p.m. Rehearsal for Holy Thursday (Church)
 6:30 p.m. Troop 101 (RH)
 6:30 p.m. Webelos I & II (Providence Center)
 7:15 p.m. Rehearsal for Good Friday (Church)

Tuesday, March 22

- 9:00 a.m. JFKCS-LC Stations of the Cross (RH)
 10:00 a.m. SVdP Easter Basket mtg, distribution (PC)
 10:30 a.m. Chrism Mass (St. Columba Cathedral)
 5:30 p.m. Mass (Church)
 6:00 p.m. RCIA rehearsal for Vigil Mass (Church)
 6:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper (RH)
 7:00 p.m. Prayer & Lenten Offering (Chapel/HFH)
 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting (Providence Center)

Wednesday, March 23

- 2:00 p.m. JFKCS-LC event (HFH)
 5:00 p.m. Eucharistic Bread Baking (Covelli Kitchen)
 5:30 p.m. Zumba (Gym)
 6:30 p.m. Easter Vigil rehearsal (Church)

Thursday, March 24

- 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Chapel)
 1:00 p.m. Staff Prep Church for Evening Mass (Church)
 7:00 p.m. Holy Thursday Mass (Church)
 8:45 p.m. Adoration (Chapel)
 11:45 p.m. Night Prayer (Chapel)

Friday, March 25 Parish offices closed

- 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Chapel)
 3:00 p.m. Passion of the Lord (Church)
 6:30 p.m. Night Prayer (Chapel)

Saturday, March 26

- 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Chapel)
 9:00 a.m. AA Meeting (Providence Center)
 11:00 a.m. AA Meeting (Providence Center)
 12:00 p.m. Blessing of Food Baskets (Church)
 8:30 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass (Church)

Sunday, March 27

- 9:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Mass (Church)
 11:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Mass (Church)
 11:30 a.m. Lutz Baptism (Church)

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary

*In gratitude for the gifts we have received from God,
 parishioners and visitors made a joyful return to the
 Lord of \$ in the Offertory
 for the weekend of March 12 & 13, 2016.*

Fiscal Year-to-date Information (7/5/15—6/26/16):

Goal for Fiscal Year-to-date:	\$ 565,397.00
Amount Collected:	\$ 564,563.47
Amount below needed goal:	\$ 833.53
Children's Stewardship:	\$ 18.00

Thank you for Giving First Fruits & Taking a Step!!

Reaching Out for the Year of Mercy in March**Forgiving Offenses and Bearing Wrongs Patiently**

Fill out a note card -- reflect on something for which we need to ask for forgiveness, or something we need to forgive. Leave the card in the basket; let it help you forgive offenses & bear wrongs patiently. **NOTES WILL NOT BE READ.** Place notes in basket near the cross, or basket in the gathering space; it will be put in the basket near the cross. Letters will then be added to the fire on Holy Saturday. The flames from this fire light our new Easter Candle, as the Light of Christ scatters the darkness.

THE HOLY YEAR OF MERCY CONTINUES

Taken from the USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) *Newsletter of the Committee on Divine Worship*. Volume LI (April-May 2015): 18-20. As it begins it is clear it was written before the Year of Mercy began, but the information it contains can be very helpful each Sunday we participate in the Eucharistic celebration. We are asked to open our ears -- and our hearts -- to God's mercy working in our world.

"Show Us, O Lord, Your Mercy":**Invoking the Mercy of God in the Order of Mass**

With the forthcoming Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, beginning 12-8-15 -- 11-20-16, Pope Francis has invited the Church to rediscover and celebrate the centrality of God's mercy in our world and our lives. In his announcement of the Holy Year of Mercy the Holy Father declared, "I am confident that the whole Church, which is in such need of mercy for we are sinners, will be able to find in this Jubilee the joy of rediscovering and rendering fruitful God's mercy, with which we are all called to give comfort to every man and every woman of our time.... Let us henceforth entrust this Year to the Mother of Mercy, that she turn her gaze upon us and watch over our journey" (Homily at the Celebration of Penance, March 13, 2015).

In the celebration of the Mass, the critical role of God's mercy frequently comes to the fore. As imperfect human beings, we encounter in the Mass God's merciful offer to raise us up and to give us hope and strength despite our weaknesses. In order to prepare for the upcoming Jubilee of Mercy, as well as to assist delving deeper into the content of the Mass itself, there follows a concise list of moments in the Order of Mass when the mercy of God is explicitly acknowledged or sought. Those who preach on the theme of mercy might wish to draw their hearers' attention to some of these passages, both to help strengthen their appreciation for God's mercy and to help them pray the Mass with greater devotion.

To be continued...

TUESDAY MASS, SOUP SUPPER, PROGRAM

Join us this Tuesday for 5:30 Mass, Soup Supper and then the presentation of "**The Three Days in Song and Scripture**" which will be presented by Samm Lewis and Pat Campbell in the chapel. This reflection on the celebration of the Triduum is a powerful way to enter into this central week of our faith. All are welcome!

PARISH OFFICE SCHEDULE

The parish offices will remain open this week through Holy Thursday, March 24, 8:30am-4pm.

The offices will be closed Good Friday, March 25, and Easter Monday, March 28. Office hours will resume Tuesday, March 29 at 8:30am.

We will not have Mass or Communion Service on Monday, 3/28; join us for Mass Tuesday, 3/29 at 8:30am.

SPECIAL MINISTERS' SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 19 4:00 pm
Readers: K. Thompson, L. Lowman
E.M.H.C.: B. Thompson, W. Thompson, R. Fenstermaker,
 R. Green, J. & L. Sanders, S. Campbell
Altar Servers: P. Orsinelli, B. Shanovich
Greeters: G. & C. Klingensmith

Sunday, March 20 9:00 am
Readers: K. Lattanzi, E. Hlad
E.M.H.C.: J. Gabele, S. Letson, M. Klaben, R. Green,
 L. Amadei, G. DiPaolo, M. Lazor
Altar Servers: J. Jones, N. Jaros, J. Martuccio
Greeters: M. DiPaolo, J. Potashnik
C.L.O.W.: P. Martuccio

11:30 am
Readers: B. Steines, A. Kelly
E.M.H.C.: S. & K. Kelly, L. & L. D'Amore, R. Green, G. Flynn,
 A. Kemble
Altar Servers: A. Steines, A. Daley, B. Wilson
Greeters: M. & S. Shader, B. & B. Ward, K. Kiniklis
C.L.O.W.: M. Gintner

Saturday, April 2 4:00 pm
Readers: J. Bokone, J. Weston
E.M.H.C.: D. Bokone, A. & P. Hietikko, T. & A. Hostetler,
 S. & J. Delaquila
Altar Servers: L. Aggarwal, D. Carey
Greeters: G. Baran, C. Gilson

Sunday, April 3 9:00 am
Readers: J. Solich, S. Battison
E.M.H.C.: S. & K. Bungo, M. & K. Klaben, R. Green,
 D. Woolensack, G. DiPaolo
Altar Servers: T. Klaben, C. Faulk, B. Faulk
Greeters: L. Crank, K. DeCarlo
C.L.O.W.: L. Anderson

11:30 am
Readers: D. Elston, A. Economos
E.M.H.C.: P. Orsinelli, C. Hooks, L. & L. D'Amore, G. Flynn
Altar Servers: N. Muscarella, A. Campbell, E. Economos
Greeters: B. Shanovich, L. Spano
C.L.O.W.: K. Sylvester

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST ... this Monday, 3/21, 7am, at Panera Bread on Elm Road. Join us on April 4 as we continue our monthly breakfasts after the Lenten season.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS STILL NEEDED TUESDAY MARCH 22, 5:30PM MASS ... Lectors, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and Altar Servers interested in serving in your ministry for the last of our Tuesday 5:30 p.m. Masses, sign up on-line or contact Pat at the parish office.

EUCCHARISTIC BREAD BAKING ... Reflect on the Gift of the Eucharist ... Eucharistic Bread Baking in Covelli Kitchen. Bread will also be baked for the Holy Thursday liturgy, on Wed Mar 23 at 5pm.

TRIDUUM LITURGIES - Liturgical Ministers Needed! ... Help at Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil ... Please contact Pat Campbell to sign up if you will be in town and are willing to serve in your ministry positions for these special liturgies! ALTAR SERVERS need to attend the rehearsal if they sign up!

Holy Thursday rehearsal: MON, 3/21, 6-7:15pm in church -- Altar servers, oil carriers/description readers, foot washers/helpers, incense and brazier carriers, MC

Good Friday rehearsal: MON, 3/21, 7:15-8:15pm in church -- Altar servers, LLOP helper, MC

Easter Vigil rehearsal: WED, 3/23, 6:30-7:45pm in church -- Altar servers, helpers, server coordinator, incense carrier, candle carrier, MC (lectors meet to walk thru procession)

PLEASE check the ministry scheduler on-line to see if you can be of service during the Triduum!! Altar servers still needed for Easter Vigil! Hospitality Ministers (that is ushers and greeters) **DESPERATELY NEEDED FOR ALL OF THE TRIDUUM LITURGIES!!** Openings remain for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil!!

Little White Books for Easter Available

The Diocese of Saginaw offers a daily reflection book for the Easter Season called "Little White Book for Easter." These will take you through from the Monday after Easter until Pentecost. Each day offers a six-minute reflection. In the gathering space or at parish office, \$2.

Morning Prayer & Night Prayer during the Triduum

Morning Prayer -- in the chapel at 8:30 a.m.

Thursday, March 24 (NO MORNING MASS)

Friday, March 25

Saturday, March 26

Night Prayer in the chapel

Thursday, March 24 at 11:45 p.m. (ends the evening of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament that follows 7 p.m. Liturgy)

Friday, March 25 at 6:30 p.m.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT -- COMMITTEES & INDIVIDUALS ENCOURAGED TO SIGN UP

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place from the end of the Celebration of the Lord's Supper (approx 8:30pm) until 11:45 p.m. on Holy Thursday (March 24). Please sign up for a thirty-minute segment of time to be spent in prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Parish committees and individuals are asked to sign up so that the prayer will be continuous on this holy night. **Sign up near the chapel!**

This prayer time can be spent in meditation, in spiritual reading or in communal prayer. Resources will be available outside the chapel on Holy Thursday or you may contact Pat Campbell at the parish office to arrange to receive prayer aids in advance. Also, readers are welcome to share the Gospel of John, chapters 13 – 17, during this time. You may wish to read a chapter aloud during your prayer time. This time of prayer closes at 11:45 with night prayer.

The Triduum...

Holy Thursday – March 24

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 p.m.
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament -- until 11:45 p.m.
 Night Prayer 11:45 p.m.

Good Friday, March 25

Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m.
 Commemoration of the Lord's Passion 3:00 p.m.
 Night Prayer 6:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday, March 26

Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m.
 Blessing of Food Baskets 12:00 noon
 Mass of the Lord's Resurrection, The Great Vigil 8:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, March 27

Liturgies 9:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

FAITH FORMATION

First Eucharist ... Please keep the children and their families in your prayers as they prepare to receive Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament!

First Communion Retreat ... Our First Communion children and their families will experience a day-long retreat -- April 10 -- as part of their final preparation for receiving Jesus for the first time. This day involves activities and a pot luck lunch. We need adult volunteers to make this a special day for the families. Please consider giving a couple hours of time, either with the activities from 9:30-11:30am, or to help set up and clean up after lunch from 12-2pm. Call Brenda in the parish office if you're willing to help in any way with the retreat!

TREASURED GIFTS FROM GOD WORKSHOP ... 3/29 7-9pm, St. Rose Parish, Girard. For all who work/volunteer with youth and children. Register at 330.545.4351.

CRS RICE BOWLS -- HUNGERING TO BUILD COMMUNITY... We follow Jesus this week on our Lenten journey as he enters Jerusalem, a community he knew well. CRS Rice Bowl asks us to prayerfully enter into our own communities, to find those who are hungry and thirsty, those who need our help. How does our Lenten journey motivate us to serve those we encounter in our daily lives? Visit crsricebowl.org.

Mar/Apr/May 2016 Ministry Schedule *ON-LINE:*
rotundasoftware.com/ministry/ReevesRoad

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Pat Campbell at the parish office as soon as possible...330-372-2215 X106 or pcampbell@bspcc.org. IF YOU DO NOT USE THE INTERNET, please do not be concerned. You can contact Pat if you want to volunteer to serve in your ministry at any "extra" services that are upcoming. TO ARRANGE FOR A SUBSTITUTE -- a call list will be provided with upcoming schedules or you can contact your coordinator. You can contact Pat and she will enter the request in the program and will notify you when someone responds positively to your request.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR PEACE

Join us the first Tuesday of the month -- April 5 -- to pray the Stations of the Cross for peace. Meet in the church at noon. (We'll pray the outside stations if the weather is warm and the path is dry enough!) This prayer will involve spoken prayer along with simple singing. Give voice to your desire for peace in this complicated world. Questions? Call Pat Campbell at the parish office.

BLESSING OF A CHILD IN THE WOMB ... All women who are expecting a child are invited to receive a Blessing of a Child in the Womb on the weekend of April 9/10 at all weekend Masses.

SPRING SCRIPTURE STUDY THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

Jesus is God's greatest victory and likewise he is the fulfillment of humanity's deepest longing. Because of the resurrection of Jesus, a new age has dawned and life will never be the same again. What exactly did happen on Easter morning? Why did it impel the disciples to begin a journey that would transform the world? This book will help you understand what the Scriptures teach us about our own resurrection and how that hope gives purpose to everything we do. *Tuesdays 7:30pm (following Evening Prayer) in the parlor, 4/12 -- 5/17. Register after Easter!!*

YOUTH MINISTRY / E.P.I.C. TEENS

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES ... Students -- please call Brooke in the parish office with your chosen Confirmation name!! Confirmation candidates need your prayers: cards are in the gathering space! Confirmation will be celebrated April 17.

SUMMER MISSION TRIP / iPlunge ... Teens entering grades 9-12 in the fall who are interested in a mission trip experience -- please call Brooke in the parish office for more info and to sign up for this summer's trip to Milford, OH to the Jesuit Spiritual Center.

Graduating High School Seniors ... Save the date!! Our annual Graduation Mass is **Sunday, May 29, at 11:00am**. (This is the weekend that our Summer Mass Schedule begins.) All graduating families will be invited to a small brunch following Mass in Holy Family Hall. Please start sending in your wallet size graduation pictures so we have a copy.

CARD MINISTRY ... **Thank you!!** Our parish Card Ministry sends cards four times/year...we have received 43 cards to send to our homebound parishioners, and stamps for mailing! Our inventory is low...if you have any cards -- Thinking of You, or Christmas cards, Easter cards -- and would care to donate them we would greatly appreciate all donations! Bring items to parish office. We would also appreciate volunteers who might enjoy this ministry...leave your name with Nancy at the parish office!

CONSOLATION MINISTRY OFFERS GRIEF SESSIONS

Anyone who has lost a loved one in the last two years and would like to learn about grief with others experiencing loss is invited to attend a four-week session. Terry Supancic, a grief facilitator, will lead the sessions. Sessions will be held on Tuesdays at 6pm in the Parish Library - April 19 & 26, and May 3 & 10. Please contact the parish office 330-372-2215 to register, or contact Terry directly at 330-219-6243.

PLEASE KEEP THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY IN YOUR PRAYERS

We continue to list our loved ones who are serving our country at the present time. Please keep them in prayer, as we do have some presently outside the United States.

Please also remember their loved ones who support these service people. Please continue to pray for the safety of all who serve our country! Please continue to pray for peace!

Prayer cards available at the Service Person Board in the gathering space.

SPRING GARAGE SALE

BY BLESSED SACRAMENT RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM

Blessed Sacrament's Relay for Life Team asks your support of this ANNUAL fundraiser, held TH March 31 -- SAT April 2.

- Please bring your saleable items to Covelli Gym TUES-WED 3/29 and 3/30.
- Please support the event, doors open TH & FRI 9am-3pm, and SAT 9am-12pm.
- Please consider donating baked goods for the Bake Sale at the event!
- Please join the team, and help at the event!!
- Contact Judy Gerrity with questions, 330.720-1400.

LITURGY CORNER

Our "Liturgy Corner" will return to the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* When the Easter Season ends (on Pentecost). For the next few weeks we will look at the special days ahead!

Today we offer a reprint from the Lent 2005 Newsletter (with updates from *The Roman Missal*) that takes us through the Triduum.

Triduum – Deepen the Journey of Faith

"We should glory in the cross of our Lord, Jesus Christ, who alone is our salvation and our life."

As the Sacred Triduum ("the three days") begins, we process into the church. Although the Triduum involves three different trips to the church (more, if we take part in morning or night prayer), it is really only one liturgy. It is one great liturgy that is so full it cannot be contained in one celebration. It covers three full days!

Holy Thursday we celebrate the Liturgy of the Lord's Supper. As we begin it looks very much like a regular weekend liturgy. The ministers process in as we sing the gathering song. Yes, the church has lost its Lenten environment and there is a blooming plant in front of the ambo (the lectern from which the readings are proclaimed). But wait, included in the procession are people carrying the oils we usually keep in the ambry (the small lighted cabinet on the column near the font). Carried in the procession are the oils blessed by Bishop Murry at our cathedral during Tuesday morning's Chrism Mass. These oils (Oil of Catechumens, Oil of the Sick, Sacred Chrism) are brought forward in procession and displayed in the sanctuary. That's a slight change from Sunday Mass, but ... wait...

"Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth."

We don't sing the "Gloria" during Lent. Suddenly we sing this song of joy and the church bells ring out. Something strange is happening.

The Liturgy of the Word tells the story of the Passover (Ex 12:1 – 8, 11-14) and Paul's reminder of the "handing on" of the sharing of the Eucharist (I Cor 11: 23 – 26). The Gospel tells us of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples. We pause and Father Eisweirth, assisted by our Permanent Deacon, chairperson of parish council and staff, bends to wash the feet of several parishioners.

"This is my example, love as I love you."

We listen to the challenges of the homily and then offer our Prayers of the Faithful. As the Liturgy of the Eucharist begins, we bring forward our gifts of bread and wine as well as food for the poor and the money we have collected in our Rice Bowls through the Lenten season. We sing:

***"Ubi caritas, et amor. Ubi caritas Deus ibi est."
(Where charity and love are, there is God.)***

Father sings the Eucharistic Prayer and we share in the Eucharist.

***"Blessed are we, blessed to be called,
called to the supper of the Lamb!***

***His sacrifice renewed, here Christ is our feast,
Our promise of the glory to come.***

The reserved Eucharist is not placed quietly in the tabernacle, but is instead left on the altar. As everyone is seated for silent prayer after receiving communion, Father Eisweirth stands and steps again to the altar where he incenses the Blessed Sacrament. He then picks up the ciborium and turns to begin the procession to the chapel of reservation. This doesn't usually happen during weekend liturgy! The cross bearer and

incense carrier begin the procession through the church. Everyone is welcome to join in the procession and it grows as it winds its way through the assembly. Father Eisweirth, carrying the Blessed Sacrament, walks at the end of the procession.

***"Sing, my tongue, the Savior's glory,
Of his flesh the mystery sing;
Of the blood, all price exceeding,
Shed by our immortal King,
Destined for the world's redemption,
From a noble womb to spring."***

After winding through the church the procession heads out the church doors, through the gathering space and into the chapel where the Blessed Sacrament is placed in the tabernacle, incensed, and the tabernacle doors are closed. Altar candles are lighted.

We return to the church in silence and then begin to "strip the altar".

***"Stay with me, remain here with me.
Watch and pray. Watch and pray."***

After clearing the sanctuary, the cross is covered and the lights go out.

No closing blessing has taken place. Our liturgy has not ended. We leave the church, some taking time in the chapel for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (available until midnight), and rest before our return to continue on Good Friday.

Silence picks up where we left off. All gather in a subdued mood. The joy of last night's "Gloria", the challenge of the foot washing (mandatum), and the power of the procession with the Blessed Sacrament and the emotions tied up with the stripping of the altar have left us thoughtful. We join together on Good Friday at 3 in the afternoon...

The first reading, from Isaiah, is one of the Servant Songs – "he was pierced for our offenses and crushed for our sins."

"Father, I put my life in your hands."

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John is solemnly proclaimed. We kneel at the words, "And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit."

Today is a very different celebration from those on Sundays. We listen to the homily and then stand for the Petitions. These are much longer than usual. The cross, covered last night, is uncovered...

***"Behold the wood of the cross
on which is hung the salvation of the world.
Come, let us adore."***

We then process again. This time we come forward to venerate the cross. We step forward and touch it reverently or lean in to kiss the wood of the cross. Some step up onto its strong base and wrap their arms around it. All come to touch the wood and are reminded of sacrifice, struggle and strength.

***"Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom."***

The Easter Vigil begins just after sundown. A fire burns in the Memorial Brick Plaza and, just as the service begins, everyone goes outside to stand around the fire as it is blessed and the new Paschal Candle is lighted from this blessed fire.

Entering the church with this new light, the light is spread through the church, candle to candle. The Paschal Candle is placed in the stand and is incensed. The beautiful Exsultet (Easter Proclamation) is sung.

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The collection, for the Holy Land, is made, but there is no procession of gifts. No bread, no wine. Instead, the deacon leaves the church with candle bearers and returns carrying the reserved Blessed Sacrament from the chapel of reservation. We solemnly share in the Eucharist, processing, yet again, to receive Christ's body. When all have received the Blessed Sacrament is taken to the tabernacle. We stand as Father Eisweirth prays the Prayer Over the People. We depart in silence. Again, the liturgy has not ended. We go back to our homes to continue our journey and to return in joy to celebrate the remainder of the Triduum.

"Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven, Exult, let Angel ministers of God exult, Let the trumpet of salvation sound aloud our mighty King's triumph!"

There it is! This is what we have come to proclaim. Jesus Christ is risen! We sit in darkness and hear the stories of salvation history. No night has ever been like this one! We keep vigil together and share our faith. Creation, the Exodus story, salvation offered freely to all ("come to the water"). The "Gloria" makes its return and the church is fully lit. We hear the Romans reading, "Are you not aware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?" We sing the "Alleluia" for the first time since Lent began. It ushers us to the empty tomb. Christ is risen! After the homily we call upon the saints and bless the water that now fills the font. We joyfully celebrate the baptism of several adults who have longed for this day. We are blessed with this holy water...

"Up from the waters, God has claimed you, up from the waters into life!"

We welcome new members to the Church and witness their confirmation. We finally sit back as the gifts are brought forward by our newest members. After this long journey we recognize what happens next. The Eucharistic Prayer is prayed, we process to receive the body and blood of Jesus and then, after three days, we reach the end of the liturgy, the end of the Triduum, and a new beginning ...

"Go in the peace of Christ, alleluia, alleluia! Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!"

The Triduum celebration continues with the liturgies of Easter Sunday. Our journey of faith? It goes on and on. We are fed by our participation in the Triduum celebration and are nourished by processing along the journey. It isn't over...it's just beginning.
Pat Campbell

MARRIAGE MOMENTS ... Growing old together: "I wanna make you smile whenever you're sad; Carry you around when your arthritis is bad. All I wanna do is grow old with you. I'll get your medicine when your tummy aches; Build you a fire if the furnace breaks. Oh it could be so nice, growing old with you."
from The Wedding Singer

St. Joe's at Mall: Mercy Health offering FREE (to uninsured/underinsured) PSA Prostate Screening for men 40+ years of age, TU 3/22, 5-7pm. Designed to educate men about the need for early detection of prostate cancer. 330.480.3405.

St. Dominic Parish, Ytn: Documentary film, "The Original Image of Divine Mercy" SUN 4/3, 3pm. Free. Prior to film, Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed. 330.783.1900.

Holy Family Church, Poland: invites teens & parents to hear missionaries speak about Sexual Integrity, SUN 4/3, 6pm. Stories of authentic love & commitment to faith, to restoring today's culture according to God's plan for our lives; music; sharing. Free. In coop with DOY Office of Pro-Life, Marriage & Family.

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