



Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church

132 Butcher Street, Bethalto, IL 62010

Website: <https://www.olqpbethalto.org/parish/>

Fr. Tom Liebler, Pastor

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PALM SUNDAY



Jesus has entered Jerusalem. Our forty-day penitential journey nears completion. Lent ends when we begin the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening. Ash Wednesday seems like only yesterday. Have we answered the Lord's call to prayer, fasting and almsgiving? It's not too late! Our procrastination keeps good company. The apostles were also often slow to catch on to the Lord's revelations (see Jn 12:16). Don't despair. Cling to the Church's liturgical schedule over the upcoming week — it may turn out to be the best week of our lives. As we enter Holy Week, be eager to tell others about the amazing liturgies awaiting us. With the Psalmist say, "I will proclaim Your name to my brethren; in

the midst of the assembly I will praise You" (Ps 22:23). On Holy Thursday, be awed as Jesus ordains His first priests and gifts us His Body and Blood (see Lk 22:17-20). At the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, reflect on Jesus' sacrifice. "And it was thus that He humbled Himself, obediently accepting even death, death on a cross!" (Phil 2:8) Then rejoice with the Church as many new Catholics enter into full communion with His Body at Holy Saturday's Easter Vigil. Finish with a flourish on Resurrection Sunday, "for it was impossible that death should keep its hold on Him" (Acts 2:24). Where will you spend your time over the next seven days? *One Bread, One Body, Presentation Ministries*

HOLY WEEK

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The night before He died, the Lord instituted the way He would remain with us forever. He could have remained with us in awesome majesty, in fire and cloud, as He did with the Israelites (Ex 19:16ff; 40:34-38). Instead, Jesus set aside His majesty and humbled Himself (Phil 2:6-8). He decided to remain with us in His Eucharistic Body and Blood. Jesus' Last Supper took place on the eve of the Jewish feast of Passover. The New Passover (1 Cor 5:7), the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, brings freedom from slavery to sin and from the tyranny of Satan and his kingdom of darkness. We are freed from sin and free to love God and to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters in Christ (1 Jn 3:16). Do you want Jesus to set you free? Then receive the Body and Blood of Jesus often at Mass. Receive His freeing, healing love. Then go forth to love and serve the Lord and His beloved people. *One Bread, One Body Presentation Ministries*



GOOD FRIDAY - LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

When we venerate the cross today, may we be totally committed to Him, repentant of all sins, and zealous for everyone to know our crucified Savior's love. If obedience, repentance, and evangelization are not our responses to Jesus' sacrificial death, the cross of Christ is "rendered void of its meaning" (1 Cor 1:17). The Lord wants us to leave church today willing to suffer anything so as to lead as many as possible to Jesus (1 Cor 9:19). After what Jesus has done for us, we must be willing to die, if only we can lead someone to Him. The greatest need of a starving person is not food but Jesus, the Bread of life. The greatest need of a wounded person is not healing but the Healer. It is certainly true that we probably can't evangelize someone who has an empty stomach; however, eternal salvation is of the greatest importance. Jesus will provide our daily bread and heal our wounds. Our need is not primarily for what Jesus can do; our primary need is the need for Jesus Himself. *One Bread, One Body, Presentation Ministries*

EASTER MASS OF THE RESURRECTION

Today is one of the greatest days in our lives. Alleluia! When we believe in our hearts that Jesus is risen from the dead (see Rm 10:9), everything is transformed and made new. Death no longer overshadows Life. The fear of death no longer enslaves us (Heb 2:15). Death has lost its sting (1 Cor 15:55). Death is not our enemy but our friend; it is not so much the end, but the beginning. We have "full confidence that now as always Christ will be exalted through" us, whether we "live or die" (Phil 1:20). For, to us, "life" means Christ; hence dying is so much gain" (Phil 1:21). Through Baptism and a life of faith, we have already "been raised up in company with Christ" (Col 3:1). We are "intent on things above rather than on things of earth" (Col 3:2). Now the main purpose of life is to be a witness that Jesus is risen from the dead (see Acts 10:41-42). Alleluia! Easter is new and now. *One Bread, One Body, Presentation Ministries*



Palm Sunday

Mass Intentions

Sat., Mar. 27 4:30 pm	Lenten Weekday For the Parishioners
Sun., Mar. 28 8:30 am 10:30 am	Palm Sunday Mary Cremeens, Darlene, Gladys & Victor Huebener Amy Yates
Mon., Mar. 29 8:30 am	Monday of Holy Week Virginia Forehand
Tues., Mar. 30 8:30 am	Tuesday of Holy Week Dorothy Harnetiaux
Wed., Mar. 31 6:30 pm	Wednesday of Holy Week Ray Matthews
Thur., Apr. 1 7:30 pm	Holy Thursday Nelson Gregory
Fri., Apr. 2 7:30 pm	Good Friday Ed Pilgrim
Sat., Apr. 3 7:30 pm	Holy Saturday Mary Cremeens, Darlene, Gladys & Victor Huebener
Sun., Apr. 4 8:30 am 10:30 am	Easter Sunday For the Parishioners Lee Bernt

Prayer Requests



The sick: Conor Vogel, Keita Salantai, Mary Wagner, Charlie Mattingly, Noah Rogers, Becky Gray, Marguerite Hufker, Dan McRae, Mary Overton, Don Laird, Maxine Calhoon, Gloria Matthews, Dianne Morin, Vi Perkhiser, Jane Rood, Bev Randolph, John Richter, Tim Zacha, Bob Maronie, Jennifer Price, Bob Graham, Kenneth Korsmeyer, Kennedy Stalcup, Robert and Pauline Lange. **For prayer requests in the bulletin, call the parish office, 377-6519. For prayer requests to be added to the email prayer chain, send requests to Marie at rejoy128@gmail.com**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

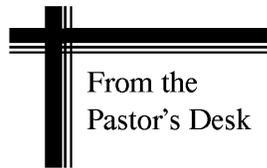
Bethalto Council #4688, 4th Degree #203, Grand Knight: Ryan Frazier; Email: bethaltoknight@gmail.com
Website: www.bethaltoknights.org

School Registration for New Families

If your child is not currently attending OLQP and you are interested in sending them to our parish school for the 2021/2022 school year, we ask that you contact the school office as soon as possible. In addition, **Preschool Registration** is now open and being filled on a first come, first served basis. For more information, call the school office (377-6401) at your earliest convenience.

Tuition Assistance—2021-2022

Parish Families who wish to apply for financial assistance for the upcoming school year are asked to do so as soon as possible, on line at: online.factsmgt.com/signin/3glyj Please note that all applications are kept in the strictest of confidence. If you have questions/need assistance, call parish office, 377-6519.



From the
Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

For over a year the people of our diocese have been given a general dispensation from attendance at Sunday/Saturday Eve Mass. Now that we have started the administration of the vaccines and more and more people are receiving them, the bishop feels that it is time to begin the return to mass for the parishioners of our diocese. He has established the Saturday evening anticipated mass for Divine Mercy Sunday, April 10, as the time for the ending of the general dispensation. He will officially announce this in his upcoming Catholic Times article. The bishop will end the dispensation but will put certain stipulations on the dispensation for some segments of the diocesan population, such as those over 65 years of age. I would highly recommend that we read the bishop's article to understand all of the ramifications of his decision, and how it will impact us individually.

Father Tom

Rest In Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **LaVerne Boehmans**, mother of **Sue Tiek**. May God grant her eternal rest.

Marriage Encounter

Does springtime give you a sense of wonder and fulfillment? On your wedding day, you and your spouse lovingly planted the seed of a lifelong relationship. A World-wide Marriage Encounter Experience will give you the tools you need to help your marriage grow and blossom more beautifully. The next encounter in the St. Louis, MO area will be virtual (April 23-25, 2021). For more information or to apply, go to wwme.org, or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317.

Mass Schedule for The Triduum & Easter

The most sacred and the last three days of Holy Week are known as the Triduum.

On **Holy Thursday** we will have the Mass of the Lord's Supper at **7:30 pm**. Following that service we will have **Adoration of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 p.m.** Unlike years past where different hours were offered, according to your last name, this year anyone is welcome to attend during the 7:30—10:00 pm time frame.

Good Friday we will celebrate the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at **7:30 pm**.

Holy Saturday we will welcome our Elect into the Church and proclaim the miracle of the Risen Christ with Mass at **7:30 pm**.

Easter Sunday we proclaim the miracle of the Risen Christ with Masses at 8:30 am and 10:30.

Sacrament of Confession

Father Tom is available for Confession every Saturday at 3:30 pm until 4:15 pm. In addition, he will be available these dates and times during Holy Week:

March 29 7:45 am—8:15 am

March 30 7:45 am—8:15 am

March 31 5:30 pm—6:15 pm

April 1 & 2 Immediately following Mass on Holy Thursday and Good Friday Service (at approximately 8:30 p.m.) If these options do not work for you, he is also available for Confession by appointment. Just give him a call.



A Meditation on the Readings

Does the King of glory find a welcome entry in your home and heart? Jesus went to Jerusalem knowing full well what awaited him - betrayal, rejection, and crucifixion. The people of Jerusalem, however, were ready to hail him as their Messianic King! Little did they know what it would cost this king to usher in his kingdom.

Jesus' entry into Jerusalem astride a colt was a direct fulfillment of the Messianic prophecy of Zechariah (9:9): Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, and riding on an donkey and upon a colt the foal of a donkey. Those who believe, hope, and love receive Christ's kingdom of peace and eternal life. The colt was a sign of peace. Jesus enters Jerusalem in meekness and humility, as the Messianic King who offers victory and peace to his people. That victory and peace would be secured in the cross and resurrection which would soon take place at the time of Passover. Augustine, the great 5th century church father, comments on the significance of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem: "The master of humility is Christ who humbled himself and became obedient even to death, even the death of the cross. Thus he does not lose his divinity when he teaches us humility... What great thing was it to the king of the ages to become the king of humanity? For Christ was not the king of Israel so that he might exact a tax or equip an army with weaponry and visibly vanquish an enemy. He was the king of Israel in that he rules minds, in that he gives counsel for eternity, in that he leads into the kingdom of heaven for those who believe, hope, and love. It is a condescension, not an advancement for one who is the Son of God, equal to the Father, the Word through whom all things were made, to become king of Israel. It is an indication of pity, not an increase in power." (Tractates on John 51.3-4) Psalm 24 is another prophetic passage which echoes this triumphal procession of the King of glory: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. Jesus Christ came to bring us the kingdom of God. He is the true King who offers peace, joy, and everlasting life for those who accept his kingship. Does the King of glory find a welcome entry in your heart and home? Do your walls echo with the praise of his glory? "Lord Jesus, be the King and Ruler of my heart, mind, life, and home. May my life reflect your meekness and humility that you may be honored as the King of glory!"

This reflection is courtesy of Don Schwager © 2021. Don's website is located at Dailyscripture.net



"GIVE A LITTLE"

ENVELOPE FUNDRAISER

Deadline to participate: May 2, 2021

There are still some envelopes remaining. If we can fill them all, the parish will receive donations totaling \$20,100. This fundraiser will assist in taking the place of other fundraisers that could not be held in 2020. Every donation helps us get to our goal, no matter the size!!!

How It Works:

- You select an envelope** from 1-200, by **one** of the following ways:
 - Go online to: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c49a8a828a3fcc61-give>
Sign up for an envelope and it will be mailed or delivered to you.
 - Call or text: Amy Frisch, 618-444-7715 or Connie Gibson, 618-593-0038. Tell them which envelope you would like to have and it will be sent to you.
 - Go in to parish office to sign up for/pick up an envelope.
 - Envelopes will be available after all the Masses the weekends of April 10/11, April 17/18, May 1/2.
- You will then place the dollar value** that corresponds to that number (i.e. Envelope #23, pay \$23, #145, pay \$145, and so on.) Only checks or cash will be accepted. Make checks payable to OLQP.
- Return envelope** to parish via postal mail, collection basket or parish office, no later than May 2.
- Your name will be placed in a drawing** that will offer the winner, double their money back (i.e. donate \$1/get back \$2; donate \$200/get back \$400). Drawing will be held on 12 noon on May 2, 2021.

Palm Sunday, 'King of the Jews' (Mark 14:1-15:47)



They couldn't kill him for blasphemy, a religious crime Rome didn't recognize. But they could put him to death for a political crime like treason. So Jesus died under the accusation, "King of the Jews." He had no throne, no army, no power to threaten governments. But he threatened a lot of people with the power to change hearts.



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