



St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
March 24, 2024**

Parish Mission

We are one Church: loving Jesus,
serving Jesus, and sharing Jesus.

Parish Vision

We are a vibrant Catholic church
serving a diverse community in a
safe and welcoming environment
where we care for all people
along their faith journey.

Core Values

Discipleship • Hospitality
Service • Worship

Promise of Life

Lord God, you entered Jerusalem in triumph,
and we shouted, "Hosanna!"

As the Lenten journey closes,
may I continue to remember your sacrifice and love.
Give me the strength to follow your cross.
May my heart find serenity and joy in your promise.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Scripture quotations are from the *New American Bible*, revised edition.
Permission to publish granted by the Archdiocese of Chicago.



Confessions During Holy Week

This Wednesday, traditionally known as "Spy Wednesday," is the last day for confessions during the season of Lent. Priests will be available on Wednesday at 12:00 noon and then from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. on the hour. "On the hour" means that the priest will be in the confessional at the "top of the hour" and stay as long as needed. If no one is present at the top of the hour, the priest will wait for ten minutes and then leave until the next hour.

These are the last opportunities for confessions during Holy Week. During the Sacred Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday, there will be no confessions.

Holy Week Schedule

Monday, March 25

Chism Mass • 7:00 p.m.
Blessing of Oils and Priests'
Renewal of Commitment
St. Mary Cathedral

"Spy" Wednesday, March 27

Confessions 12:00 noon, and
"on the hour" 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.
*Please note there will be no
scheduled confession times during
the Sacred Triduum of Holy Thursday,
Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.*

Holy Thursday, March 28

Morning Prayer • 9:00 a.m.
Mass of the Lord's Supper • 7:30 p.m.
Eucharistic Adoration
9:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Good Friday, March 29

Morning Prayer • 9:00 a.m.
Passion of the Lord • 12:00 p.m.
Passion of the Lord (Bilingual)
3:00 p.m.
Passion of the Lord • 7:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday, March 30

Morning Prayer • 9:00 a.m.
Easter Vigil Mass • 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, March 31

6:30 a.m. • 8:30 a.m. • 10:30 a.m.
3:00 p.m. (Bilingual)

Parish Easter Egg Hunt

To celebrate the season of Easter, an Egg Hunt will be held for parish children on **Easter Sunday, March 31**, between the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Masses (approximately 9:45 a.m.). The hunt will take place on the fields behind Church. For more information, contact the parish office.



1913 Ritter Drive • Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63701
573-335-7667 • Fax 573-335-0034 • www.svcape.com

Serving the Catholic Community since April 9, 1836

• Mass Intentions •

Monday, March 25 Monday of Holy Week

6:30 am Anita Worl Family (living)

Tuesday, March 26 Tuesday of Holy Week

6:30 am Living and Deceased Members
of the Ron Worl Family

Wednesday, March 27

Wednesday of Holy Week

6:30 am Simon John Bisher ☩

5:15 pm Tom LeGrand ☩

Thursday, March 28 Holy Thursday

7:30 pm World Peace

Friday, March 29

Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord

12:00 pm Passion of the Lord

3:00 pm Passion of the Lord (Bilingual)

7:30 pm Passion of the Lord

Saturday, March 30 Holy Saturday

7:30 pm RCIA Candidates and Their Intentions

Sunday, March 31

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

6:30 am Henry and Kathleen Himmelberg ☩

8:30 am Jeff Bohnert ☩

10:30 am St. Vincent de Paul Parish Family

3:00 pm Living and Deceased Members of the
(Bilingual) Anthony and Patricia Grasso Family

• Prayer Requests •

Please remember **Pat Wells**, the sick, the hospitalized, and those who care for them. Pray also for homebound St. Vincent parishioners.



Congratulations to

Paul and Lyndsey Unterreiner
as they celebrate their
15th Wedding Anniversary.

*Please continue to pray for all married
couples and those preparing for marriage.*

? GUESS WHO ?

Question: Which priest will celebrate the anniversary of his Ordination on March 24 and his favorite church hymn is "For You Are My God" by John Foley?

Answer: Father Rick Jones was ordained on March 24, 1990, and his favorite church hymn is "For You Are My God" by John Foley.

Good stewards strive to conform their lives to that of Christ - emptying themselves of all pride and putting themselves at the service of others.



Holy Week

Dear Parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul,
Today begins the greatest week of the year for Christians. We learn this Holy Week how to Love Jesus, to Serve Jesus and how to Share Jesus with others. We do this by making a journey together. Just like the first disciples of Jesus during that first holiest of weeks, we live in grief, despair, and confusion. We do not remain there because we grow into faith, hope and inexpressible joy. It is my desire that as we participate with our Parish Family during the magnificent richness of Holy Week and Easter, the journey will enrich our understanding of the great truth of God's true love for us and bring us profound peace and joy. Enjoy this Holiest of Weeks!

Peace,

Father Rick L. Jones

Prepare for Easter by making a Good Confession this week.

Here's how to go to Confession!

You say at the beginning of the Confession:

Bless me, Father, for I have sinned.

It has been _____ days/weeks/months/years since my last confession, and these are my sins.

Here is a brief Examination of Conscience to help you identify sins.

- Did I doubt or deny that God exists?
- Did I love God with my whole heart?
- Did I give time to God each day in prayer?
- Did I curse, or break an oath or vow?
- Did I lie?
- Did I commit perjury?
- Did I waste time at work, school, or at home?
- Did I deliberately deceive others, or injure others by lies?
- Did I gossip or reveal others' faults or sins?
- Did I show reverence Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament?
- Did I miss Mass Sunday or a Holy Day of Obligation through my own fault?
- Did I neglect my duties to my husband, wife, children or parents?
- Did I neglect to give good religious example to my family?
- Did I get angry, impatient, envious, unkind toward another person?
- Did I show pride, vengeance, jealousy, or hate toward another?
- Did I give a bad example by drug abuse, drinking alcohol to excess?
- Did I steal, cheat, or encourage others to steal or keep stolen goods?
- Have I made restitution for stolen goods?

Listen to the priest and the counsel that he gives you and the penance he instructs you to do. He will then ask you to recite the Act of Contrition, which can be found below. The priest will then absolve you of your sins and you may go and do the penance that the priest gave you.

The Act of Contrition: My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy. Amen.

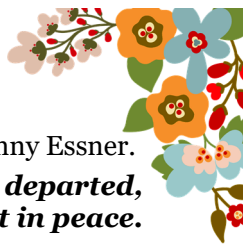
May They Rest in Peace

Sympathy is extended to the families of:

Scott Joseph Tygett, son of Anita Tygett; and

Dennis Essner, father of Blake Essner and brother of Danny Essner.

*May they and all the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*



Congratulations to ...

*Father Rick Jones as he celebrates the 34th Anniversary
of his Ordination to the Priesthood on March 24, 2024.*

Chrism Mass

Cathedral of St. Mary of the Annunciation

The **Mass of Chrism** is celebrated on Monday evening, **March 25, 2024**, at St. Mary Cathedral beginning at 7:00 p.m. During the Mass, the bishop and priests renew their commitment of service to God's people and olive oil is blessed for the sacramental celebrations of Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick, and Ordination. All are invited.

Spy Wednesday

Holy Week's "Spy Wednesday" gets its name because this is the day on which Judas betrayed Jesus to Jewish leaders. Because Judas is thought to be sneaky, his actions conjured up the image of a spy. See Matthew 25:12-14, Mark 14:10-12, and Luke 22:3-6.



Holy Thursday Pilgrimage to Seven Churches

March 28, 2024

7:30 PM-Midnight

Adoration and prayer: reflect on the "seven stations" of Jesus between the Last Supper and His crucifixion.

Join the St. Vincent Youth Group for the Mass of the Lord's Supper @ St. Vincent @ 7:30, and then travel to 7 churches together, with adoration and prayer. Pancake breakfast at the Kelso KC Hall will be provided at 11 pm. Please RSVP, by Sunday March 24 to Tiff Brey.

For more information email Tiff @ stvcapeyouth@gmail.com.

The youth leaders will have a list of churches & the prayers.

Please RSVP ASAP, so we can arrange transportation.

All teens will be dropped back off at St. Vincent following the breakfast.

Parents are welcome to journey with us on this pilgrimage as well.

Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend.



• The Week Ahead •

Monday, March 25

7:00 pm Chrism Mass (St. Mary Cathedral)

Tuesday, March 26

6:00 pm Tuesday Evening Bible Study

Wednesday, March 27

8:00 am Ugly Quilts
9:00 am Wednesday Morning Bible Study
3:00 pm Divine Mercy Holy Hour
12:00 pm Reconciliation
4:00 pm Reconciliation
(on the hour until 8:00 pm)
6:00 pm RCIA
6:15 pm Alpha

Thursday, March 28

9:00 am Morning Prayer
9:00 am Maxine's Shareable Wearables
(9:00 - 11:00 am)
9:00 am Thursday Morning Bible Study
7:30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
Adoration following until midnight

Friday, March 29

9:00 am Morning Prayer
12:00 pm Passion of the Lord
3:00 pm Passion of the Lord (Bilingual)
7:30 pm Passion of the Lord

Saturday, March 30

9:00 am Morning Prayer
7:30 pm Easter Vigil Mass

Sunday, March 31

6:30 am Easter Mass
8:30 am Easter Mass
9:45 am Easter Egg Hunt
10:30 am Easter Mass
3:00 pm Easter Mass (Bilingual)

*In celebration of Easter,
the parish office will be closed
Good Friday, March 29, and
Easter Monday, April 1.*

Readings - March 31, 2024

Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43
Colossians 3:1-4 • John 20:1-9

Collection - March 17, 2024

Collection	\$ 22,906.82
E-Tithing	\$ 362.00
Total	\$ 23,268.82
Weekly Budget	\$ 34,200.00
Difference (7-1-23 to 3-17-24)	\$ 62,401.07

*Thank you for being good
stewards of God's gifts!*

Do you know that every week St. Vincent de Paul sends out an email of events happening in the parish? This is a great communication tool and it helps to keep people connected. If you would like to be a part of this communication, contact stvincentcapegirardeau@gmail.com and you will be added to the list.

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Blessing of Oils and Priests'
Renewal of Commitment
St. Mary Cathedral

"Spy" Wednesday, March 27

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12:00 p.m., 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

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scheduled confession times during
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Morning Prayer • 9:00 a.m.

Easter Vigil Mass • 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, March 31

Easter Masses

6:30 a.m. • 8:30 a.m. • 10:30 a.m.
3:00 p.m. (Bilingual)



Operation Rice Bowl

Join St. Vincent Parish, and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States, in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's rice bowl from the gathering area and let it be your ticket to global solidarity as you **pray, fast, learn** and **give** this Lent in order to change the lives of brothers and sisters in need. Please place your Rice Bowl offerings in an envelope and return to church on Good Friday. Remember, what you give up for Lent changes lives.

Guidelines for Fasting/Abstinence during Lent

Abstinence is a penitential practice consisting of refraining from the consumption of meat and is to be observed by all Catholics who are 14 years of age and older. Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and the Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence. **Fasting** is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday for ages 18 - 59 (inclusive). The Church defines fasting as one meal a day, and two smaller meals which if added together would not exceed the main meal, as well as no eating between meals.

Note: If a person is unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, they are urged to practice other forms of self-denial suitable to their condition.

Pontifical Good Friday Collection

Pope Francis has asked all parishes to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines.

The pandemic hit particularly hard the Christians in the Holy Land. Most of them depend on pilgrimages to work. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection is also necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land where the Church was born.

When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Please be generous!

For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-Friday.

Beatitude Boxes / Bags

During the season of Lent, the parishioners of St. Vincent were invited to collect food and paper items for distribution to the needy. **Beatitude Boxes** are filled with specific food items and **Beatitude Bags** are filled with specific paper products. **Please return your donated items to the designated boxes in the gathering area no later than Friday, March 29.**



Easter will be celebrated next Sunday and the Elect and Candidates are making final

preparations to enter the Catholic Church. Their names and pictures are on a poster board in the gathering area. Please consider writing a note of congratulations to each and dropping it in the box by the poster prior to the Easter Vigil Mass. Also, as you see them at church, personally introduce yourself and welcome them into our parish community.

Deacon Mark Kiblinger
RCIA Coordinator

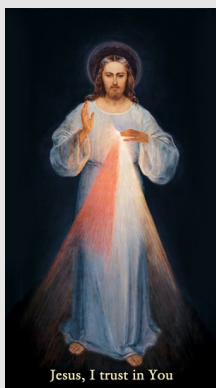
EXTEND MERCY TOWARDS OTHERS,
SO THAT THERE CAN BE NO ONE IN NEED WHOM YOU MEET WITHOUT HELPING.
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Worldwide Marriage Encounter presents weekend experiences for married couples to rekindle romance, enhance meaningful communication, and deepen and renew commitment. Below are upcoming Spring, Summer, and Fall 2024 experiences. Sign up now as space is limited. For more information or to apply, go to wwme.org, or call Terry and Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317. Upcoming dates include ...

- **April 5-7, 2024 • St. Peters, Missouri**
- **August 2-4, 2024 • St. Peters, Missouri**
- **September 27-29, 2024 • St. Peters, Missouri**
- **October 11-13, 2024 • Springfield, Illinois**

*All married couples and religious who previously took part in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend are invited to a **community meeting** on **Sunday, April 14, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.** at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 316 S. Spanish Street, Cape Girardeau. If planning to attend, RSVP to Alicia Schumer at 573-225-8776. Please bring your dialogue journal.*



Divine Mercy Sunday April 7, 2024

"I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it.

By means of this image I shall be granting many graces to souls."

(St. Faustina's Diary, 341)

"Through the Chaplet you will obtain everything if what you ask for is compatible with My will."

(St. Faustina's Diary, 1731)

Old St. Vincent's Church

Corner of William and Main Streets

2:00 p.m. - Confessions and Eucharistic Adoration

3:00-4:00 p.m. - Divine Mercy Holy Hour

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." Docility in prayer is essential to vocation discernment. Are you open to a vocation as a priest, deacon, sister, or brother? Talk to Father Rick Jones or reach out to Father Alexander Sutachan at asutachan@dioscrg.org.

Notre Dame Regional High School News

- **Notre Dame Regional High School presents *Bugsy Malone*.** Performances will be held on **April 11, April 12, April 13, and April 14** at Notre Dame's Cynthia R. King Performance Hall. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday shows will begin at 7:00 p.m., while the Sunday performance will be a matinee beginning at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at www.notredamehighschool.org/musical.
- **Notre Dame Regional High School will host Youth Camps this summer.** They will offer a variety of sports, arts, and science camps for grades K-8. Browse camp offerings and register online at www.notredamehighschool.org/camps2024/.

• Contact Information •

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contactus@svparish.com / 573-335-7667

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Superintendent of Schools /

Diocesan Chancellor

Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau

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Gail Overbey, Mass Scheduler

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For information on the **St. Vincent Summer Care Program 2024**, please call the school office at 573-334-9594 or visit the website at <https://www.svscape.net/summercare>.



DECLINE TO SIGN

10 Reasons ...

1. Parental Consent laws will be eliminated
2. Partial-birth / Late-term abortions on demand
3. Abortion - all nine months
4. Health and Safety standards eliminated
5. Missouri's 52+ pro-life laws will be eliminated
6. Women lose ability to sue for malpractice
7. PRCs forced to refer for abortion
8. Ultrasound eliminated
9. Significant \$ Loss to Missouri
10. Taxpayer-funded abortion

Be a Pro-Life Voice!
missourilife.org

For those of you who are doing your annual spring cleaning and would like to donate your unwanted items to the annual Catholic Social Ministry Food Pantry yard sale, it will be held on July 25 - 27. You may drop your items off starting on Monday, July 22, at St. Mary's School Gym. More info will follow at a later date.

Job Opportunities

The Cape Girardeau LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home will be opening its doors soon to homeless pregnant women and is currently accepting applications for a part time Mental Health Counselor and a full time Registered Nurse.

Mental Health Counselor: This part time position provides individual and group counseling for residents who are currently living at the LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home, as well as clients in the aftercare program as requested or appropriate. This role may provide a therapeutic perspective for staff. Required: Masters in social work, counseling or psychology, licensure or provisional Licensure with active supervision, and a valid driver's license, a reliable vehicle, and proof of insurance.

Registered Nurse: The nurse coordinates the physical health and wellness care of the residents and young children of the LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home and other maternal and family Program services (i.e., Aftercare program, Dedicated Dads, etc.). This role provides health education, screening, monitoring, resource referral, and general health support. Must be a registered nurse (RN) with a minimum of two years with direct patient care, experience in maternal child health services, a valid driver's license, a reliable vehicle, and proof of insurance. For more information please contact Sara Dockins, Director of LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home in Cape Girardeau at 417-430-4217.

Saint Denis School in Benton, Missouri, is seeking a Principal/Educator for the 2024-2025 school year.

Responsibilities will include leadership in the school environment as a community of faith, as well as providing an instructional and professional leadership to the school faculty, as well being able to fill the capacity of a classroom teacher.

A qualified candidate must be an active and practicing Catholic, possess Missouri certification, as well as possessing a master's degree in School Administration (or are working towards it). Administrative experience is preferred, and 3-5 years of Catholic school experience is desired as well.

To request an application, please contact Fr. Daniel Belken at Saint Denis Parish, Benton, Missouri, at 573-545-3864, or email frbelken@stdenisbenton.org.

Welcome to St. Vincent de Paul

If you would like to register for the parish, change your address, or simply have questions, please fill out the form and place it in the collection basket. You may also mail it to the parish office at 1913 Ritter Drive, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701. Please feel free to contact parish office staff anytime during regular office hours, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. You may email the parish office at contactus@svparish or call 573-335-7667. A parish registration form is available at <http://www.svcape.com/Parish/>.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

☐ I am new to Cape Girardeau.

☐ I have been attending St. Vincent Parish and would like to register as a member.

☐ I would like to learn more about the Catholic faith.

☐ I would like to register my child/children for Parish School of Religion.

☐ I am new to St. Vincent de Paul Parish.

☐ Please change my address to the one shown above.

☐ I would like to sign up for Faith Direct.

This Week at Home

A Precious Offering

Monday, March 25

In today's Gospel we see how Mary, Lazarus' sister, takes what may have been her most precious possession and used it to anoint Jesus' feet. We are also given opportunities to give the very best of ourselves. Today, examine whether you have gifts within you that you hold back. Who would benefit from those gifts? *Today's readings: Isaiah 42:1-7; Psalm 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14; John 12:1-11.*

Judas Is Humanity

Tuesday, March 26

Imagine how Jesus would have felt knowing that Judas was about to betray him. He surely was troubled but also hurt. Let us also imagine what may have been in the mind and heart of Judas. In Judas we can see all of humanity reflected: the emptiness of greed and envy, the alienation and loneliness of sin. However much we strive to be like Jesus, we will always meet our flaws and shortcomings. In Christ, however, we are strengthened to do good in the world despite our failings. As we approach the celebration of the resurrection and prepare for the renewal of our baptismal promises, resolve to let the new life that Christ gives to well up within you. *Today's readings: Isaiah 49:1-6; Psalm 7:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15, 17; John 13:21-33, 36-38.*

Second Chances

Wednesday, March 27

Much can be learned from Judas' betrayal. Perhaps by examining Judas' actions, we can right our failings. Consider how you can explore and acknowledge what keeps you from God. This week reflect on the times you preferred a path other than God's. How did following another way disturb your relationship with God and others? Trust in God's promise of forgiveness for all who truly repent. *Today's readings: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 69:8-10; 21-22, 31, 33-34; Matthew 26:14-25.*

Serving Others

Thursday, March 28

Tonight, with the Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Sacred Paschal Triduum begins. Humbling himself, Jesus washed and dried the feet of the disciples. Just as he washed their feet, by his resurrection, he washed away our sins. Perhaps you have an elderly parent, neighbor, or relative with impaired movement. How can you humble yourself and be of service to another? *Mass of the Lord's Supper: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15.*

Symbol of Love

Friday, March 29

During the Adoration of the Holy Cross in today's liturgy, the faithful are invited to process to the cross and offer a sign of reverence. Even when you are unable to attend this service, spend time in quiet contemplating Jesus' surrender of himself on the cross. How are you asked to surrender yourself to the crosses in your life? *Celebration of the Passion of the Lord: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25; Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42.*

Beacon of Light in the Darkness

Saturday, March 30

Jesus has died and descended into hell but the darkness surrounding us is only temporary. The light of the world will shine brightly once more, and soon enough it will defeat the darkness. *Today's readings: Genesis 1:1-2:2; Psalm 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 or Psalm 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22; Genesis 22:1-18; Psalm 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11; Exodus 14:15-15:1; Exodus 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18; Isaiah 54:5-14; Psalm 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13; Isaiah 55:1-11; Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Ezra 3:6-16-17a, 18-28; Psalm 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 or Isaiah 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Psalm 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Romans 6:3-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Mark 16:1-7.*

Sunday, March 24

Never Alone

Today's readings: Gospel at the procession Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16; Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Philippians 2:6-11; Mark 14:1-15:47.

Today's readings leave us much to ponder. During the Gospel at the procession, a crowd welcomes Jesus to Jerusalem, singing, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" At the end of the Gospel from Mark, Jesus was not hailed but reviled as passersby taunted, "You who would destroy the temple in three days, save yourself by coming down from the cross."

In the last verses from Mark's Gospel, we witness the faith of the steadfast disciples, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of younger James and Joses, and Salome. These women had followed Jesus in Galilee, stood by until his death, and watched where he was laid in a tomb. Apparent, too, is the faith of Joseph of Arimathea, who wrapped Jesus in linen and laid him in the tomb.

Also obvious in the Gospel is the wavering faith of those who had followed Jesus for three years. Not only did Judas betray Jesus, but Peter could not stay awake with him as he prayed in the garden, and later Peter denied him three times. The Gospel proclaimed today does not record the apostles' presence at the crucifixion.

During Holy Week, Christians have the opportunity to be with Christ as his last days are recalled. Take to heart Jesus' words to the apostles in Gethsemane: "Remain here and keep watch."

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