

PALM SUNDAY of the Lord's Passion

Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
APRIL 2, 2023



**MOST HOLY REDEEMER
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
100 Diamond Street
San Francisco, California
415-863-6259
www.mhr.org

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Simon Fung

Michael Kirkland

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James Lonergan

Trudy Miller

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Sr. Marilyn Morgan

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Stephen McCarthy

John Solaegui

Diane Trewin



Collection - Weekend of March 26

5pm -	\$514.00
8am -	\$686.00
10am -	\$893.00
6:30pm -	\$61.00
Online Giving -	\$1,324.00
Total -	\$3,479.00
Budgeted -	\$4,500.00

This weekend there is a second collection for the MHR Music Program.

Thank you for your continued support!

CURRENT WORSHIP HOURS
Daily Mass: M - F 8am
Saturday Vigil Mass: 5pm
Sunday Masses: 8am, 10am & 6:30pm
Holy Days: 8am & 7pm
Reconciliation: Saturdays 3:45pm - 4:30pm

THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

Daily Mass
Monday - Wednesday 8:00am
Monday, April 3
Centering Prayer 7pm (Zoom)
Wednesday, April 5
Wednesday Night Suppers 1pm - 7pm
Stations of the Cross in the Castro - 7pm
Holy Thursday, April 6
Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7pm
Good Friday, April 7
Church open for quiet prayer Noon - 3pm
Passion of the Lord - 7pm
Holy Saturday, April 8
Easter Vigil Mass - 8pm
Easter Sunday April 9
Masses: 8am, 10am & 6:30pm
Join us for Coffee Hour after the 8am & 10am Masses

FACE COVERINGS ARE RECOMMENDED.

Livestream the 10am Sunday Mass
on our MHR Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/mhrsf



APRIL 3 - 9

Monday: Is. 42:1-7, Jn. 12:1-11
Tuesday: Is. 49:1-6, Jn. 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday: Is. 50:4-9a, Mt. 26:14-25
**Holy Thursday: Ex. 12:1-8, 11-14, 1Cor. 11:23-24,
Jn. 13:1-15**
**Good Friday: Is. 52:13-53:12, Heb. 4:14-16; 5:7-9
Jn. 18:1-19:42**
**Holy Saturday: Gn. 1:1-2:2, Ex. 14:14-15:1,
Is. 55:1-11, Bar. 3:9-15, 32-4:4, Rom. 6:3-11,
Mt. 28:1-10**
**Easter Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43, Col. 3:1-4 or
1Cor. 5:6b-8, Jn. 20:1-9**

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Palm Sunday is not a liturgy for the faint-hearted. We start with a Gospel reading and procession, followed by the full eucharistic celebration. Selections from Isaiah and Paul place Jesus' last hours in Jewish and Christian theological contexts and frame the solemn proclamation of the Passion according to Matthew. Altogether, the Liturgy of the Word reminds us that Jesus' death was neither accidental nor blind fate but a destiny that he faced in conscious freedom.

We can safely assume that the early church and probably even Jesus himself interpreted the Passion through the lens of Isaiah's famous Servant Songs. Our first reading, the third of these, focuses on the servant's keen awareness of God's presence in the midst of suffering. The servant summarizes his entire approach to life with the line, "Morning after morning God opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not turned back." Paul elaborates on Jesus' servant attitude in the hymn he quotes for the Philippians. According to Paul, Jesus made no pretense of being above suffering. As the model for humanity, he did not grasp for majesty, but exemplified acceptance (obedience) of his vocation to be the very image of God through self-giving.

No threat or pain, not even death, would sway him from being true to who he was. Jesus' obedience, an attitude that sprung from his relationship to God, impelled him to face freely the definitive conflict of his life. Jesus' clearest expression of the decision to confront the powers aligned against him came with his entry into Jerusalem, every detail of which revealed who he was even as his actions fulfilled ancient prophecies. He could have processed in with the crowds like any other pilgrim. But no, fully aware of its prophetic symbolism, Jesus rode a common work animal into the city.

The rabbi who wove a parable about the scandal of not dressing properly for a wedding banquet reenacted the prophecy of Zechariah (9:9-10) in an extravagant, festive, yet humble illustration of his attractive power, a power that could defeat the oppression of status, weapons, horses and chariots. The route Jesus chose recalled Zechariah's prophecy that the day of the Lord begin with God's feet planted on the Mount of Olives (Zechariah 14); the people's decision to wave branches and pave the way with their cloaks signaled their recognition of him as God's chosen king (2 Kings 9).

Obedient to his discernment of God's will, Jesus entered Jerusalem as a messiah who would not meet any human expectations.

Beginning with that, we can listen to Matthew's Passion narrative attentive to learning how Jesus confronted evil.

Never falling into the role of a victim, Jesus remained the protagonist. At the supper, he used and modified the traditional blessings to indicate that he inaugurated the new covenant. In dialogue with those who would betray him, he offered compassion. Facing those who tortured and sentenced him, he refused to argue, knowing that his vision and power had no common ground with theirs.

At the end, using the words of a psalm, he shouted at God in utter desolation: "Why have you abandoned me?"

This cry of the heart is the ultimate prayer. Jesus, representing every human being who has striven to be faithful and feels a failure in every way, could do no more than lament before God. This was the last gasp of one who believed in God more than in his own expectations. Even while feeling deserted, he turned to the God he could never fully comprehend.

There is no greater act of faith than to pray in the midst of such desolation.

Matthew tells us that when Jesus cried his last lament, the veil of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The veil that marked the separation of holy and profane was ripped apart, starting from heaven. In Jesus, a vulnerable, loving God had become visible and inseparable from creation.

Palm Sunday leaves us there, in death and desperation. Faithful disciples did the little they could by burying him and watching where he was laid. During the Triduum, we will again remember the events of Jesus' last days. We are invited to watch him, to learn from him what it means to have faith. We are encouraged to go to the depths with him, knowing that he goes with us.

The opening liturgy of Holy Week calls us to be stouthearted. It reminds us that the godliness to which we would naturally cling has nothing to do with the God of Jesus. This is the time to watch and pray and let Jesus lead us to new depths.—**Sr. Mary M. McGlone, Contributor to the National Catholic Reporter**



*Our Mass celebrants will remember the following intentions
during the celebration of the Eucharist:*

Saturday, April 1

5pm

Sunday, April 2

8am Maria Cobarrubias †

10am Kenny Kehoe (L)

6:30pm MHR Parishioners

Monday, April 3

8am

Tuesday, April 4

8am

Wednesday, April 5

8am Wednesday Night Suppers

Thursday, April 6

7pm Lorraine D'Anon †

Mass Intentions are celebrated for those to remember a loved one, honor someone on an important date or celebrate a special occasion. To schedule a Mass Intention or sponsor the weekend altar flowers, please call the parish office at 415-863-6259 or email secretary@mhr.org.

A decorative banner with a blue and white geometric pattern. The words "Prayer Requests" are written in a white, cursive, handwritten-style font across the center of the banner.

Jerry Anderson, Ino Austria, Rodolfo Cruz Baclig, Bob Barcewski, Laura Barrera, Joseph Bielanski, Anna Bycholski, Rodolfo Degala, Joy Chase Dickey, Kris Eichorn, Barbara Frey, Carol Furtado, Torchy Garcia, Eileen Gayton, Mary Geracimos, Stella Grivas, Wallace Greene, Marcia Gruskin, Serge Hubert, Donald Jones, Kenny Kehoe, Jill Laufenberg, Michael Leonard, Patricia Ligos, Christine Maierhofer, Anne McDermott, Ronald & Sharon Martinkus, Trudy Miller, Michael Mitchell, Carol Moilan, Ben Montoya, Cliff Morrison, Peggy Myers, John Notor, Nadia O'Donnell, Modesta Orque, Pamela Pope, Meme Riordan, Maureen O'Sullivan, Hugh & Colleen Pettis, Pamela Pope, Carlos Rodriguez, Bobby Schulte, Bob Schultz, Gregory Dake Schultz, Annie & Nok Sojka, Joseph & Mary Vouglas, Maureen Vouglas, Yoko Yoshi, Stephen Wakefield, Sr. Teresita Weindt, Ryan Zuniga, †Daniel Cioffi†, †Brad Payton† and †Anne Poelzl†.



COMMUNITY LIFE

Visit us:

On the web: www.mhr.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/mhrsf

Instagram: [mhrcatholicsf](https://www.instagram.com/mhrcatholicsf)

Centering Prayer is meeting via Zoom on Monday evenings @ 7:00pm.
Email centering@mhr.org for Zoom login details.

Bible Study on upcoming Sunday readings meets via Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 7pm.
Email biblestudy@mhr.org for login and for more information.

Young Adults Group: Meetings are on hiatus. Email yag@mhr.org for info.

Christian Healing Prayer Group: Please join us on the first Thursday of each month at 2pm in the Church. Email markwbass@yahoo.com for information.

An Auto External Defibrillator is located in hallway next to the women's restroom in Ellard Hall.



Most Holy Redeemer HIV/AIDS Support Group

Volunteers Needed: If you have 1-2 hours a week and can help with one of these needs, please call the Support Group office for more information (863-6259 xt10) or email: asg@mhr.org.

A man who uses a wheelchair and lives in ParkMerced (near Stonestown & SF State) is looking for someone to visit and occasionally go to movies.

A man in his 60s, living on Fillmore near McAllister, is looking for company. He is interested in watching movies, science-fiction, and Buddhism. Good listening skills are required.

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY BIRTHDAYS

**Tom Battipaglia, Laura McCloskey, Darryl Cooper,
Elizabeth Kupfer, Morgan McEvilly, Tom Lucas,
Douglass Hammerich, John Johnson, Robert Kwan,
Michael Snider and John Bogacki.**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The MHR Environment Committee needs volunteers to assist in decorating the Church on Saturday, April 9 from 9am to 3pm for Easter. Thank you!

CALLA LILIES NEEDED!

The Environment Committee is in need of Calla Lilies for Holy week and beyond. If you happen have any growing in your yard and want to donate them, please drop them off at the parish office during Holy Week and anytime after Easter. Thank you!

FOR GROWNUPS ONLY:

The Easter Bunny is asking for donations of plastic Easter Eggs filled with candy or small toys for the annual MHR Easter Egg Hunt after the Easter Sunday 10am Mass. Please drop the eggs off at the Rectory during business hours by Thursday, April 6th. Please be sure that the eggs are taped so they do not fall open! Thank you!



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS AND BAKERS!

Easter Sunday

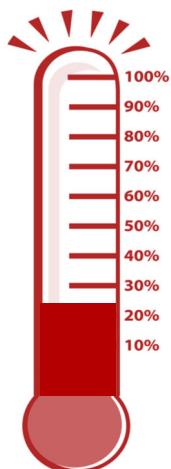
APRIL 8 & 9 | 8PM VIGIL & 8AM & 10AM MASS

"We are looking for volunteers to **serve** and **bring desserts** (for about 20 people) for Easter reception Saturday evening and Sunday Morning.

If you like to bring a dish or volunteer to help please contact:

Carter Widlund 415-385-8379

carter.widlund1@gmail.com



Thank you to all who have contributed so far to the 2023 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal!

We already have collected \$13,648:
24% of our goal of \$55,000!

You can make a one-time donation or set up recurring donations at www.mhr.org by clicking on the donation button or by using the pamphlets located in the church entrance.

Thank you for your amazing support!



STATIONS OF THE

IN THE CASTRO

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5
7:00 PM