

# March 24, 2024

## **Palm Sunday**

#### Collection March 17, 2024

Regular Collection \$ 975.00 Flowers 50.00 Catholic Relief 5.00 Easter 20.00 Attendance 51

## March 31, 2024

**Lector:** Shannon Yates

Commentator: Caleb Harriman Ushers: Hathaway/McNair

**Eucharist Ministers:** White/DuBose

## Readings for March 31, 2024

Reading 1 Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43

Reading 2 Colossians 3:1-4 Gospel John 20:1-9

<u>Prayer List</u> -Tim Kimbleton, Carol Luttrell, John Balconi, Brenda Lessard, Jody Riffey, Rosanna Vallo, Larry Riffey, Mary Ann Phillips, Stephen Petrowski, Jerry Stanley, Bill Vest, Raegan Ray, Marianne McGriffin, Georgia Snell English, Margaret McLawhorn, Shannon Yates, Lynn Canty, Chuck Yates, Ron Morgan, Sue Dasse, Tod Young, Shelia Zellars, Donna Gilmore, Adam Conner, Aaron Quain, Jim Hopkins, Bill McGuire, Monte Howard, Suzanne Martin, and John Willett.

Let the Stanleys know if you have additions or deletions,

<u>Information about St. Edwards</u>- Daily readings, the bulletin, homilies, and other information can be found on our webpage at: <a href="https://stedwardpulaski.org">https://stedwardpulaski.org</a>

#### Schedule of Services for Holy Week

Mar. 28, Holy Thursday---5:00 Here at St. Edward's
Mar. 29, Good Friday----5:00 Here at St. Edward's
Mar. 30, Easter Vigil-----8:30 Wytheville at St. Mary's
Mar. 31, Easter Sunday-- 11:00 Here at St. Edward's

New Schedules soon-New schedules will be made soon. If you are currently doing a ministry that you don't want to continue, or you are not doing one you would like to do, please be sure to let Stan know on or before April 14. The ministries include Lector, Commentator, Ushers, and Eucharistic Ministers. We will need 2 ushers and 2 Eucharistic Ministers each week. Please consider becoming involved if you aren't already. Thank you

## **March Birthdays**

Victoria Slayman	Mar. 2
Barbara Mullins	Mar. 6
Ian Grube	Mar. 8
Lucas Taylor	Mar. 10
Mary Ann Phillips	Mar. 14
John McNair	Mar. 20
Kathy Thompson	Mar. 21
Emilia Mendez	Mar. 22
Guenter Schlottmann	Mar. 23
Madelyn Owen	Mar. 26

### **March Anniversaries**

John & Mary Beth McNair Mar.14

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### **Daily Prayer This Week**

This is the week we call "Holy" because it is a memorial of God's saving deeds for us in Jesus. There is a solemn nature to this week. We might be tempted to be sad or conflicted this week. It is not easy to get close to the reality that we are sinners and our Lord and Savior went through this betrayal, suffering and death for us. So, sometimes, we avoid looking at this week closely, and praying with it, because we fear getting into our guilt.

The invitation this week is to come closer to the reality of God's profound love for us. Yes, we are all sinners. But, we are loved sinners. We are being invited to be grateful, not to beat our breasts. We are invited, in this spirit to feel all that we can feel this week. Yes, we will feel some discomfort - after all, we feel discomfort when anyone puts themselves through some sacrifice for us. And, the sacrifice here is the gift of his very self - so that we might always know how completely Jesus entered into the reality of our human existence - "even death, death on a cross." [Phil. 2:6-9]

This week we follow our ongoing pattern of connecting with our Lord, as early as we can each morning. For even a few moments we name our desire: "Lord, let me be with you this week and open my heart to feel what you want me to feel about your love for me, personally." Then, throughout the day, in many background, in-between moments, we can continue our brief conversations with our Lord as we relate this desire with the people and events of our day. Finally, each night, we can pause, perhaps before a crucifix, or placing ourselves in our imagination before the cross, and speaking to our Lord, friend to friend, the gratitude we feel for the gift of mercy and eternal life his love has gained for us.

Holy Thursday is a day to wake up and ask for the grace to grow in some sense of the gift of the Eucharist for us. Even if we can't join in a celebration of the wonderful "Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper," we can take moments throughout this day to remember how he loved us by giving himself to us in the Bread that gives life and the Cup that is poured out for us. To show how the Eucharist is the memorial of how he was taken, blessed, broken and given for us, Jesus washes his disciples' feet. And he tells us that this is a mandate, a mission for us - to follow his example and to wash each others' feet, i.e., to allow ourselves to be taken, blessed, broken and given in love for others. We could reflect today on how I resist his washing my feet - how I resist his intimate love for me. And, we can reflect upon our mission gratefully. For those of us who will celebrate tonight, let this be a day of reflective preparation to enter into this Eucharist and come away with a renewed sense of the meaning of love. "Where there is love, God is present."

On **Good Friday** we can spend the day with an inner quiet. We can practice this as a day of fast to heighten our awareness of the sacrifice of Jesus. If we are unable to attend a celebration of "Our Lord's Passion," we can surely enter into it in many ways. We can place a crucifix in a central place in our home. We can download an image of the crucifixion from the web. We can read the <u>Passion</u> in John's Gospel or pray with the <u>Stations of the Cross</u>. We can pause - sometime between 12 noon and 3 pm and simply say "thank you." If we are able to celebrate with others, we can let our veneration of the cross be full of intimacy and personal gratitude - beyond where words can take us - for God's mercy and love.

Holy Saturday is a solemn day to ask for the grace to imagine Jesus lying in the tomb, in death. It is from this death - the same death we will all experience - that Jesus is raised. We cannot feel the deepest joy of Easter without spending some time reflecting on this good news. We can pause in background moments to give thanks for the gift of mercy and life we have been given. The Easter Vigil liturgy is the fullest celebration of the Resurrection and a renewal of our sense of Baptism. If we are unable to celebrate the Vigil, we might go to bed this night, thanking God for what the dawn brings: our opportunity to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus, who draws us to the fullness of life with him