

Mark 14:1-15:47

Masses for the week of March 30 - April 5, 2015

Morning Prayer in St. Joseph Chapel, 8:15am Mon to Fri.

Monday, March 30

8:35am (chapel) Richard Rolle (Irma Nemes)

Tuesday, March 31

8:35am (chapel) Brenda Beradinelli (Mike & Phyllis Schmerbeck)

Wednesday, April 1

8:35am (chapel) Matthew Thome (Tom & Sue Rogers)

7:30pm (chapel) Parishioners' Intentions

HOLY THURSDAY, April 2

No morning Mass

7:30pm (church) The Lord's Supper GOOD FRIDAY, April 3

No morning Mass

3:00pm (church) Lord's Passion

7:30pm (church) Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 4 - EASTER VIGIL

5:00pm (church) Intention of our Catehumen Jordan Brezner

Sunday, April 5 - EASTER SUNDAY

8:00am (church) Parishioners' Intentions

10:30am (church) Parishioners' Intentions

Meetings for the week of March 30 – April 5, 2015

Mon. March 30: Conquest, 6:45 - School Light Weigh, 7pm – Parish Office

Thurs. April 2: Renew Group, 2:30pm - Marian Room

Sat. April 4: Men of Faith, 8am - Marian Room



The Church Cleaning Team for the week of March 30th is Team #2: Joyce Melchiore, Peg Trouts, Jean Wurster, Terri DeVenuto, Andrea James

Your parish thanks you!



Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them
O' Lord, and Let Perpetual Light Shine
Upon Them.
May The Souls of
John Michael Sabath
Kathryn Ferris

Through the Mercy of God, Rest In Peace.

Please remember in your prayers our parishioners who are sick, homebound, in the hospital, under hospice or residential care.

Susan Ackerman, Rose Marie Alex, Lillian Appleman, Roger Bahnck, Mary Balbirer, Elizabeth Bartolillo, John & Loretta Bodisch, Emmalee Bryan, Ann Burns, Libby Chapman, Anne Colyer, Charlene Cornell, Matthew Crance, Jim Crawford, Chrissy Davis, Joy Davis, Glen DeKutosli, Larry & Joanne Diehl,



Terry Dunn, Arlene Eichlin, Josephine Fasano, Bernice Fees, Charles Fees, Jr., Patricia Fite, Sarah Fleck, Nancy Fratrik, Mary Gallo, Kathleen Gaughan, Dylan Geroni, Kathy Geroni, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Anna Giebler, Judy Green, Susan Gross, Mary Halwski, Florence Hancharik, Steve Hancharik, Bill Hejnor, Joyceann Heley, Eli Hinkie, Charles Houston, Doris Johnson, Martha Juchnowicz, Kathleen Kershaw, Kimberly Koch, Georgine Kocher, Anthony Kondracki, Deanna Kovner, Barbara Kuehnle, Ryan Leven, Kathy Lightkep, Charles Lutcavage, Julia Maher, Loretta Malloy, Eileen McCarty, Adelaide McElderry, Bridget Julia McHugh, Michelle McNevin, Anne McNichol, Florence Middleton, Joseph Moore, Jennie Moreno, Nancy Moreno, Wanda Muth, Frances Nowicki, Helen Patzek-Charlton, Ryan Phillips, Nicholas Powell, Gladys Proca, Marianne Przyuski, Don Raman, Mike Ramos, Rachael Rice, Gregory Rickert, Joseph Ripp, Valerie Roberts, Sandy Romaszewski, Sam Rothman, Frederick R. Rude, Dolly Rutherford, Zina Sauerwine, Jean Scattergood, Lana Schell, Herbert Scheuermann, Mario Sciacca, Joe Shuman, Gail Silveira, Carolyn Stahley, Shane Stroup, Michael Suder, Sean Thatcher, Baby William Patrick Thomas, Maddie Tomaszewski, Douglas & Frank Toner, Barbara Vogan, Diane Wesoski, Tamara Widmer, Ed Wismer, Baby Logan Yoder.



Edward Armstrong, Jr., Fionna M. Boyle, Derek Brosius, Christopher Brune, Kyle Crossland, Casey de Lauretis, Steehly de Lauretis, Michael Froeder, A.J. Giovino, Aaron Given, Bob Hankinson, Victor Hormilla, James Kidd,

Stephen Lindmeier, Jason Litschauer, Cory Litzenberger, Dan O'Connor, Jonathan Pucci, Dusty Rhodes, Craig Russell, Nicholas Spangler-Loch, Don Valdez, Justin Walsh.

Thank you for serving & protecting our freedom!

Mass Collection Sunday, March 22, 2015 \$ 6,395.00 Thank you for your generosity!



Gospel Reflections
A Letter from
Our Pastor, Father Simi



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The chief priests, with the scribes, mocked him among themselves and said, "He saved others; he cannot save himself."

Mark 15:31

How quickly can our loving and tender affection for another turn into such bitterness and resentment. Isn't this the whole story of our lives? One minute, our relationships are on a high and very passionate note and then another minute, it seems, they're broken.

The best of marriages have undergone such horrid turns. The best of parent-child relationships have often times ended up in years of resentment. Loving siblings can suddenly stop talking to each other for years.

Everyone has had to undergo some experience of brokenness in a relationship. Even the best of relationships have had to go through difficulty moments of tension and pain, of misunderstanding and grudges. Some relationships recover and become stronger. Some don't.

Then even if some of our relationships withstand the test of time and all the challenges and trials time brings, time itself ends; it ends with death. Each of our relationships suffers this ultimate blow of death that no one can heal. The loss is indescribably painful.

This is the ultimate pain for which no amount of love and will from any human being can avoid nor overcome. Every moment of our lives as humans is thoroughly diseased with death. From the moment we enter into our existence in our mother's womb, we entered a life riddled with the ravages of death. We call it mortality.

There is no cure for our mortality, no cure for the pain that our mortality inflects all throughout our lives. No cure save in the crucified Christ. This is the reason for His passion; to take upon Himself our mortality and all the pain that our mortality can inflict and to raise it up to His Father on that cross, that the Father may heal it with His immortality.

See how in the gospel of this Palm Sunday of the Passion of our Lord so sharply portray the painful nature of our mortality, where love and faithfulness only lasts a moment and in its place we find such anger, bitterness, violence and death.

The same crowd that welcomed Him as a King, with palm leaves and coats spread on the road, will strip Him of His own clothes and crucify Him on a cross. See how short-lived their faithfulness and love. See how easily fidelity turns to betrayal.

See how even His closest friends, the apostles, abandon Him. See how one of the twelve betrays Him with thirty pieces of silver and a kiss.

How pitiful we are. How ironic the words spoken by the chief priest and scribes, "He saved others, He cannot save Himself." (Mark 15:31) We are the ones who cannot save ourselves from ourselves. He it is, while identifying completely with our suffering and death, is saving us with His own immortality.

Let us enter more deeply into our own mortality too this week by remembering the many ways we have suffered pangs of our own mortality. Let us also remember how we who sing Hosanna to Him at Mass also betray Him in one another. Yet He enters willing into His passion. He makes His own our passion.

How so loved we are! "Save us Savior of the world. For by your cross and resurrection you have set us free!

God bless you all -

Fr. Simi.

Pope Francis has told Catholics that the Eucharist brings us out of our individualism into discipleship



Pope Francis has challenged Catholics to consider if they allow their lives to be transformed by Christ's presence in the Eucharist.

"Jesus speaks in the silence of the mystery of the Eucharist and reminds us each time that following him means going out of ourselves and making our

lives not something we 'possess,' but a gift to him and to others."

In the Eucharist, the Pope said, Catholics experience the "solidarity of God," a solidarity that can never be exhausted and should never stop causing awe.

Jesus gives himself to us in the Eucharist, shares our journey and makes himself the food that sustains our lives, even when the road gets rough and obstacles slow our steps." At the same time, he said, in receiving the Eucharist faithfully "the Lord leads us to follow his path — that of service, sharing and giving; and that little that we have, the little that we are, if shared, becomes a treasure because the power of God, who is love, descends to our poverty and transforms it."

Parish Religious Education Program

Holy Week is dedicated to the remembrance of the last week of Jesus Christ's mortal life. All else is set aside this week as we journey with Him. The final week of Lent, and the week in which Christians celebrate the mystery of their salvation through Christ's Death and Resurrection.

The Days of Holy Week are:

Palm Sunday - commemorates Jesus Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, as foretold by the prophet Zechariah. The Bible tells us people cut branches from palm trees, laid them across Jesus' path and waved them in the air. They greeted Jesus not as the Messiah who would *take away the sins of the world*, but as a potential political leader who would overthrow the Romans. Their shout "Hosanna" meant "save now."

Spy Wednesday – is a reference to when Judas Iscariot, one of Jesus' twelve deciples went to the chief priests, and agreed to betray our Lord for 30 pieces of silver.

Holy Thursday - is the day Christ celebrated the Last Supper with His disciples (four days after His triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday). It is the oldest of the celebrations of Holy Week: on this day Catholics commemorate the institution of three pillars of the Catholic Faith: the Sacrament of Holy Communion, the priesthood, and the Mass. During the Last Supper, Christ blessed the bread and wine with the very words that priests use today to consecrate the Body and Blood of Christ during the Mass and the Divine Liturgy. In telling His disciples to "Do this in remembrance of Me," Jesus instituted the Mass and made them the first priests. Near the end of the Last Supper, after Judas had departed, Christ said to His disciples, "A new commandment I give unto you: That you love one another as I have loved you." The Latin word for "commandment," mandatum became the source for another name for Holy Thursday: Maundy Thursday.

Good Friday – on the Friday before Easter Sunday, we commemorate the Passion and Death of our Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross. Good Friday is the second of the three days of the Easter Triduum. No Mass is celebrated on Good Friday, instead, the Church celebrates a special liturgy in which the account of the Passion according to the Gospel of John is read, a series of intercessory prayers (prayers for special intentions) are offered, and the faithful venerate the Cross by coming forward and kissing it. The Good Friday liturgy concludes with the distribution of Holy Communion. Since there was no Mass, concecrated Hosts that were reserved from the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday are distributed instead.

Holy Saturday - Holy Saturday is the final day of Lent, of Holy Week, and of the Easter Triduum, (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday). There is no Mass offered for Holy Saturday. The Easter Vigil Mass, which takes place after sundown, belongs to Easter Sunday. In the early Church, this vigil lasted through the night until dawn on Easter Sunday, when the Alleluia was sung for the first time since the beginning of Lent, and the faithful—including the newly baptized—broke their 40-hour fast by receiving Communion.

The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist



Wishing all our parish families a Happy Easter! May God bless You.

Wednesday, April 1st: 12pm-1pm Early Dismissal Easter Break: April 2nd – 7th

Wednesday, April 8th: 8:30am School Resumes

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For Information and to Register please call the School Office at 610-847-5523

KNOWING ~ LOVING ~ SERVING ~ LEADING



Visit us at www.sjbottsville.org



Track, Volleyball & Softball.



Registration forms can be obtained on our Parish website. Please contact Claire at cmgeib@aol.com with any questions.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Blood Drive

American

Red Cross

will be at the

Regina Academy school gym on

Tuesday, April 7th from 2pm – 7pm

Please contact Sylvia Holtznagle at 610-847-5647 for a scheduled appointment.

Thank you & God bless you

FATIMA HOUSE RETREAT CENTER, Bedminster, PA

Please join us in...

Prayer for Vocations and
World Peace.

Weekly Prayers



Mondays at 7pm in Our Lady's Chapel: Adoration,
Liturgy of the Hour, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet
Wednesday at 9:30 -10:30am in Our Lady's Chapel:
Liturgy of the Hour, Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet
For additional information or directions, please call Joan Black at 215-795-2947.

Healing or Hoax? New Age Energy Medicine & Alternatives

The Catholic Life Institute is hosting New Age expert Susan Brinkmann, OCDS for a 2-hour seminar on New Age healing techniques and alternatives. Topics to be discussed include Reiki, Acupuncture, homeopathy, chiropractics, essential oils, muscle testing, supplements, etc. What does science say about these methods? Why do people believe they work? And what does the Church have to say about their use?

Get the answers on Saturday, April 11 from 9-11 a.m. at Fatima House in Bedminister.

\$35 fee includes refreshments.

Registration required.

Visit www.freeandfaithful.com or call/text 215-983-9701.

2nd Annual Spring Gala Apr THE KINGS MEN Blue Bell C Tickets \$125 couple and \$9 Limited to 25

April 10th, 2015 Blue Bell Country Club Tickets \$125 single; \$200 couple and \$900 table of 10. Limited to 250 guests.

Order Tickets: email mark@thekingsmen.org. Visit the website to make a donation www.thekingsmen.us

We can either be an instrument of good or of evil, and a servant of God or of Satan.

Let us pray...

"Lord, your grace is sufficient for me. Fill my heart with love and gratitude for the mercy you have shown to me and give me freedom and joy to love and serve others as you have taught." Amen

The KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS sponsored....



Saturday, April 18, 2015 Regina Academy at St. John's School Gym.

Doors open at 6pm - Post time of the races at 7pm.

Entrance to the event is \$5.00 which entitles you to unlimited hot food, snacks, desserts, soda, and coffee. B.Y.O.B. setups will be provided.

For more excitement you can purchase and name a horse for \$10.00. If your horse wins the race you win \$40.00. For more information please contact Tom High at 610-847-2374 or any Knights of Columbus member.

This event is for adults age 18 and older.
ABSOLUTELY NO CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18 ADMITTED.

Myrtle Beach Trip 5 Days and 4 Nights, May 3 -7, 2015 \$750 per person. Call for a brochure.

Make plans to enjoy a wonderful vacation in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

- Hotel suites with balcony and beach front view λ Visit Charlestown, SC
- Trip includes four breakfasts and four dinners
- Bus transportation and drivers gratuity included

For more information on these events sponsored by the 55+ Club, contact Pat Price at 215-300-2153, Pat Donnelly at 215-598-9763 or Jean Zielke at 215-794-1188.

The Message of Divine Mercy Brief Introduction, Monday, March 30 6:30 p.m., St. Juan Diego Chapel, OLG Church The message of The Divine Mercy is simple.

It is that God loves us — all of us.

And, he wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through

us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy. This message and devotion to Jesus as The Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, an uneducated Polish nun who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary of about 600 pages recording the revelations she received about God's mercy.

For more information visit: http://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/



Early registration ends April 30th. Have you registered yet????

Ways you can help...volunteer, Host a Family, Donate!

Visit www.worldmeeting.org today!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

April 4th & 5th, 2015 Easter Vigil & Easter Sunday

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
Saturday, 8pm EASTER VIGIL	Geri Belsito Darlene Bittenmaster Joe Cegielski Dorothy Cegielski	Sam Altier Jane Ferry Marie Louzon Leona Russell Donna Sciacca	Maria Middleton Gavin Reshetar Maya Reshetar	Choir Sue Rogers
Sunday, 8:00am EASTER SUNDAY	Mark Fetter Renee Moyer Kevin Murphy Ron Watson	Jeanne Keller	Julia Costello Kaelin Costello TJ Froman	Marion Wolf Karen Parash
Sunday, 10:30am EASTER SUNDAY	Phil Donahue Dan Hauber Maryann Hauber Dolly Kovacs	Christina Crews	Joey DeVenuto Audrey Giovino ?	Ordinary Time

