

***Palm Sunday of the  
Lord's Passion  
April 2, 2023***

**St. John the Evangelist Church**  
**309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 814-942-5503**  
***www.stjohnsaltoona.org***

***HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE***

**TUESDAY, APRIL 4:** Tenebrae 7:00 PM

**HOLY THURSDAY:** Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 PM

**GOOD FRIDAY:** Stations of the Cross 12:00 PM

The Passion of the Lord 7:00 PM

**HOLY SATURDAY:**

Blessing of Easter Food Baskets - 12:00 PM

Easter Vigil 8:00 PM

**EASTER SUNDAY MASSES:** 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

***April Prayer Intention of Pope Francis***

*For a Culture of Peace  
and Non-violence*

We pray for the spread of peace and  
non-violence, by decreasing the use  
of weapons by States and citizens.



***NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS***

**LECTORS**

Thurs. Apr. 6 - 7:00 PM - Jack Majcher, David Langguth  
 Friday, April 7, 7:00 PM - Iris Tatar, Mark Krepich, Dave Auerbeck  
 Sat. Apr. 8 - 8:00 PM - TBD, Susan Podoletz, Matt Michelone, TBD,  
 Bob Olson  
 Sun. Apr. 9 - 8:00 AM - Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky  
 Sun. Apr. 9 - 11:00 AM - Susanna Tomlinson, Barbara Bundy

**ALTAR SERVERS**

Thurs. Apr. 6 - 7:00 PM - Chloe Truscello, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED,  
 NOT FILLED  
 Friday, April 7, 7:00 PM - Bob Olson, Sadie Swope, Lexi Tatar  
 Sat. Apr. 8 - 8:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Camille Krug, Colin Schurr,  
 Aidan Schurr  
 Sun. Apr. 9 - 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Nicholas Helsley  
 Sun. Apr. 9 - 11:00 AM - Lexi Tatar, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

**SACRISTAN**

Thurs. Apr. 6 - 7:00 PM - Barbara Bundy  
 Sat. Apr. 8 - 8:00 PM - Marilyn Bevan  
 Sun. Apr. 9 - 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED  
 Sun. Apr. 9 - 11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Thurs. Apr. 6 - 7:00 PM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky, Susanna  
 Tomlinson, Dolores Capriotti, Bob Olson, Barbara Bundy  
 Sat. Apr. 8 - 8:00 PM - Marilyn Bevan, Lou Ann Clark, Connie Baker  
 Sun. Apr. 9 - 8:00 AM - Diane Turcovsky, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. Apr. 9 - 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti, Barbara Bundy, Susanna  
 Tomlinson, Walter Bloom, Cecelia Bloom, NOT FILLED

**MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY**

Thurs. Apr. 6 - 7:00 PM - Connie Baker, Mary Truesdale, Darlene  
 Scarpaci, Mike O'Neill  
 Friday, April 7, 7:00 PM - Darlene Scarpaci, Connie Baker, Jane Becker,  
 John Becker  
 Sat. Apr. 8 - 8:00 PM - Ginny Reeder, Wendy Campbell, Ed Stoltz,  
 NOT FILLED  
 Sun. Apr. 9 - 8:00 AM - Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel, NOT FILLED,  
 NOT FILLED  
 Sun. Apr. 9 - 11:00 AM - Peg Madden, Walter Bloom, Carolyn English,  
 Patrick Podoletz

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**HOLY WEEK BEGINS** - Holy Week is the most solemn and glorious week in Christianity, the pinnacle of the liturgical year. It's more sacred than Christmas! This is because Holy Week commemorates the final week of Our Lord's life, the very purpose for which Christmas happened. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday (when Jesus made his final entrance into Jerusalem) and culminates with Easter Sunday.

**TENEBRAE** – Tenebrae is the Latin word for darkness and night. It is a religious service of Western Christianity and characterized by gradual extinguishing of candles, and by a "strepitus" or "loud noise" taking place in total darkness near the end of the service. Our Tenebrae service here at St. John's will be held this Tuesday evening at 7:00. Please join us for this very moving ceremony!

**THE SACRED TRIDUUM** - Sundown on Holy Thursday to sundown on Easter Sunday is considered the most solemn part of the liturgical year. This three-day period is referred to as the *Easter Triduum*, also known as the *Sacred Triduum*, or *Paschal Triduum*. Please see the enclosed flyer for more information.

**HOLY THURSDAY MASS AND ADORATION** - *The Mass of the Lord's Supper* This is where the Church re-lives the institution of the Eucharist and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the Last Supper, as well as the institution of the priesthood, which took place the evening before Jesus was crucified. Extra hosts are consecrated at this Mass to be used on Good Friday. The Mass of the Lord's Supper begins at 7 PM and concludes with a procession of the Blessed Sacrament around the church, with continued adoration until 10PM.

**GOOD FRIDAY** - This is a mandatory day of fasting and abstinence. The parish altar looks very different on Good Friday: it is plain and bare. There is no consecrated Host in the tabernacle at the main altar of the church. The candle by the tabernacle is blown out, and the tabernacle doors are left open to show that it is empty. The ceremony on Good Friday is not a Mass—it is a communion service using the consecrated hosts from Holy Thursday. Good Friday is the only day of the year on which no Masses are offered.

**CONFESSIONS THIS WEEK** - All are encouraged to take advantage of the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Easter. Please note that this week we have scheduled additional time for confession on Monday and Tuesday after the 8:30 morning mass and Wednesday at 5:00 before the 6:00 Mass. The celebration of the Sacrament of Penance is our sharing in the mystery of Christ's redeeming death and resurrection.

**HOLY SATURDAY** - On this day Christ is in the tomb. There is no daytime Mass on Holy Saturday. It is still a day of fasting and sorrow before the Easter Vigil begins that evening. We recall, with Mary and the disciples, that Jesus died and was separated from them for the first time as He lay in the tomb. The faithful often continue their Good Friday fast through Holy Saturday. In the Apostles Creed we pray "He descended into hell" (translated hades, that is, the temporary abode of the dead—not the eternal lake of fire) which describes what Jesus did in the time between his burial and Resurrection. Jesus descended to the realm of the dead on Holy Saturday to save the righteous souls—the Old Testament patriarchs, for example—who died before his crucifixion. The Catechism of the Catholic Church calls Jesus' descent into the realm of the dead "the last phase of Jesus' messianic mission," during which he "opened heaven's gates for the just who had gone before him." Before Holy Saturday, there were no souls enjoying the beatific vision of God in heaven! Christ's work on Holy Saturday is also known as the "Harrowing of Hell."

**THE EASTER VIGIL** - A vigil Mass is held after nightfall on Holy Saturday, or before dawn on Easter Sunday, in celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. This is called the Easter Vigil: the most glorious, beautiful, and dramatic liturgy for the Church. The vigil is divided into four parts: 1) the Service of Light, 2) the Liturgy of the Word, 3) the Liturgy of Baptism, and 4) the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

**EASTER SUNDAY** - The Catechism of the Catholic Church describes it this way: "Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the 'Feast of feasts', the 'Solemnity of solemnities', just as the Eucharist is the 'Sacrament of sacraments'. St. Athanasius calls Easter 'the Great Sunday' and the Eastern Churches call Holy Week 'the Great Week'.

**THE BLESSING OF THE EASTER BASKET** - This has been a cherished Catholic ritual for centuries among families of Eastern European origin and adopted by people of all ethnic backgrounds. On Holy Saturday, families prepare their Easter Baskets to be later blessed at church. After Easter Sunday's Resurrection Mass, the family and guests would share this blessed fare and exchange good wishes. Our Easter Basket blessing will take place on Holy Saturday at noon. Please come and bring your baskets!



Rice Bowls can be returned to the parish by placing them in the basket provided in the Gathering Space.

## Schedule for the Week of April 2

### Sunday, April 2 - Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

8:00 AM - Mass for *Mary Jo Sibert & Richard Bender*  
requested by Larry & Carol Field  
11:00 AM - Mass for *Hilda Neal* requested by  
Julie & Bernie Beiswenger

### Monday, April 3 - Monday of Holy Week

8:30 AM - Mass for *Barbara Neral* requested by  
Deacon Gene Neral

### Tuesday, April 4 - Tuesday of Holy Week

8:30 AM - Mass for *Tiff Mickens* requested by  
Linda Weyandt  
7:00 PM - Tenebrae

### Wednesday, April 5 - Wednesday of Holy Week

5:30 PM - Confessions  
6:00 PM - Mass for *Robert Cole* requested by  
Mary Ann Cole

### Thursday, April 6 - Holy Thursday

7:00 PM - Mass of the Lord's Supper

### Friday, April 7 - Good Friday

12:00 PM - Stations of the Cross with Meditations  
7:00 PM - The Passion of the Lord

### Saturday, April 8 - Holy Saturday Easter Vigil

8:00 PM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

### Sunday, April 9 - Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

8:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*  
11:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

**EASTER FLOWERS:** All memorial donations for Easter flowers should be submitted by Monday, April 3, in order to be acknowledged in the Easter Sunday bulletin.



#### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11  
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38  
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34;  
Mt 26:14-25  
Thursday: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18;  
1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15  
Friday: Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25;  
Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42  
Saturday: a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6,  
10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-22;  
b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; Ps 16: 5, 8-11;  
c) Ex 14:15 — 15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18;  
d) Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13;  
e) Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-6;  
f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; Ps 19:8-11;  
g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or  
Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19;  
h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Mt 28:1-10  
Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;  
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** "Jesus mission is to restore to good order the created household of God which sin has disrupted. He not only perfectly accomplishes this task, but also, in calling disciples, empowers them to collaborate with him in the work of redemption for themselves and on behalf of others," [Stewardship: A Disciple's Response, USCCB, 1993]

God has entrusted us with many gifts and talents, but we are not to use them in a powerful way to control others who have limited income or resources. As disciples of Jesus we are called to use these things to build the Kingdom of God; to make the Body of Christ strong by serving those in need; to change the world. How are you changing the little corner of your world? (*Stewardship Reflection*, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2020/02/28)

#### March 18/19

Envelopes	\$ 5,073.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 932.00
Children's Offerings	\$ 10.40
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 555.00
Black & Indian Mission	\$ 60.00
Parish Development	\$ 125.00
Easter Flower Offering	\$ 580.00
Food Bank Donations	\$ 85.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,703.00
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 9,123.40</b>

2023 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal - \$41,761

**2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS** are available upon request. Please call the Parish Office at 814-942-5503 to request your giving statement. If you are registered with My Own Church, you can log in and download your statement yourself.

**SELL YOUR OWN STUFF SALE:** Holy Trinity is having a "SELL YOUR OWN STUFF" event Saturday June 3rd. If you are interested in renting a space inside the Maria Parish Center for \$20.00 to "SELL YOUR OWN STUFF", please contact Jan at 814-942-7835.

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION:** The next session of Adult Faith Formation begins on Sunday, April 16th and continues through Sunday, May 21st. The Easter Season is a perfect time for us to delve into The Acts of the Apostles. During the Easter Season we read from the Acts of the Apostles, where we learn about the early church and how it is propelled into mission, just as we are today. All are welcome to join us for food, fellowship, and faith on Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 10:30 in the St Johns school cafeteria. For more information call Mary Petrak at 814-502-6076.

### **ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST**

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at [giny.reeder@gmail.com](mailto:giny.reeder@gmail.com) to add or remove someone from the prayer list. PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING and their caregivers and give thanks for those who have recovered. *Lord we ask for your blessings and care for these and all people in need:*

**Aiden • Seth Alexander • Janine Anna • Joshua Banks  
Bernie Beiswenger • Diane Blyler • Scott Brenneman  
Dan Burley • Cari Ann • Michelle Cooney  
Ron Cunningham • Flo Dancha • Mary Lee DeStefano  
Michael DeStefano • Charlie Elder • Kathy Felty  
Leann Frazier • Ed Garlena • Gerry Gonsman  
Sherryl Hartman • Bill Hoefler • Don James  
Nancy James • Lisa Jimenez • Tim Jimenez  
Marianne Jones • Neveah Langenbacher • Lisa  
Elsie MacCullagh • Sherri Maffettone  
Genevieve Mathias • Angela Mazzei • Susie Miller  
Karrie McCall • James McLaren • Sylvia Louise Mills  
Donna Moyer • Ailani Myers • Deacon Gene Neral  
Patricia Olson • Linda O'Sullivan • Sara Parrish  
Mary Rajnish • Ryan Raybuck • Allison Recker  
Bette Richards • Vicki Riley • John Rita • Carol Rodgers  
Olga Romerowicz • Mike Rudolph • Bruce Shank  
Anne Showalter • Betsy Slat • David Sunderland  
Patty Swanson • Rick Swanson • Tim Temofonte  
Marion Tessitore • Mary Truesdale • Kathy Wagner  
Lois Werfel**

**HOME WITH THE LORD:** Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:

**Karen A. Pleva, sister of Mike (Loane) Maier**  
*May she rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.*

**CASH BA\$H:** Our Knights of Columbus is holding a Ca\$h Ba\$h at the East Freedom Fire Hall on Saturday, April 22, 2023. Tickets are \$40 each and include two dinners, beverages and one entry in the drawing. A basket raffle, multiple 50/50's and pull-tab tickets will also be offered throughout the evening. Cash and prizes valued at over \$2,500! Contact Chris Ringkamp (814-330-4074) or see any Knight for tickets.

### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Monsignor Michael Becker - [mbecker253@aol.com](mailto:mbecker253@aol.com)  
Rev. Brian Norris - [bnorris@dioceseaj.org](mailto:bnorris@dioceseaj.org)  
Deacon Gene Neral - [gene@lifeinfocus.net](mailto:gene@lifeinfocus.net)  
Jena Bowman - Business Manager  
[stjohnchurch@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnchurch@atlanticbb.net)  
Deborah Johnson - Director of Music/Pastoral Associate  
[dj219@msn.com](mailto:dj219@msn.com)  
Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary  
[stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net)  
Iris Tatar - Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd  
[iristat38@gmail.com](mailto:iristat38@gmail.com)  
Mark Krepich - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults  
[mark.krepich@gmail.com](mailto:mark.krepich@gmail.com)  
Ken Dunmire - Maintenance

### **FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

- April 2: 9:15 - 10:45 AM Class
- April 9: NO CLASS
- April 10: 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Practice at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament (Candidates and Sponsors)
- April 11: 7:00 PM Confirmation at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament

*If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Diane Ryan at 814-942-5503 or email [stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net).*

*Thank  
You*

Thanks to all the bakers at St. John's who contributed to Life in the Spirit Seminar held at St. Mary's. The desserts were so helpful in serving 190 people. The woman's guild can't thank each of you enough. The desserts looked and tasted delicious!

**BUS TRIP TO SALAMANCA NEW YORK CASINO:** The Mount Carmel Social & Administration Committee is sponsoring a bus trip to Seneca Casino in Salamanca, NY, on Saturday, April 15th. We will depart from the Mt. Carmel Church Parking Lot at 9 AM and depart from the Casino at 7 PM. The cost of the trip is \$40/person. We get back \$25 slot play (subject to change). To receive the Bonus please bring to the Casino a valid photo ID. To make reservations, please call the Parish Office at 814-942-8501 during the week.

**GARVEY MANOR SALE:** From now until May 9, friends of the community at Garvey Manor, will be collecting items for a sale that will benefit residents on the campus. If you have household items, garage items, decorations, books, paintings that you want to donate, take those items to the Sarina house between 8 am and 5 pm. **No clothes or shoes.** Please share this with friends.

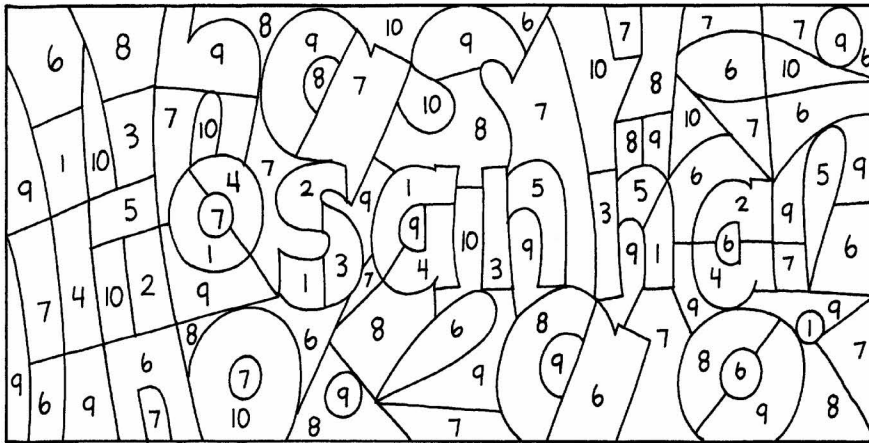
**SAINT PATRICK SCHOOL** is now enrolling students for grades Pre-K-8<sup>th</sup> for the 2023/24 school year. Interested families can contact the principal, Tara Steinbugl, at the school, 814-695-3819.

**EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE: JUNE, 2024:** Msgr. Becker will be leading a sacred pilgrimage to Rome, Lisbon, Fatima, Lourdes and Paris from June 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024. This pilgrimage will include the celebration of daily Mass at each site, with a papal audience in St. Peter's Square. In addition to the shrines of Fatima and Lourdes, our pilgrimage will take us to the beautiful Sacred Heart Cathedral in the heart of Paris. The full itinerary can be found on the St. John's website ([stjohnsaltoona.org](http://stjohnsaltoona.org).) For further information, contact Mr. Jim Roccio, of Festival Travel (814.241.1641), or Msgr. Becker at [mbecker253@aol.com](mailto:mbecker253@aol.com)



# God's Word for Children

Read the instructions below to see what people shouted  
as Jesus rode through the city of Jerusalem.  
It meant they adored him!  
They even laid their coats down so Jesus would ride over them.



Color the shapes with a  
number from one to five  
**orange**.

Color the shapes with a  
number from six to ten  
**yellow**.



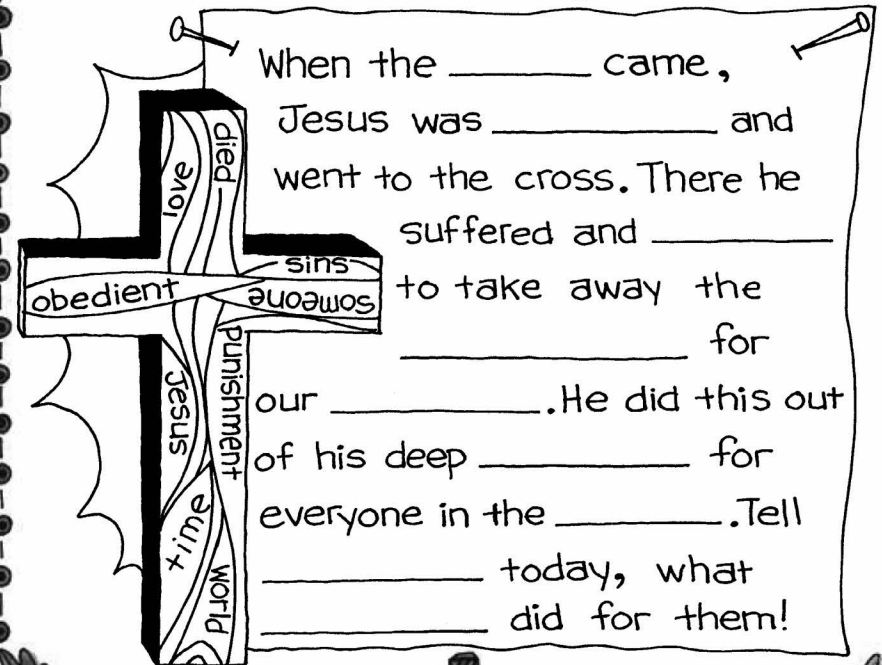
© J.S. Paluch Co., Inc. • 800-566-6150 • Year A • Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord  
Scripture excerpts from the New American Bible, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970, Confraternity of  
Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, D.C., and are used by permission of the copyright owner. All rights reserved.  
No part of the New American Bible may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the copyright owner.



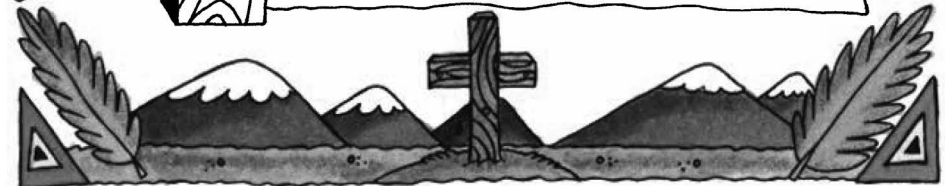
## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

People are willing to do many things for those they love.

But do you know what Jesus was willing to do?  
Find and use the nine hidden words in the cross to complete  
the "Greatest Love Story" ever!



When the \_\_\_\_\_ came,  
Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ and  
went to the cross. There he  
suffered and \_\_\_\_\_  
to take away the  
\_\_\_\_\_ for  
our \_\_\_\_\_. He did this out  
of his deep \_\_\_\_\_ for  
everyone in the \_\_\_\_\_. Tell  
\_\_\_\_\_ today, what  
\_\_\_\_\_ did for them!



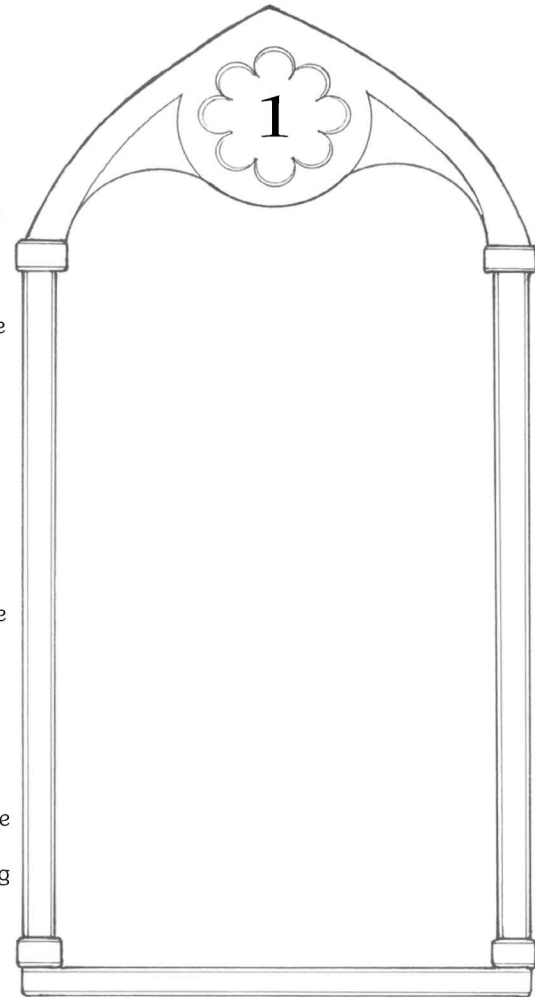


## HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST

This Sunday, we will focus on an unusual addition to today's liturgy. On Palm Sunday the first reading we hear is one of two Gospels. The first (Matthew 21:1-11) tells the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem. In it we hear the people praising Jesus, crying out, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest." We repeat those words at every Mass. Listen for them the next time you are at Mass.

The second Gospel, a very long reading (Matthew 26:14 — 27:66), tells the story of the Passion, that is, the suffering and death of Jesus. The same people who acclaimed Jesus in the first Gospel turned against him. Now instead of praising him they shouted, "Let him be crucified." Pilate listened to the people and ordered that Jesus be crucified. We remember that verdict in the first Station of the Cross: Jesus Is Condemned to Death.

One day during this Holy Week make a visit to church and find the first station. Take this paper with you and in the frame draw what you see in that station. Take some time to visit all the stations, thinking about how much Jesus loved us.



While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing,  
broke it, and giving it to his disciples said,  
"Take and eat; this is my body."

*Matthew 26:26*