The Basiliea of Saint Mary of the Assumption

PARISH OFFICE: 506 Fourth Street, Marietta OH 45750 Phone: 740-373-3643



April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

SUNDAY MASSES - Saturday 5:30 PM; Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM CONFESSIONS - Saturday 3:30-5:00 PM (or anytime by appointment)

BAPTISMS - Contact Parish Office

WEDDINGS - Contact Parish Office six months in advance

Rector - Rev. Msgr. John Michael Campbell (fatherjmike@gmail.com)

Parochial Vicar - Rev. Edward Maxfield Jr. (emaxfield@diosteub.org)

Permanent Deacon - Rev. Mr. Lee Weisend

Music Director - Mr. John Ontko (740-350-4224, ontkotb@suddenlink.net) St. Mary School - 320 Marion St, 740-374-8181 (www.stmaryscatholic.org) School Principal - Elizabeth Tokodi (elizabethtokodi@stmaryscatholic.org)

DRE - Mrs. Deborah Coty - (dmcoty22@gmail.com)

K of C Grand Knight - Mr. Pete Saliba (304-494-6170) Parish Council President - Luke Strahler - 614-309-8876

CWC President - Jenn Tinkler

Hibernians - Mr. William Rathbone (740) 374-5492

Prayer Line - & Eucharistic Adoration, Mrs. Shelly Medley (740-525-6360)

Health Ministry - Mrs. Janet Jaeger (740-374-6768) Daily Bread Kitchen - Mrs. Carol Henshaw (740-885-1181)

St. Vincent De Paul - Help Line (740-376-1334) Welcoming Committee - Jim Naylor (740) 350-5510 Divine Mercy Gift Shop - Barb Ritchie (740) 538-4733

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SAT	5:30 PM -	Liv/dec'd of the Huck/
		Milsark Families
SUN	8:00 AM -	People of the Parish
	10:00 AM -	Ralph Schott
	12:00 PM -	Liv/dec'd of the Azziz &
		Agnes Pouzide Family
MON	7:45 AM -	Phyllis Meseroll
	12:05 PM -	Mark Bradley
TUE	7:45AM -	Joe Sailer
	12:05 PM -	Andrew Surella
	7:00 PM -	The Chrism Mass
WED	7:45 AM -	Mark DeGori
	12:05 PM -	Anne Gruber
	7:00 PM -	Mass of the Holy Anointing
THU	7:00 PM -	Holy Thursday
		Mass of the Lord's Supper

FRI 7:00 PM - Good Friday Presanctified Liturgy

SAT 8:00 PM - The Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

SUN 8:00 AM - People of the Parish

10:00 AM - Dec'd Pastors of Our Parish 12:00 PM - Dec'd Parishioners of Our

Parish

Hosanna to the Son of David: blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosanna in the highest.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY (Easter Sunday)

Acts 10:34a,37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9.

HOLY WEEK MASS CHANGES:

There will not be a 7:45 AM or a 12:05 PM Mass on Holy Thursday or Good Friday. Liturgies both days are at 7:00 PM. There will not be a 9:00 AM or a **5:30 PM Mass next Saturday.** The only Mass on Holy Saturday is the Easter Vigil at 8:00 PM.

GOOD FRIDAY INFORMATION:

There will not be Eucharistic Adoration on Good Friday and the parish offices will be closed that day. Remember that Good Friday is a day of Fast and Abstinence.

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS:

Memorials must be in by Monday morning (April 3). Please **print** the names of those you wish to remember on the back of the envelope provided with your packet. Names will be listed in our Easter weekend bulletin.

<u>VISITORS WELCOME!</u> We welcome any visitors who are joining us for Mass this weekend. We hope your stay in Marietta is enjoyable. Any new parishioners at the Basilica are asked to please register with the parish office.

PARISH OFFICES are open from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM on Mondays and from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM Tuesday through Friday, with a lunch break from Noon until 1:00 PM each day.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

TODAY	6:30 PM	-	Crossfire Youth Group in the Basilica Social Hall.		
MON 6:15 PM -		-	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions. See announcement.		
	7:00 PM	-	RCIA in the Basilica Social Hall.		
	7:00 PM	-	St. Vincent dePaul Society Meeting in the Conference Room.		
WED	8:20 AM	-	7:00 PM – Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel of the English Martyrs.		
	3:00 PM	-	To 5:00 PM - Confessions		
THU	11:00AM	-	To 12:00 PM – Confessions.		
	2:00 PM	-	To 4:00 PM - Confessions.		
	8:30 PM	-	Confessions until all are heard.		
FRI	10:00AM	-	To 11:00 AM – Confessions.		
	8:30 PM	-	Confessions until all are heard.		

The Lord Will Never Be Outdone In Generosity!

Total collection last weekend: \$ 10.680.50

Amount needed each weekend for

the Maintenance of our Basilica \$14,225.00

God bless those who support our Basilica Parish!

SECOND COLLECTION

The first weekend of each month there is a second collection for the maintenance of our Basilica. This collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend, April 1 & 2.

ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is available at the Basilica. For more information, please visit this website: http://www.stmarysmarietta.org and go to the left side of the web page. Click on the GIVE ONLINE button to see more information or to sign up.

BASILICA FOUNDATION:

A fund has been established by the Marietta Community Foundation for the maintenance and repairs of our Basilica. This fund is separate from the monthly maintenance collection. Our goal is to have One Million Dollars in the fund before using it.

ST. MARY CEMETERY CLEAN-UP

St. Mary Cemetery Clean-Up is scheduled for Thursday, April 13, from 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM. Please bring work gloves. All parishioners and K of C Members are welcome. Just show up. Questions, Please e-mail:rosedh@suddenlink.net: Location: St. Mary's Avenue, just off Montgomery Street.

SAINT MARY SCHOOL NEWS

Congratulations to the March Students of the Month who were recognized for the Christian citizenship theme of "Be Honest": Tucker Warden, Walter Archer, Caden Binegar, Julianna Williams and Ellie Brockmeier.

St. Mary Catholic School will be on Spring Break April 3rd – 11th.

Registration is underway for the 2023-2024 School Year for Preschool 3 through 8th grade. Classes are filling up quickly. Please email Mrs. Bradley for registration information or to schedule a personal tour. tammibradley@stmaryscatholic.org.

A JOURNEY WITH CHRIST

The Walk to Emmaus is an experience of Christian spiritual renewal and formation that begins with a three-day short course in Christianity. It is an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed to you through other believers. Emaus is open to members of any Christian denomination, and we are currently seeking pilgrims for the upcoming walks.

Men's Walk: April 13-16 Women's Walk: April 20-23.

For more information or answers to questions, please call Carol or Johnny Wharff at 740-525-0668 or 740-525-2666.

HOLY WEEK CONFESSIONS

There are many opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week. Every preparation for the Feast of Easter should include a good confession.

2023 DIOCESAN/PARISH SHARE CAMPAIGN

If you have not yet contributed to the 2023 D/PSC please consider doing so. All parishioners should have received a pledge card from the Diocese and additional pledge cards are available at the Parish office.

This year our parish goal is \$115,639.21. This is an increase of \$4,381.21 over last year. We are so grateful to everyone who has contributed thus far. Our parish has always met and surpassed our goal. Please remember this as you prayerfully consider your contribution.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

There will not be Religious Education Classes on April 5^{th} .

DIVINE MERCY GIFT SHOP

First Holy Communion is a special occasion for girls and boys as they receive Jesus in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. If you are looking for a special gift to cherish the moment, Divine Mercy Gift Shop will have that perfect gift for you. Stop in and check out the new line of items.

Do not forget Mom. Mothers' Day will soon be here. There are also many special gifts for Baptism, Weddings, Memorial, and for any loved one. The gift shop is open in the social hall after all weekend Masses. If you prefer to shop during the week, please call Barb at 740-538-4733 to arrange a time.

ATTENTION FOURTH DEGREE KNIGHTS

Fourth degree Knights will march on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday of Holy Week. Attire will be tuxedo, baldric, sword and white gloves. Meet in the Basilica Social Hall at 6:30 PM.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

This week, all bulletin announcements must be in by **Tuesday morning** in order to be included in the Easter weekend bulletin. All announcements must be in writing. We do not accept them by phone.

PRAY FOR OUR SERVICEMEN

Let us pray for all of the men and women who are serving our country in the military. We especially remember those from our own parish and friends and relatives of our parishioners. May God watch over them and keep them safe.

CWC MEETING NEWS

The monthly CWC Meeting has been changed from April 5th to Wednesday, April 12th, because of Holy week.

HOLY LAND COLLECTION

There will be a collection for the Holy Land on Good Friday. Envelopes were provided with your packet. Please be generous in this much needed collection.

REST IN PEACE

William Metz, brother of Denzil Metz of this parish, passed away this past week. We offer our condolences to Denzil and ask God to grant William eternal peace and happiness.

DCCW SPRING BI-ANNUAL MEETING

The Catholic Woman's Club Spring Bi-Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 22nd at Christ Our Light Parish, St. Peter & Paul Church Hall, 136 High Avenue, Lore City, OH. A lunch will be served at a cost of \$8.00 per person.

This is a very important meeting, so it would be nice if everyone could attend. Please RSVP by Tuesday, April 18th. Call DeDe Kidder – cell:740-632-3018 or e-mail: dede.kidder@gmail.com.

SCHEDULING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Please check with the parish office before scheduling a meeting in the Basilica Social Hall, Conference Room or using the Basilica Kitchen. If you change the time or date of a previously scheduled meeting, please be sure the new time is available. All meetings and events must be put in the master book in the parish office.

LIVING JOY

Through a donation, the book <u>Living Joy by Chris Stefanick</u> will be available for checkout in the parish library. Due to the content that asks for reflection, the book will be discussed at the June 28th meeting of the Basilica Book Club. There are plenty of copies and this will give everyone time to have the book read and have "food for thought".

	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lectors	Altar Servers
Sat: 8:00	EASTER VIGIL		
Sun: 8:00	Theresa Huck CAPT) Sharon Loken (HOST) Suzanne Baker (HOST) Nancy Funk CHALICE) Becky Arnold (CHALICE)	Dave Cech	Jerry Huck David Baker Ron Wesel Kenny Offenberger
0:00	Ken Masselli (CAPT) Jennifer Schenkel (HOST) Elizabeth Tokodi (HOST) Pat Dickinson CHALICE) Cheyenne Greenwood (CHALICE)	Sophia Parlin	Carson Cunningham Kenzi Cunningham Matthew Cunningham Grant Palmer
2:00	Gerald Cooke (CAPT) Joe Schmidt (HOST) Joyce Huck (HOST) Stan Vanlandingham (CHALICE) Lisa Taylor (CHALICE)	Mary LaBarre	Anthony Discini Karter Lankford Ben Pfeiffer Dominic Spencer

Week of April 3 Not Filled

BASILICA BOOK CLUB: The April Book for the Basilica Book Club is The Fisherman's Tomb by John O'Neil. This is the true story of the Vatican's Secret Search. The Basilica Book Club will meet on Wednesday, April 26th at 6:00 PM in the Basilica Social Hall. All are welcome.

PALM SUNDAY 2023



When Jesus and his followers came to Bethphage, a village on the Mount of Olives near Jerusalem, He sent out two followers with instructions. "Go to that village, and you will find a donkey and its foal tied up. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone should ask what you are doing, tell them, 'The Lord needs these animals.' He will send them right away."

After they left and followed His orders, they brought the animals to Jesus and threw their tunics over the animals' backs. Then, Jesus got on the donkey. Many people in the crowd put their tunics across the road. Others cut the branches of trees and spread them across the road. The people in front of and behind Jesus kept shouting: "Hosanna to the son of David. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest."

The entry of Jesus into Jerusalem marked a high point in the earthly ministry of Jesus. Jesus made a dramatic entry into the city of David. The crowds gathered, hailed the coming teacher, and praised God for his presence. This commotion baffled the locals and the Roman Government.

The gospels clearly tell us that the leadership found Jesus to be a threat. His trial was a hastily held "kangaroo court;" yet, he was arrested alone, as his followers fled. The mob turned against Him, even after many in the blood thirsty mob greeted the Galilean into the city with honors. The Lord entered the city in glory, but left it in shame.

The gospels were not written to relate the story of a failed political figure. They were written to engender faith. After His Galilean ministry, Jesus made the deliberate decision to go to Jerusalem. There, He would reveal himself as the Messiah. He would not use the image of a great warrior king (as many common people expected), or the great teacher (as many Gentiles desired). No, He would be the Suffering Servant found in Second Isaiah. He would show how earthly glory was fleeting. He would also show how serving the divine will would lead to true glory. The entry into Jerusalem was not the first step of the mission, but it was the first step of the public revelation. The King has come to fulfill the will of the Father. That is what Holy Week is all about.

Adoration of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in our Basilica's Chapel of the English Martyrs. This week, Adoration will take place this Wednesday from 8:15 am. until the 7:00 pm. Mass of Anointing. Jesus remains in the Blessed Sacrament to refresh us.

Special Events & Scheduled Pilgrimages at the Basilica:

April - 4, - 7:00 pm. Diocesan Chrism Mass

May - 7, - 2:00 pm. First Communion Mass

May. - 21, - 2:00 pm. Confirmation Mass

May. - 23, - 6:00 pm. St. Mary School Graduation

Oct. - 27, - 8:45 am. Diocesan Teacher in Service Day



DECEASED PRIESTS OF OUR DIOCESE

On Tuesday, we remember the 30th anniversary of the death of Fr. Chester Szymanski. On Saturday, we remember the 38th anniversary of the death of Msgr. Edwin Murphy – a former pastor of St. Mary's. On Easter Sunday, we remember the 77th anniversary of the death of Fr. Louis Mandery, and the 61st anniversary of the death of Msgr. Henry Grigsby. These priests served our Diocese to the best of their ability. May they now rest forever in the Kingdom of our Father.

Perpetual Help Devotions This Monday

Perpetual Help Devotions will be celebrated on Monday evening at 6:15 pm. Parishioners are encouraged to participate in this devotion celebrated in our Basilica on Monday evening. We ask Our Lady to guide and protect our Basilica, all visitors, and each one of us.

Human composting, alkaline hydrolysis disrespect the human body, bishops say

The U.S. bishops' doctrine committee on Thursday issued a statement reiterating the Church's preference for burial of the deceased and stating that newer methods — namely alkaline hydrolysis and human composting — do not show respect for the human body.

"In recent years, newer methods and technologies for disposition of the bodies of the deceased have been developed and presented as alternatives to both traditional burial and cremation. Catholics are "obliged to respect our bodily existence throughout our lives and to respect the bodies of the deceased. The process of human composting — also known as natural organic reduction — is a relatively new phenomenon in the U.S. and has been legalized in a handful of states, most recently California. When a body is composted, it is placed in a reusable container where microbes and bacteria decompose it into soil over the course of 30-45 days. Alkaline hydrolysis is a process whereby a human body is broken down in a tank of chemicals at high pressure and heat, resulting in a few bone fragments and a large quantity of wastewater. "There is nothing distinguishably left of the body to be placed in a casket or an urn and laid to rest in a sacred place", the bishops said.

THE SACRED TRIDIUM

The Easter Triduum is a term used by the Catholic Church to denote the three days from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. The Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper and ends after evening prayers on Easter Day. It is one celebration. The term was used at the Second Vatican Council, when the revised liturgical calendar set the final part of Holy Week apart from Lent proper.

The first celebration of the Triduum is the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, celebrating the last meal Jesus shared with his Twelve Apostles and disciples before his death. After the homily, we imitate our master in the washing of feet. This ritual reminds us that our baptismal commitment means we are to be servants of one another. In the time of St. Ambrose in Milan, those who were baptized also had their feet washed, because of Jesus' words to Peter: "Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed". There is no dismissal or final blessing. The evening's celebration concludes with a "stripping of the altar" in which all decorations are removed, and the Blessed Sacrament is taken from the tabernacle on the main altar and processed to an altar of repose outside the main body of the church. The sanctuary candle is extinguished and not relit until the Easter Vigil.

On Good Friday, we recall the Passion and crucifixion of Jesus. Mass is not celebrated on this day, however, Holy Communion (reserved in the tabernacle on the altar of repose from the previous evening) is distributed at the Celebration of the Lord's Passion. The celebration consists of three parts: liturgy of the Word, veneration of the cross, and Holy Communion.

Following Good Friday, Holy Saturday is a commemoration of the day that Jesus lay in his tomb. Masses may not be offered. It is a time of waiting. Held after nightfall of Holy Saturday, the Easter Vigil begins outside the church around a large fire. This new fire symbolizes the radiance of the Risen Christ dispelling the darkness of sin and death. The Paschal candle is blessed and then lit. This Paschal candle will be used throughout the season of Easter, remaining in the sanctuary of the church or near the lectern, and throughout the coming year at baptisms and funerals, reminding all, that Christ is "light and life."

Once the candle has been lit, the candle is carried by a priest through the nave of the darkened church, stopping three times to chant an acclamation such as 'Christ our Light' to which the assembly responds 'Thanks be to God.' As the candle proceeds through the church, the "Light of Christ" spreads throughout those gathered, the darkness is dispersed.

The Liturgy of the Word takes place, the *Gloria* is sung for the first time since before Lent, and the church bells and the organ, silent since that point on Holy Thursday, are sounded again. The Alleluia is sung for the first time since the beginning of Lent. The Gospel of the Resurrection is proclaimed.

People desiring to full initiation in the Church who have completed their formation are formally initiated as members of the faith the Church through the Sacraments of Initiation. The Easter Vigil then concludes with a Liturgy of the Eucharist.

MEETINGS & EVENTS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, April 3,

7:45 am. - Mass 12:05 pm. - Mass

6:15 pm. - Perpetual Help Devotions

7:00 pm. - RCIA

Tuesday, April 4,

7:45 am. - Mass 12:05 pm. - Mass

5:30 pm. - Chrism Mass Dinner

7:00 pm. - Chrism Mass

Wednesday, April 5,

7:45 am. - Mass

9:40 am. - Adoration of the Eucharist

12:05 pm. - Mass

3:00 pm. - Confessions

6:45 pm. - Reposition of the Eucharist

7:00pm. - Mass of Anointing

Thursday, April 6,

11:00 am. - Confessions 2:00 pm. - Confessions

7:00 pm. - Holy Thursday Mass

8:30 pm. - Confessions,

Friday, April 7,

10:00 am. - Confessions

7:00 pm. - Good Friday Liturgy

<u>Saturday, April 8,</u>

8:00 pm. - Easter Vigil Mass

EASTER SUNDAY, April 8,

8:00am. - Mass

9:30 am. - Mass - St. Henry

10:00 am. - Mass 12:00 pm. - Mass

CONFESSIONS THIS WEEK

Wednesday, April 5...... 3:00 pm. - 5:00 p.m.

2:00 pm. - 4:00 p.m.

8:30 pm. - Until all are heard

Friday, April 7...... 10:00 am. - 11:00 a.m.

8:30 pm. - until all are heard.

SPECIAL THANKS:

We offer special thanks to Greenleaf Landscapes, the members of the K of C, and members of the parish who prepared the church property for Easter. They did a wonderful job!

SERVER PRACTICE FOR HOLY WEEK:

THURSDAY...... 9:00 A. M. FRIDAY..... 9:00 A.M. SATURDAY..... 9:00 A.M.

CEREMONIES OF THE WEEK

Tuesday, April 4, 7:00 pm. - Chrism Mass

The Bishop will bless and consecrate the oils used for the sacraments and the priests of the Diocese renew their ordination promises to the Bishop.

Wednesday, April 5, 7:00 pm. Mass of The Holy Anointing:

At this Mass, we celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick for any people in the Parish who are ill and for any parishioner over the age of 65 who would like to receive the grace of the Sacrament.

Holy Thursday, April 6, 7:00 pm. Mass Of The Lord's Supper:

At this Mass, feet are washed, there is a procession to the Chapel of Repose, the Holy Eucharist is present for adoration until 11:00 pm., and the altar & sanctuary is stripped.

Good Friday, April 7, 7:00 pm. Pre-sanctified Liturgy:

This ceremony commemorates the Passion and Death of the Lord. The ceremony consists of the reading of the Passion, the Veneration of the Cross, the Distribution of Holy Communion and the Descent from the Cross and burial of Christ.

Holy Saturday, 8:00 pm. Easter Vigil

This Mass is the completion of the Holy Week ceremonies. The Mass includes the blessing of the Easter Candle, Baptisms, the Reception of Candidates into full union with the Catholic Church and the renewal of our Baptismal promises.

Easter Sunday Morning Masses 8:00 am, (9:30 am. St. Henry), 10:00 am. & 12:00 pm. at the Basilica.

Through Holy Week, we can be spiritually be present in the crowds welcoming Jesus to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. You can gather with Jesus for the Last Supper on Holy Thursday, and recall His suffering in the Garden of Gethsemane on Holy Thursday night. We comfort the Crucified Christ on Good Friday. And finally, you can stand in joy and wonder at His empty tomb on Easter Sunday morning.

On Tuesday, the Chrism Mass, our Bishop blesses and consecrate the oils used for the sacraments. On Thursday, we will celebrate the gift of the Holy Eucharist and the Sacrament of Priesthood. On Good Friday we will recall the Passion and Death of the Lord. On Saturday, we will bless the Easter Candle and renew our Baptismal promises as we celebrate the glorious Resurrection of the Lord. On Easter Sunday, we continue the celebration of the Lord's resurrection from the dead.

This Holy Week provides a great opportunity for each of us to live in union with Jesus and walk with Him through the last few days of His life with us in the Holy Land. Live this week as if it were your first Holy Week, as if it were your only Holy Week, as if it were your last Holy Week. For some of us, it will be our last Holy Week!



THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY



4TH STREET • MARIETTA OH 45750 • 740-373-3643

Palm Sunday, 2023

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday, we celebrate Palm Sunday - Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Those who greeted Him were convinced He was the Messiah, sent by God to establish His Kingdom on earth. He entered the Golden Gate of the Temple of Jerusalem to songs of praise, but soon the crowd changed demanding His crucifixion because He did not intend to overthrow the Roman government.

On Palm Sunday, we start a week which brings us to the center and climax of the entire liturgical year and the very heart of the Gospel in which we believe: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

We have been preparing for all of Lent to celebrate the events of these days – events that are so crucial to human history and to our own lives, that they require a whole season of repentance and preparation to celebrate them worthily.

The triumph of Palm Sunday represents the fact that by coming to Jerusalem, Jesus brought about the triumph of grace over sin and life over death. His being lifted up on the cross is in fact a lifting up in glory. Christ was obedient to His Father, even to death, to undo our disobedience which led to death.

Holy Week is at the very heart and center of the Church year. Holy Week not only commemorates events of the past; Holy Week is something that happens to us now. The Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord are made present to us on these days.

In His Sacred Passion,

Msgr. John M. Campbell (Rector)

Nicaragua closes Vatican embassy in Managua, & the Nicaraguan embassy in Rome

The president of Nicaragua, Daniel Ortega, has ordered the closing of the Vatican embassy in Managua and the Nicaraguan embassy to the Holy See in Rome. The government of Nicaragua said March 12 the closures were a "suspension" of diplomatic ties with the Holy See, not an official breaking.

The decision to close the two embassies follows just days after Pope Francis likened Nicaragua's Sandinista government to Nazi Germany. He also called Ortega "unstable." The Nicaraguan government expelled the Vatican ambassador from the country one year ago, a decision the Vatican called at the time an "incomprehensible" and "unjustified unilateral measure."

Francis spoke about Nicaragua's Bishop Rolando Álvarez, who was sentenced to 26 years in prison by Ortega's dictatorship last month. He said: "It is something out of line with reality; it is as if we were bringing back the communist dictatorship of 1917 or the Hitler dictatorship of 1935. They are a type of vulgar dictatorships." Ortega's government has in recent years detained, imprisoned, and likely tortured numerous Catholic leaders, including at least one bishop and several priests. His government has also taken action to repress Catholic radio and television stations, and driven Catholic religious orders, including the Missionaries of Charity, from the country.

Ortega, who leads Nicaragua's socialist Sandinista National Liberation Front party, has governed Nicaragua continuously since 2007 along with his wife, Rosario Murillo, who is now the vice president. The regime has variously been accused of corruption, voter fraud, imprisoning critical dissenters and journalists, and committing violent human rights abuses against the people of Nicaragua.



Nancy Pelosi Criticizes the U.S. Catholic Bishops

During the discussion at the Jesuit Catholic university, Pelosi also called for the Church to start allowing women to become priests, saying that her mother had wanted her to be a nun, but she would have preferred to be a priest.

Speaking at a panel discussion at Georgetown University, former Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi criticized the U.S. Catholic bishops over their opposition to abortion and transgender treatments for children.

Pelosi regularly cites her Catholic faith as the reason behind her policy positions. Ms. Pelosi is a so-called "Catholic" using that term for her own advantage. According to Pelosi, her style of faith and politics is something she shares with President Joe Biden. Pelosi also called for the Church to start allowing women to become priests, saying that her mother had wanted her to be a nun, but she would have preferred to be a priest. (Can you imagine her as your Pastor???)

The Holy Oil With Which King Charles III of the United Kingdom Will Be Consecrated



Comes from Jesus' Tomb in the Holy Land

The chrism oil that the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, will use to anoint King Charles III, during the coronation ceremony in Westminster Abbey, in London on May 6, 2023, comes from Jerusalem.

The oil was consecrated on Friday morning, March 3 in the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher, during a Rite

presided over by the Greek-Orthodox Patriarch Theophilus III and the Anglican Archbishop of Jerusalem and the Near East. It will be used on May 6 to anoint the head, chest and hands of the Sovereign, who is also head of the Anglican Church. The ceremonial calls for the Queen Consort, Camilla, to receive the anointing also after her husband.

The oil was obtained in an oil press near Bethlehem, pressed fruit of two olive trees of the Mount of Olives, included in the properties of the Monastery of the Ascension and of the Russian Orthodox Magdalena Church, outstanding for its golden onion domes, just above the Basilica of the Agony, where King Charles' paternal grandmother, Princess Alice of Greece, is buried. The chrism is perfumed with orange blossom buds and sesame, rose, jasmine, cinnamon, neroli, musk and amber essences, in keeping with a formula in use for centuries in the English Court. A similar oil was used to anoint Queen Elizabeth II in 1953.

Dear Parishioners,



Fr. Edward and I greet you on this Palm Sunday as we begin the solemn celebration of Holy Week. At the beginning of Mass today, we were reminded: "Today we gather together to herald with the whole Church, the beginning of the celebration of our Lord's Paschal Mystery.

For it was to accomplish this mystery that He entered His own city of Jerusalem. Therefore, with all faith and devotion, let us commemorate the Lord's entry, into the city for our salvation, following in His footsteps, so that, being made by His grace partakers of the Cross, we may have a share also in His Resurrection and in His life."

Our schedule of services for Holy Week and Easter is designed to help you conclude Lent by reliving Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection through the various liturgical ceremonies, by sharing in the peace of which He spoke by receiving the Sacrament of Penance and by receiving Jesus in Holy Communion on Easter Sunday.

Jesus came among us to make all things new, to assure us that we do not face life alone, and to show us by His actions and through His teachings the way to God, to eternal life and to everlasting peace.

May you and your family know this Easter the joy and the peace of God's un-changing love for you reflected through the Passion, death and resurrection of His Son and our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Please make this Holy Week your most prayerful and most meaningful ever!