

**From the Desk of Father Ed:**

Dear Parishioners,

Today begins our celebration of the holiest week in our Church's calendar. We draw near to the end of our 40 days of Lent where we have been preparing for this holy week. Our Mass of the Lord's Passion or Palm Sunday begins with the retelling of how the people were exalting Jesus as King as He made His way into Jerusalem. The people acknowledged Him as King as they placed their cloaks on the road and cried out "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord." The religious leaders objected to this behavior and demanded that Jesus tell them to stop. Jesus replied, "I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out."

Each year during Palm Sunday we proclaim the Passion of Jesus. In the account of Jesus' Passion it was noted that there was a sign above His Cross with the inscription that read, "This is the King of the Jews."

The retelling of Jesus' Passion began with the Passover Meal. It was at that meal where Jesus was with His disciples that He instituted the Holy Eucharist. Jesus' hour, where He allows Himself to be handed over to those who put Him to death is also the hour where He gives Himself to us in the Holy Eucharist.

Jesus died on the Cross between two convicted murderers. Both were given the same grace. One of the criminals reviled Jesus, however, the other admitted his guilt and asked, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus responded by saying, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Today our hearts are deeply saddened as we recall the suffering and torment that our Lord endured for us, that is, His infinite love for each one of us. He is our King, and offers to us a share in His kingdom. He is our Eucharistic King; as He gives Himself to us in the Holy Eucharist let our hearts cry out, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord."

**Parish Life:**

I want to thank the parishioners who participated in the 40-Days for Life Campaign. Each Monday in Lent we have had between 15 and 20 people praying peacefully outside the Planned Parenthood Abortion mill along with numerous parishioners supporting our efforts through prayer that were unable to attend.

Again I want to thank our Parish Events Committee for providing the parish with our three Lenten, Friday Fish Fry dinners. A special thanks to Rick Hahn who heads the Events Committee, Francesca Ligi and the numerous volunteers who have helped to make the dinners a huge success.

Our Lady Queen of Peace, pray for us,

Father Ed,

Pastor