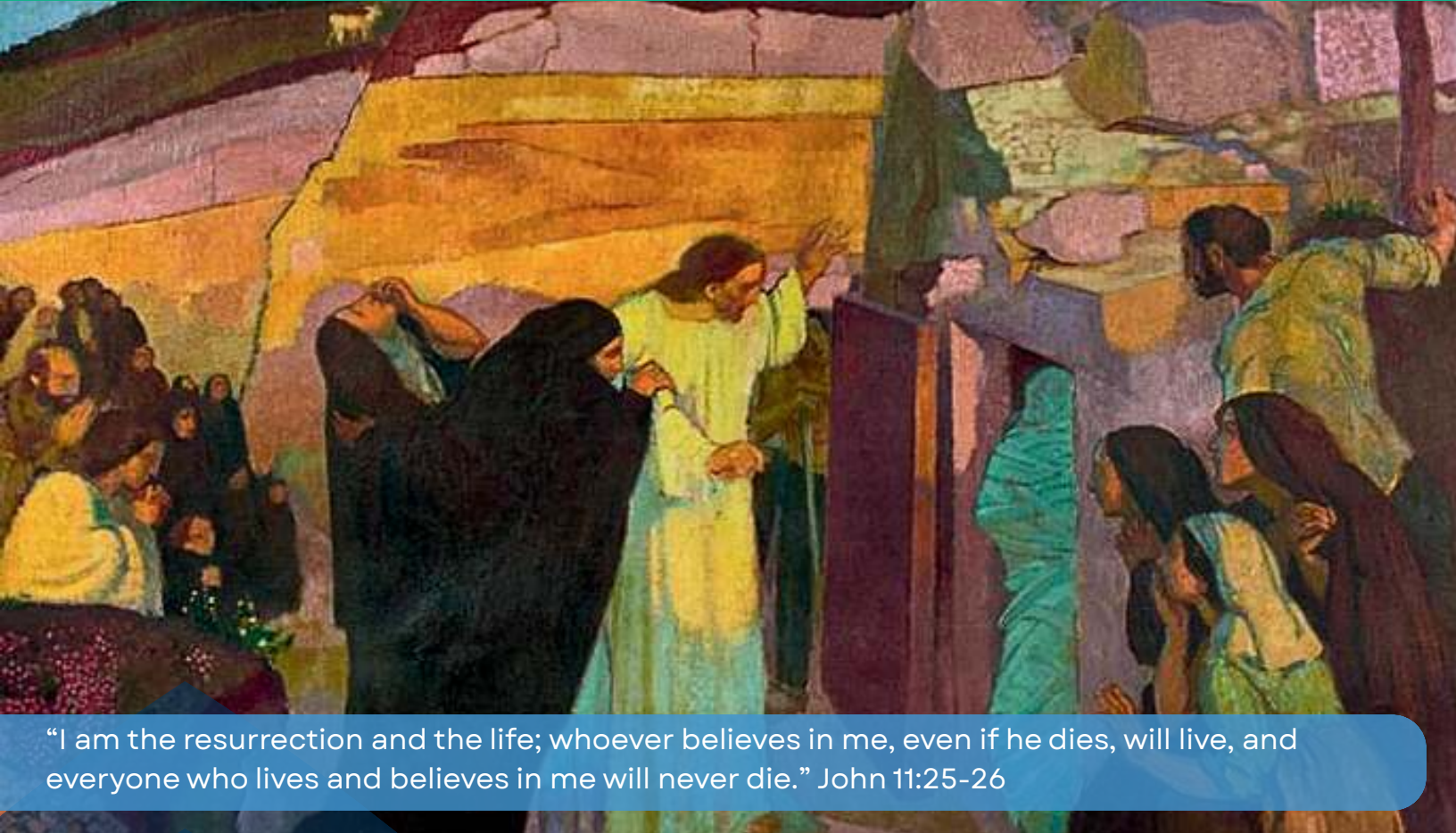


5TH SUNDAY OF LENT, MARCH 22, 2026

# ST. MARY PARISH

PHONE: (920) 739-5119 • EMAIL: [STMARY@STMARYPARISH.ORG](mailto:STMARY@STMARYPARISH.ORG)

312 SOUTH STATE STREET • APPLETON, WI 54911



“I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.” John 11:25-26

## Regular Mass Times

**Saturday** 4:30pm

**Sunday** 7:45am, 9:45am

**Monday** 12:05pm

**Tuesday** No mass

**Wednesday** No mass

**Thursday** 12:05pm

**Friday** No Mass

## **Pastor - Fr. Bill Swichtenberg**

[wdswitz@stmaryparish.org](mailto:wdswitz@stmaryparish.org)

cell 920-422-4316

## **Deacon - Gerry Schraufnagel**

[dcngerry@stmaryparish.org](mailto:dcngerry@stmaryparish.org)

cell 920-540-9594

## **Cemetery Info - Chip Acker**

[cacker@stmaryparish.org](mailto:cacker@stmaryparish.org)

cell 920-882-4158

## **Parish Office Hours:**

920-739-5119

Mon, Tues, Thurs, 9am-4pm

Wed, 9am-6:30pm

Friday-Office Closed

## **Sacrament of Matrimony**

Getting Married?

Congratulations! Call Fr. Bill at least six months before your planned wedding date.

## **Interested in joining the Parish?**

Contact Lori Lavallo

[llavalle@stmaryparish.org](mailto:llavalle@stmaryparish.org)

## **Confession times:**

Saturdays 9-10am or by appointment

## **Eucharistic Adoration**

Wednesdays 4:30-8pm

Sign up for a time to sit with Jesus.

We must have one person

with the Eucharist at all times.

Or scan with your phone.

**(No Adoration on Wednesdays during Lent)**



SCAN ME



Let us pray

Evening worship experiences at St. Mary, Appleton

## SCRIPTURAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN ART March 23, Monday | 6:00pm

Join Fr. Jim Neilson, O. Praem., for a prayerful, biblical reflection on Christ's Passion through the Stations of the Cross, introduced by St. John Paul II in 1991 and experienced through sacred art.

# "Walking Together"

## The Vision of Pope Francis in Appleton

Pope Francis invited 200 priests from around the world to Rome...  
One of them was from Appleton



Fr. Bill Swichtenberg (St. Mary Catholic Church) shares his experience at this global gathering and what it means for communities like Appleton

March 26, 6-7pm @ Appleton Public Library

*Appleton Lyceum*

*Talks and Discussions for  
Everyone with Curiosity*

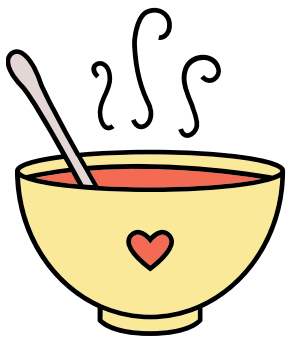
# LENTEN EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Fridays 9 am-9 pm; Saturdays 8 am to noon, March 20-21 & March 27-28**  
(Sit with Jesus, find peace and escape the noise.)

Consider signing up so we can make sure we have two people/time slot. Scan the QR code, use the link, or sign up in the Marian Way.

**Adoration change: Adoration will resume after Lent on the third Wednesday of the month beginning April 15th from 4:30-8:00pm.**

[sign-up link](#)



## LENTEN STATIONS & SOUP

**THURSDAY**

**March 26 — St. Joseph**

**Stations of the Cross at 5:30pm  
with soup supper to follow.**

## Lenten Alms Project 2026

SCAN TO DONATE



Help young people aging out of foster care step into a hopeful future—surrounded by safe housing, meaningful mentorship, and a community that believes in them.

Place donations in the box in the back of church or the parish center. Make checks payable to “St. Mary Parish” and “alms” in the memo line. Sponsored by St. Mary Matthew 25 Committee.



# Help our parish make an impact on Earth Day!

ASH WEDNESDAY (Feb 18) - EARTH DAY (Apr 22)

Bring in these hard-to-get-rid of items:

- Christmas lights
- Compact fluorescent lightbulbs
- Batteries (rechargeable and non)
- Printer cartridges
- CDs/DVDs/Blue Ray discs/albums
- Books/magazines
- Egg cartons
- Reuseable fiber, paper and plastic bags (Clean and dry)



Items will be reused or properly recycled by:

- Outagamie County Resource Recovery Park
- St. Joe's Food Pantry
- Office Depot
- Half Price Books
- Home Depot

Any proceeds go to St. Joseph Food Program

Sponsored by the St. Mary Care for Creation Ministry

BE the LIGHT

through your support of our Catholic educators



Did you know within our diocese, more than 25,000 children participate in Catholic schools or faith formation classes? Through different education programs, children learn to know and love Jesus.

Your gift to the Bishop's Appeal provides training and support for Catholic educators. Help them inspire disciples in our school.



Please give generously at [www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give)

## 2026 BISHOP APPEAL

GOAL \$74,729

60,000

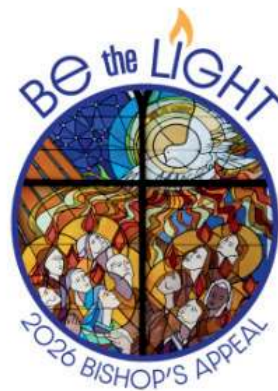
55,900

40,000

30,000

20,000

10,000



HOLY



Who was chosen to replace Judas Iscariot as the 12th apostle?

# The Palm Sunday Path



## Multi Church & Interfaith Rally

**Sunday, March 29, 1:00-3:00 pm**

Jesus instructed us in Matthew 25, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

On Palm Sunday, **March 29th**, we will meet at **12:50 pm** in the St. Joseph East parking lot and walk over to the Houdini Plaza from 1:00-3:00 pm to lift our voices to speak for our brothers and sisters who are struggling and seem to be forgotten by many in our society right now.

## PALM BRAIDING

March 28 & 29 Community  
Rm. After 4:30pm, 7:45am and  
9:45am Masses

- Learn the History
- Watch a demo
- try it for yourself

## Palm Sunday BAKE SALE

You may drop treats off any time  
after 10am on Friday (**March 27**) or  
Saturday (**March 28**) or before  
7:45am Mass on Sunday (**March 29**)



## Keeping the Lights On

**Confession with Fr. Bill**  
**March 30 • 6pm-9pm**



# Easter Flowers

Donations for Easter flowers can be dropped off at the parish office, mailed in, or put in the collection basket. Please include your name and if you want the flowers to be in memory of a loved one, please include the name. Donations need to be in by Palm Sunday. Thank you for your generosity!

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle one: Cash or Check #

In Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Holy Week Schedule

**3/28-  
29/2026**  
**Palm  
Sunday  
Masses**

**Saturday  
4:30 pm**

**Sunday  
7:45 am  
9:45 am**

**4/2/2026**  
**Holy  
Thursday  
Pot Luck  
5:30 pm**

**4/2/2026**  
**Holy  
Thursday  
Mass  
7 pm**

**4/3/2026**  
**Good  
Friday  
Service  
12:15 pm**

**Tenebrae  
Service  
6:30 pm**

**4/4/2026**  
**Easter  
Vigil  
8 pm**

**4/5/2026**  
**Easter  
Sunday  
Masses  
7:45 am  
9:45 am**



## **ALTAR SERVERS ARE NEEDED...**

to assist Father at Mass. Training provided for anyone age 10 and over. Adults are welcome.

Please contact Deacon Gerry at 920-540-9594 or [dcngerry@stmaryparish.org](mailto:dcngerry@stmaryparish.org) if interested.

🍷🍷🍷 POTLUCK DINNER  
🍰 *Save the Date!*

The Holy Thursday Potluck Dinner is scheduled for April 2nd at 5:30 PM.

If you are able to contribute a dish, we welcome any item you would like to share! Do you have a specialty that you enjoy making? We would love to sample it! If cooking isn't feasible, feel free to pick something up from a drive-through on your way. Please ensure you bring enough to serve approximately 10 people.

We will provide water, wine, grape juice, and milk. Additionally, this year we will be offering ham and rolls.

Please sign up below if you are willing to volunteer.

Sign-up to help!



<https://bit.ly/3P4YSgP>



# EGG HUNT



**For kids ages 1-10!**

**SAT  
APRIL  
4TH**

CELIC/SCHOOL PLAYGROUND\*  
(FORMERLY CATHOLIC CENTRAL)

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

HUNT BEGINS AT 10:00 AM

**GAMES | ACTIVITIES | COOKIES & MILK**

# ALL RISE!

THE NORTHEAST WISCONSIN  
PASSION PLAY 2026

7:00 pm March 26, 27, 28

1:00 pm March 28, 29

An original, uplifting, dramatic musical based on the ministry, teachings, Passion and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Xavier Fine Arts Theatre  
1600 W. Prospect Ave., Appleton

[www.newpassionplay.org](http://www.newpassionplay.org) • (920) 733-8840



# Thank you! FOR SUPPORTING Shamrock Shenanigans

## Sponsors

### Jameson Level Sponsors

EDCI/Electroline  
Orthopedic & Sports Medicine  
Specialists (Joe & Keri McCormick)  
Annie Van Stralen  
Glenn & Anne Higgins

### Smithwick Level Sponsors

Abbie & Andrew Goodman  
Dean & Cindy Boyer  
Bobbi and Jeff Mullen  
Dave and Mary Ellen Julien  
Gerard & Jennifer Schraufnagel  
Jeff & Carol Johnson  
Kate & Mark Schuh

### Guinness Level Sponsors

Gary & Kathie Shadick  
Fox Cities Irish Fest  
McMahon Engineers and Architects  
Nicolet Bank  
Ann & Walt Pretzel  
Ciel Temmer  
Dan & Margi Voissem  
In Memory of Mary Mauthe  
Joe Drusch and Nancy Lindo-Drusch

### Blarney Level Sponsors

Brian and Catherine Wallace  
Dennis & Nancie Chuchel  
Richard & Barb Hillman  
Tom & Kim Nelson  
Jeanne & Dennis Kray  
Alice & Duane Boeckers



## Donors

10th frame  
Appleton Beer Factory  
Buzz's  
Chick-fil-A  
Festival Foods  
Five Guys  
Freddy's  
Glass Nickel Pizza  
Hank and Karen's  
Jersey Mikes  
Jimmy Johns  
Mark's Eastside  
Milwaukee Burger  
Olive Garden  
PF Changs  
Pizza King  
Sal's  
Topsy Taco/Sangrias  
Carol Frahm  
Dennis & Alicia Di Pietro  
Judy Colling

Mike & Jackie Lingg  
Mike & Julie Morse  
Nacy Lindo-Drusch  
Robert & Kristine Loderbauer  
Theresa Carroll  
ATW Airport Authority  
Avenue Jeweler  
Badger Family Fun Center  
Bread Smith  
Buffalo Wild Wings  
Butte des Mortes  
Culver's  
Fox Cities Irish Fest  
Fox Valley Golf Club  
Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra  
Foxfire Golf Course at Par 4  
Resort  
Great Harvest  
Jacob's Meat Market  
Lake Park Swim & Fitness  
Massage Factory  
Olive Cellar  
Payne Point Liquor

Potter & Clay (Neenah)  
Skyline Comedy Club  
Stretch Zone  
Tanners  
Tennies Jewelry  
Texas Roadhouse  
The Bar  
The History Museum at the  
Castle  
The Timber Rattlers  
Victoria's Italian Restaurant  
Angela Carney  
Annie and Kevin Geurts  
Annie Van Stralen  
Casey Hurley Photography  
Casey Johnson  
Gary and Kathie Shadick  
Helen Kobussen  
Hooks and Needles group  
In memory of Margaret Higgins  
Jeff DelPonte  
Joe Drusch  
Judilynn McDermott

Keith & Kathy Barth  
Lil Del Ponte  
Lisa Hill  
Marge Vertin  
Mary Ellen Fisher  
Mary Higgins  
Patti Roovers  
Sara Rezin  
Sarah Higgins  
St. Mary Parish  
St. Mary Parish Quilt Group  
Sue Rogers  
Xavier Athletics  
Xavier Catholic Schools  
Xavier Fine Arts

# EVENTS CALENDAR

## Mass Intentions

### Week of Mar 22-Mar 29

#### Sunday, Mar 22

##### Coffee & Donuts after Masses

7:45 am Mass  
9:45 am Mass/Livestreamed  
1:00 pm Lenten Small Group/LL7

#### Monday, Mar 23

12:05 pm Mass  
6:00 pm Let Us Pray w/ Fr. Jim Nielson, O. Praem  
7:00 pm AA Meeting/LL1

#### Tuesday, Mar 24

9:00 am Connect Group/LL7  
6:30 pm Men's Group/ LL7

#### Wednesday, Mar 25

9:30 am Connect Group/LL7  
10:00am Quilter's Group Meeting/LL1  
4:45 pm-7:45 pm Beacon Faith Formation  
6:30 pm Lenten Small Group/LL7

#### Thursday, Mar 26

##### Community room reserved all day for bake sale prep

10:00 am Mom's Group - Babysitting Rm  
12:05 pm Mass  
6:00 pm Adult Choir/MR  
6:00 pm-7:00 pm Walking Together W/Fr. Bill/Library

#### Friday, Mar 27

##### Parish Office Closed

##### Community room reserved all day for bake sale prep

9:00 am Small Group/LL7  
9:00 am-9:00 pm Lenten Adoration/Chapel

#### Saturday, Mar 28

##### Bake Sale & Palm Braiding

8:00 am-12:00 pm Lenten Adoration/Chapel  
9:00 am Confessions  
4:30 pm Palm Sunday Mass

#### Sunday, Mar 29

##### Bake Sale & Palm Braiding

7:45 am Palm Sunday Mass  
9:45 am Palm Sunday Mass/Livestreamed

Sun., Mar 22	7:45am 9:45am	Deceased Memebers of St.Mary Available
Mon., Mar 23	12:05pm	Jean Bradley
Thur., Mar 26	12:05pm	Jeanette Mineau
Sat., Mar 28	4:30pm	Ed Sabish
Sun., Mar 29	7:45am 9:45am	Available Marge Schnese



Prayer Requests Contact **Laurie Richter** (lauriejrichter@gmail.com), **Mary Jo Zilisch** (920-734-1182) or **Ann Walkowski** (920-428-0969) if you have a prayer need. Please remember these requests in our prayer baskets.

## Generosity CORNER

I hope you had a great St. Patrick's Day. The more than 27 inches of snow wreaked a little havoc with masses and our schedule at the parish this weekend. We have not yet been able to do a full count of offertory giving this past week. It will be reflected in next week's Generosity Corner. Thank you for your support of the parish.

MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	VARIANCE
March	\$39,291.00	\$75,083.33	-\$35,792.33

### Your giving at work in the parish:

- The snow started late Saturday. So, it allowed Shamrock Shenanigans to continue unhindered. It was a great night with many of us dressed in our finest Irish attire. A huge thank you to all of you who attended that night, sponsored the event, and donated items. Not only were we able to celebrate the Irish heritage of the parish but we also raised funds to support our programs and operations.



Matthias, Acts of the Apostles 1:23-26

# *in Joy &* **SORROW**

ST MARY PARISH - APPLETON // 3.22.2026

WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG



It does us good to anticipate the Holiest of Weeks, which begins next Sunday, March 29th, with the celebration of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord!

BETWEEN PARADES by Ann Weems, [Kneeling in Jerusalem](#)

We're good at planning!

Give us a task force

and a project and we're off and running!

No trouble at all!

Going to the village and finding the colt,

even negotiating with the owners is right down our alley.

And how we love a parade!

In a frenzy of celebration,

we kindly focus on Jesus and generously throw our coats and palms in his path.

And we can shout praise loudly enough to make the Pharisees complain.

It's all so good!

It's between parades that we don't do so well.

From Sunday to Sunday we forget our hosannas.

Between parades the stones will have to shout because we don't.

*From Sunday  
to Sunday we  
forget our  
hosannas.  
Between  
parades the  
stones will  
have to shout  
because we  
don't.*

Ms Weems seems to be suggesting that something significant is transpiring between the two parades of Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, which we just may be missing. The Church invites us to enter spiritually into the observance of the Holiest of Weeks in the Liturgical Calendar.

Holy Week is not like every other week of the year. Holy Week is not business as usual. The Church invites us to gather with our Spiritual Family at sunset on Holy Thursday evening for the Mass of the Lord's Supper. Lent ends at that very moment and we enter into the holy days of the Sacred Triduum. From the Latin, *Triduum* is translated as *the Three Days*, which are measured in the fashion of our Jewish sisters and brothers who note a day as spanning 24 hours from sunset to sunset. The Sacred Triduum then looks like this:

*Day I from sunset Holy Thursday to sunset Good Friday.*

*Day II from sunset Good Friday to sunset Holy Saturday.*

*Day III from sunset Holy Saturday to sunset Easter Sunday.*

The Triduum is more than recalling history; it is more importantly about celebrating mystery. What does this mean? History is about looking back and remembering something that happened a long time ago. Mystery looks to history and, in the remembering, the events are happening again now. Jesus' saving ministry, centered in his dying and rising for us, is never completed and reaches into the now.

The sacrificial love of Jesus on Holy Thursday is memorialized in Jesus' gift of sharing his Precious Body and Blood with us again and again, reaching all the way into eternity. Jesus is God-with-us at every moment.

Jesus' Power is not in lording it over others, or in winning at all costs, or in oppressing those who are least among us to hang on to that Power. Jesus' Power is in loving service, kneeling down in front of you and me and every person, to tenderly wash our feet, to free us from what holds us captive, and to wash us in the waters of Baptism, which incorporates us into His Body, the People of God, the Church.

It does us good to imagine ourselves now present in that Upper Room, with Jesus gazing with love upon us. It does us good to open our Bibles to the Gospel of John to pray over Jesus' farewell words to His closest friends. Those words can be found in Chapters 14 through 17. Like the Beloved Disciple, we lean into Jesus, placing our hearts close to His Sacred Heart.

Looking back to Ms Weems, realizing that there are holy moments between the parades on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, will you be present at the Eucharistic Meal on Holy Thursday commemorating the Lord's Supper? Jesus is hoping that you will be there!

At the end of the meal, Jesus invites his closest companions to share in His Passion and Death. Heartbreakingly, all of them, except the Beloved Disciple, chose to absent themselves from being there for Jesus, hanging on His Cross, on Calvary. From the Garden of Gethsemane, where did the disciples disappear to? Maybe they went back to that Upper Room to hide out and stayed there until the first Easter morning.

At a Prayer Vigil and Rosary for Peace, on Saturday, October 11, 2025, in Saint Peter's Square, Rome, Pope Leo reminded us:

"Let us look to the Mother of Jesus and the small group of courageous women at the foot of the cross. May we learn from them to stand beside the countless crosses of the world, where Christ is still crucified in his brothers and sisters, in order to bring them comfort, communion and help. We can identify with Mary as a member of the human family, and borrowing the words of a poet, we say to her:

Mother, you are every woman who loves;  
Mother, you are every mother who weeps  
for a child killed, a child betrayed.

The children who are never fully killed" (D. M. Turollo)."

Will you be present on Good Friday to stand before the Lord, at the Foot of His Holy Cross, a Cross that makes visible Jesus' Love, that sets us free from sin, selfishness, and even death itself? Jesus is hoping that you will be there!

The Easter Liturgy begins at sunset on Holy Saturday with a Vigil, which in the early Church, reached its high point with the celebration of the Liturgy of the Eucharist, as the first rays of the dawn gleamed into the eastern horizon on Easter Sunday morning. Preceding that Liturgy of the Eucharist are the Liturgy of the Blessing of the New Easter Fire and the Lighting of the Easter Candle at the beginning of the Vigil, followed by the Liturgy of the Word, which tells the story of God's wonderful love for humanity since the beginning of time, followed by the Liturgy of Initiation, which welcomes newcomers to the Catholic Faith throughout the world, through the waters of Baptism, the anointing with the Chrism of Confirmation, and, joining for the first time, around the Lord's Table to receive His Most Precious Body and Blood.

Will you be present at the Easter Vigil at sunset on Holy Saturday evening (or on Easter Sunday morning) to recommit yourself to the promises of your Baptism, which are expressed in your love for the Lord God with all your heart, with all your mind, and with all your strength and in your love for your neighbor as yourself? Jesus is hoping that you will be there!

Indeed so much that is holy and life-transforming happens between the two parades on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday!

*Fr. Bill +*